

Regional Transmission Organization Study Committee

PURPOSE: To: (1) catalog the current state of electric wholesale regional market activity in the state of Arizona and the surrounding region; (2) identify from existing studies the potential reliability and affordability benefits and risks to Arizona's power supply, electric transmission grid and impact to consumers if Arizona were to join a western states Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) and/or other regional organized wholesale market; (3) identify opportunities and challenges to the formation and adoption of a western states RTO and other regional organized wholesale markets with specific consideration to the impacts of such formation and adoption on governance, costs, market design, resource adequacy and Arizona public policy; and (4) solicit analytical input of industry experts on recommendations, including impacts, costs and benefits that should accompany a state's transition to a regional market. If the Committee recommends that Arizona pursue a regional market, then the members shall itemize any statutory changes required to enable the state to participate in the formation of a western states RTO or other regional organized wholesale market. On or before December 31, 2023, the Committee shall submit an initial report, and on or before December 31, 2024, submit a final report regarding the Committee's findings and recommendations of whether Arizona consumers would benefit from the State's participation in a western states RTO and/or other regional organized wholesale market and to what extent any related statutory changes are required and/or desirable, what topics may require further study and what areas require no further action. The Committee shall submit its reports to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate and provide a copy of the report to the Secretary of State.

MEMBERSHIP:

House Three members of the House of Representatives, not more than two from the same political party and one designated as Co-Chair, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Gail Griffin (Co-Chair), Vacant Z-1 House, Vacant Z-2 House

Senate Three members of the Senate, not more than two from the same political party and one designated as Co-Chair, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Sine Kerr (Co-Chair), Juan Mendez, Thomas "T.J." Shope

Other Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission or their designee, as an ex-officio member:

Mr. Doug Clark, Executive Director, Arizona Corporation Commission

One employee of a mining or industrial power customer operating in Arizona, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Johnny Key, Director of Energy & Power Management, Freeport-McMoRan

Regional Transmission Organization Study Committee

One employee of a vertically integrated investor-owned electric utility which serves an urban county with a population greater than one million people in Arizona, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. Alyssa Koslow, Director, Federal Regulatory and Compliance, APS

One employee of a generation and transmission cooperative utility or electric distribution-only co-operative utility, whose service is located in a rural county with a population less than 105,000 people in Arizona, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Patrick Ledger, CEO, Arizona Electric Power Cooperative

One representative from a county that has a population of less than 100,000 persons, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Richard Lunt, Greenlee County Supervisor

One employee of a vertically integrated public power electric utility which serves an urban county with a population greater than one million people in Arizona, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Josh Robertson, Director, Regulatory Policy & Strategic Engagement, SRP

The Director of the Arizona Commerce Authority or their designee, as an ex-officio member:

Ms. Sandra Watson, CEO, Arizona Commerce Authority

One employee of an independent power producer with generating facilities operating in multiple energy market environments and existing facilities in Arizona, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Mr. Cameron Yourkowski, Regulatory & Market Affairs Manager, EDP Renewables

The Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office or the Director's designee:

Vacant

One employee of multi-state large commercial power customer primarily operating in urban counties:

Vacant

CONTACT: Rachel Andrews, Senate Research Staff, Emily Bonner, House Research Staff

REPORT DATE: 12/31/23, 12/31/24

EXPIRATION DATE:

Regional Transmission Organization Study Committee

STATUTORY CITE: Created by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate