



COUNTY OF INYO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NOTIFICATION FROM THE MEETING OF January 19, 2016
OF THE INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: File

Planning/RETI 2.0
Update

The Planning staff provided a presentation regarding the status of the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0. The discussion included a lengthy conversation about transmission in the Owens Valley and the local government's ability to participate in the decision and/or recoup costs associated with transmission. Earl Wilson, Lone Pine Resident, addressed the Board to oppose increased transmission through the County.

Attest: *KEVIN D. CARUNCHIO*
Clerk of the Board

by: *Patricia Gunsolley*
Patricia Gunsolley, Assistant



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only: AGENDA NUMBER 20

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: January 19, 2016

SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION: Receive a presentation from staff regarding the status of the RETI 2.0.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: The California Energy Commission (CEC), California Public Utilities (CPUC), California Independent System Operator (CalISO) and the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0 in September 2015 to plan for renewable electricity and transmission. This new planning effort is intended to help achieve the State's current climate and policy goals that include producing 50-percent of the State's electricity from renewable resources, which will require new investments in transmission. The RETI 2.0 is intended to be a science based process that explores the State's renewable energy generation resources, as well as throughout the western US and identifying potential transmission opportunities to convey these resources.

More specifically, the RETI 2.0 objectives include:

- Explore combinations of renewable generation resources in California and throughout the West that can best meet the State's goals.
- Identify land use and environmental opportunities and constraints to accessing these resources.
- Build understanding of transmission implications of renewable scenarios, and support for transmission investments.
- Inform future planning and regulatory proceedings.

The RETI 2.0 is structured to have a comprehensive planning group called the Plenary Group (the County is considered part of the Plenary Group) and two separate technical groups for land use and transmission. The plenary group's objectives are to:

- Identify plausible scenarios of renewable resources and transmission.
- Integrate environmental/land use and transmission implications.
- Identify common transmission elements.
- Recommend next steps.

The technical groups' objectives are to:

- Identify, compile, document, and make available statewide data (and western US to the extent feasible) relevant to renewable energy planning.
- Discuss, and recommend methodologies, to use the assembled data to assess areas and combinations of areas to evaluate environmental sensitivities and land use considerations.
- Work interactively with RETI Plenary Group to evaluate conceptual-level combinations of potential renewable energy generation areas, transmission and potential transmission corridors.
- Characterize existing transmission system capacity and planned improvements/changes and their implications for accessing additional renewable resources.

- Provide initial transmission input on likely in-state developments necessary to access potential renewable generation and refine the data as combinations of renewable resources are developed through other RETI groups' activities.
- Provide planning level transmission cost estimates and any available information on environmental and other permitting issues for in-state requirements, using existing data to the greatest extent possible.
- Compile transmission planning information on potential WECC-wide system reinforcements that may provide or improve access to renewable generation or to integration resources
- Work interactively with RETI Plenary Group to evaluate transmission implications for accessing potential renewable energy generation areas.

In December 2015 a Preliminary Work Plan was presented that had a detailed work plan for Plenary Group (Attachment: Plenary Group Detailed Work Plan). It outlines the plan's objectives, goals and tasks by month and provides descriptions of what is expected to be accomplished.

The RETI 2.0 is scheduled to have a draft report prepared by September 2016. Staff will continue to attend RETI 2.0 meetings and workshops and bring updates and issues for your Board to comment on throughout the process.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Numerous potentially affected agencies and stakeholders, such as the CEC, CPUC, CalISO, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, National Park Service, other counties, and other interested individuals and organizations.

FINANCING: General funds are utilized to monitor State planning efforts.

APPROVALS

COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)



Date: 11/12/16

Attachment – December 18, 2015 Power Point presentation of the Plenary Group Detailed Work Plan

Plenary Group

Detailed work plan



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Plenary Group

Month-by-month Timeline

Month	Objectives
January	Explore planning goals (GHG, renewables, and system)
February	Gather renewable resource information, studies of combined value
March	Understand environmental, land use, and transmission constraints and opportunities; Recommend scenario approach
April	Gather/build conceptual resource combinations; Engage local communities
May	Explore environmental and transmission implications
June	Propose draft scenarios of renewables and transmission
July	Analyze scenarios for common elements and solutions
August	Review and refine solutions; develop recommendations
September	Release draft report



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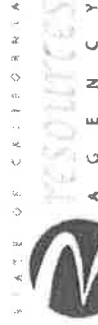
January: Planning Goals

Questions to explore:

- What are the targets (GHG, renewables, system) for which RETI 2.0 is planning?
- What are the “rest-of-the-system” parameters we should plan for?

Conceptual workshop agenda:

- CEC: Electricity demand forecast
- CPUC: Long-Term Procurement (LTPP) Assumptions and Scenarios
- E3 Pathways study: GHG scenarios for electricity sector
- Other study(ies)?



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February: Resource Values

Questions to explore:

- What do we know about the capacity, energy, ancillary service, and system value, and development cost, of individual resource areas and technologies?
- What do we know about how different resources complement each other to provide system value?
- What do we know about building resource combinations?
- What do we know about evaluating different resource combinations?

Conceptual workshop agenda

- CPUC: RPS Calculator values
- CAISO experience/studies on resource diversity
- Utility (IOU and/or POU) assessment of resources for PPA purposes
- Various advocates/proponents present studies on resource combinations

March: Agency Executives Workshop

Plenary Group Report-Out

Plenary group recommendations for considering energy and ancillary values and costs of renewable resources and recommendations for assembling combinations of resources

Environmental and Land Use Report-Out

Technical Group recommendations on incorporating previously-identified constraints and opportunities and recommendations for evaluating environmental/land use implications of resource combinations

Transmission Group Report-Out

Technical Group recommendations on known constraints and opportunities in the transmission system, and recommendations on evaluating the transmission implications of resource combinations, including “tinker-toy” level identification of infrastructure, costs, and impacts



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Second Quarter 2016: Engage and construct

Tasks/Activities

- Engage local communities and western states
- Propose resource combinations
- Identify transmission implications
- Identify environmental/land use implications

Methodology/Deliverables

- Local and regional meetings
- Resource combination workshop
- Transmission and Enviro/Land Use Groups review
- Agency Executives Workshop



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Third Quarter: Refine and recommend

Tasks/Activities

- Refine system scenarios
- Compare scenarios to identify common elements
- Identify next steps and follow-on projects

Methodology/Deliverables

- Scenarios and common elements workshop (July)
- Issue Draft Report (September)
- Agency Executives Workshop (September/October)



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