

OMS Forecasting Workshop: Planning in a World of Rapid Change
Des Moines, Iowa
May 22, 2018

Welcome & Conversation Kickoff (8:30 – 9:00)

The workshop will explore the many aspects of forecasting with a focus on how resource and transmission planning are impacted by the increasing presence of distributed energy resources (DER), and other resource changes, on the grid and the many complex drivers behind this rapid change.

Welcome: Nick Wagner (Iowa Utilities Board); Tanya Paslawski (OMS)

Panel 1: RTO Approaches to Forecasting (9:00 – 10:30)

RTOs have, and continue to, evolve their processes for developing forecasts used for long term transmission and resource planning. This panel will facilitate discussion of the roles and responsibilities of utilities, stakeholders, and the RTOs in developing these forecasts, how RTOs arrived at their current process, and potential changes being considered.

Moderator: Commissioner Nick Wagner (Iowa Utilities Board)

Panelists:

- JT Smith, Director of Economic and Policy Planning – MISO
- Calvin Opheim, Manager, Load Forecasting and Analysis – ERCOT
- John Reynolds, Sr. Economic Analyst, Resource Adequacy Planning – PJM

Break (10:30 – 10:45)

Panel 2: The Future of Forecasting (10:45 – 12:00)

Increasing amounts of smaller, distributed resources on local distribution systems is changing the way utilities and RTOs plan for the future. This panel will investigate various modeling techniques, software advances, and ongoing research in this area, including discussion on the potential to incorporate these various approaches into utility, regulatory, and RTO planning processes.

Moderator: Commissioner Matt Schuenger (Minnesota Public Utilities Commission)

Panelists:

- Dr. Jim McCalley, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering – Iowa State University
- Eric Fox, Director of Forecasting Solutions – Itron
- Morgan Putnam, Director of Business Development – Clean Power Research

Keynote Speaker and Lunch (12:00 – 1:00)

Keynote Speaker: Katherine Hamilton

An insider look at one of the largest forecast uncertainties – energy policy.

OMS Forecasting Workshop: Planning in a World of Rapid Change
Des Moines, Iowa
May 22, 2018

Panel 3: Utility Initiatives (1:00 – 2:15)

Utilities around the country are taking different approaches to forecasting based on state policy, current technology deployment level, and customer demand. The panel will share the current experiences of different utilities and their expectations of the future.

Moderator: Commissioner Sadzi Oliva (Illinois Commerce Commission)

Panelists:

- Obadiah Bartholomy, Energy Strategy and R&D – Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- Kevin J. Van Oirschot, Electric Transmission & Market Regulations Director – Consumers Energy
- PJ Martin, Director of Resource Planning – Xcel Energy

Break (2:15 – 2:30)

Facilitated Discussion (2:30 – 4:30)

A robust discussion with all participants about what is needed, what is feasible, opportunities, concerns, and solutions. Are the tools utilized in other RTOs or regions applicable within the MISO footprint? Is there increased certainty in a traditionally-regulated region vs. portions of the country that have undergone deregulation? Establish take-aways and next steps.

Facilitator: Libby Jacobs (Commissioner Emeritus, Iowa Utilities Board)