



# WIRES Summer Meeting

July 27–28, 2022  
Newport, RI, at the Viking Hotel

## AGENDA

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

6:00 - 9:00 pm      **Cocktail Reception and Dinner**

### THURSDAY, JULY 28

8:00 - 9:00 am      **Breakfast**

9:00 - 10:00 am      **Keynote Address**  
**Gordon van Welie**, President, ISO New England

10:00 - 11:00 am      **Panel 1 – Offshore Wind Considerations**

#### **Panelists**

**Bill Quinlan**, President, Transmission and Offshore Wind Projects, Eversource Energy  
**Georges Sassine**, Vice President, Large Scale Renewables, NYSERDA  
**Lathrop Craig**, Vice President, Offshore Wind Development, PSEG

#### **Moderator**

**Sam Mintz**, New England Correspondent, RTO Insider

11:00 - 11:15 am      **Coffee Break**

11:15 - 12:15 pm      **Panel 2 – FERC Transmission NOPR**

#### **Panelists**

**David Borden**, Economist, FERC Policy Office, Team Leader Transmission NOPR  
**Jamie Simler**, Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Ameren  
**Karen Onaran**, Vice President, Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON)  
**Craig Glazer**, Vice President, Federal Government Policy, PJM Interconnection

#### **Moderator**

**Nina Plaushin**, Vice President, Federal & Regulatory Affairs, ITC Holdings

12:30 - 2:00 pm      **Lunch**



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## PRESENTERS

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Gordon van Welie**

**President and CEO,  
ISO New England**

Gordon van Welie is President and CEO of ISO New England Inc. He has been actively involved

since 2000 in the establishment and growth of advanced wholesale electricity markets and a robust regional system planning process in the New England region.

New England's resources are undergoing a dramatic transformation from oil, coal, and nuclear generation to natural gas, renewable energy, and distributed resources. Gordon has led a strategic initiative to keep system reliability intact and wholesale markets competitive while the shift in fuels and technologies occur. These initiatives include addressing the interdependency between the gas and electric systems, ensuring efficient price formation, facilitating the integration of renewable, distributed, and 'smart grid' technologies, and making significant investments in the regional transmission infrastructure.

Before joining ISO New England, Gordon was the Vice President and General Manager of the Power System Control business for Siemens, which supplies energy and distribution management systems to electric utilities. Earlier in his career, he worked in various transmission and distribution control system engineering roles with the South African utility, Eskom.

Gordon is a member of ISO New England's Board of Directors, as well as a number of industry groups, including the Executive Committee of the U. S. National Committee of CIGRE, the Member Representatives Committee of the North American Electric Reliability

Corporation (NERC), the ISO/RTO Council, and the IEEE Power & Engineering Society. In 2017, he was elected as a member of the National Academy of Engineering, and currently serves on the Board on Energy and Environmental Systems.

He is a recipient of 2017 Utility Variable-Generation Integration (UVIG) Achievement Award and, in 2016, was awarded the IEEE Power & Energy Society Leadership in Power Award.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and an MBA from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

## PANEL 1 – OFFSHORE WIND CONSIDERATIONS

### Panelist



**William Quinlan**

**President, Transmission  
and Offshore Wind  
Projects, Eversource  
Energy**

Bill Quinlan is the president of Transmission and Offshore Wind Projects for Eversource Energy. In this position, he leads the effort to fortify the electric grid and enable a clean energy future for Eversource customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. He is responsible for Eversource's transmission policy, strategy, major projects, regulatory approvals and compliance. He also leads the execution of Eversource's offshore wind projects as part of the company's joint venture with Ørsted, from siting and permitting through construction and energization.

Prior to his current role, Bill served as president, Eversource New Hampshire Operations, where



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he was responsible for ensuring the safe and reliable delivery of electricity to Eversource's New Hampshire customers. Bill spearheaded the completion of industry restructuring, including divestiture of the company's generating plants.

Bill previously served as senior vice president of Emergency Preparedness as well as vice president of Customer Solutions, overseeing key functions, including engineering, smart grid, distributed generation, electric vehicles, energy efficiency and economic development.

Bill has extensive operations, policy, legal, regulatory, technology and business experience. In 1993, he joined the company's Legal department and later became deputy general counsel and chief regulatory counsel. From 2003 to 2007, Quinlan served as president of NU Enterprises, Inc. (NUEI), the holding company for NU's competitive businesses.

Bill graduated from Villanova University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, a Master of Business Administration from the University of New Haven in 1989 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1992. Bill served as vice chairman of the electric industry's National Response Executive Committee.



## Panelist

**Georges Sassine**

**Vice President, Large Scale Renewables, NYSERDA**

Georges Sassine is the Vice President for Large-Scale Renewables at the New

York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). He leads NYSERDA's work in advancing both land-based renewable energy and offshore wind resources.

Prior to joining NYSERDA in September 2021, he spent nearly ten years at General Electric (GE) where he took on a wide scope of responsibilities including strategy, scenario planning, product management, innovation, marketing and business development.

Georges started his career in engineering and policy analysis roles with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in the Middle East and at a couple of think tanks in Washington, D.C. Georges has also worked with several multinational corporations driving policy analysis, investment and business strategy including Deutsche Bank's Energy & Climate Change Advisors team in New York and Man Group's energy private equity fund in London.

Georges is the founder of a non-profit that advocates for transparency and good governance in the energy industry. He sits on the board of the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA), a non-profit platform for states and public agencies to collaborate to advance clean energy in the United States. Georges holds a Bachelor in Engineering in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Beirut, and a Master in Public Policy from Harvard University.



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## Panelist

### Lathrop Craig

#### Vice President, Offshore Wind Development, PSEG

Lathrop Craig is Vice President, Development. He is currently leading PSEG's offshore wind

ventures which include partnerships in multiple generation and transmission development projects in the Mid-Atlantic region. He assumed this role in January 2020.

Prior to his current role, Lathrop was vice president - ISO Operations at PSEG Energy Resources & Trade where he was responsible for PSEG's power portfolio management functions in PJM, NY, and New England, and oversaw power generation development.

Previously, he was vice president - Risk Management and Chief Risk Officer for PSEG Services Corp. In this role, he was responsible for PSEG's power commodity risk management oversight, implementing corporate risk management strategy, and evaluating and addressing risk across all PSEG businesses.

In addition, Lathrop served as vice president – PSEG Energy Holdings Finance and vice president - Corporate Planning and Analysis of PSEG Services Corp. In this role, he was responsible for valuation and corporate planning and led the finance teams supporting Energy Holdings and the Services Corp., as well as supporting the Services Corp.'s executive leadership.

Lathrop first joined PSEG in 2000 and has held various positions of increasing responsibility within PSEG Global, Power finance and corporate finance. In 2007, he left PSEG to serve as vice president – Marketing and Development for Astoria Energy. In 2008, Mr. Craig returned to PSEG as director – Strategy, Planning and Development for PSEG Power. Previously he served as a qualified Nuclear Engineering Officer in the U.S. Navy.

Lathrop graduated from Colgate University with a bachelor's degree in physics and holds a master's degree in electrical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an MBA from Cornell University.



## Moderator

### Sam Mintz

#### New England Correspondent, RTO Insider

Sam Mintz is a Boston-based correspondent for RTO Insider covering

energy and climate policy in New England, with a focus on ISO-NE, NEPOOL and state legislatures. He has previously worked at Politico, E&E News, the Boston Business Journal and the Cape Cod Times.

## PANEL 2 – FERC TRANSMISSION NOPR



## Panelist

### David Borden

#### Economist, FERC Policy Office, Team Leader Transmission NOPR

David Borden is a Senior Energy Industry Analyst in the Office of Energy Policy

and Innovation at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington, D.C. David is the team leader of the Commission's NOPR project, RM21-17, and has focused on electric transmission issues since first joining the Commission in 2010. David has enjoyed an extensive career in utility regulation, starting his career with the Illinois Commerce Commission where he also served as a Commissioner's Advisor, and working in regulatory strategy & rates for multiple utilities. David is an Economist, with a Master of Science degree from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.



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## Panelist

**Jamie Simler**

**Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Ameren**

Jamie Simler is Vice President of Federal Regulatory Affairs at Ameren where she

focuses on policy and regulatory matters affecting Ameren's transmission and generation portfolios. Before joining Ameren in 2017, she spent 20 years at FERC where she led the formation and directed the work of the Office of Energy Policy and Innovation, led the Office of Energy Market Regulation, and was policy advisor to Commissioner Nora Brownell. Jamie also held positions at the Potomac Electric Power Company and the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America. She has a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering and a Master of Business Administration.



## Panelist

**Karen Onaran**

**Vice President, Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON)**

Karen Onaran is the Vice President of the Electricity Consumers

Resource Council (ELCON) where she advocates for policies benefiting large industrial and commercial consumers of electric energy before FERC, the US DOE, NERC, and Congress.

Prior to joining ELCON, Karen was the Director of Federal Regulatory Affairs at Edison Electric Institute (EEI) where she focused on federal electric transmission policy issues, supporting investor-owned utilities on transmission planning and investment issues, as well as wholesale market operations, to promote policies geared towards electric transmission's role in providing safe, reliable, cost-effective, and increasingly clean energy to consumers.

Prior to her 10 years at EEI, Karen was a paralegal for 16 years in Washington D.C. focusing on energy project finance and federal regulatory compliance. Karen is a graduate of the University of Mary Washington and received her Master of Business Administration degree from Johns Hopkins University.



## Panelist

**Craig Glazer**

**Vice President, Federal Government Policy, PJM Interconnection**

Craig Glazer serves as the Vice President, Federal

Government Policy for PJM Interconnection. In this capacity, Craig coordinates all of PJM's regulatory and legislative policies before Congress, FERC, the US DOE and other federal agencies. PJM operates the largest competitive wholesale electricity market in the world and serves over 9% of the US population. Craig heads PJM's Washington, D.C. office.

Prior to coming to PJM, Craig served as Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. As one of the longest-serving Chairs of the Ohio Commission in its history, Craig oversaw Ohio's move toward deregulation of its telephone, natural gas, transportation and electric industries. He served as CEO of the agency which operated with over 300 employees and a budget of \$25 million. He also chaired the state's Siting Board and served as a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

Craig remains extremely active on national electricity issues. He frequently testifies before Congress and FERC on development of Regional Transmission Organizations and the needs of the marketplace. Craig served as a member of the Board of Directors of the NARUC, Chairman of its International Relations Committee and a member of its Electricity and Energy Resources Committees. He also chaired the National Council on Competition in the Electric Industry, an interagency collaborative which brought together FERC, the state PUCs, the US DOE, the US EPA and the National Council of State Legislatures. He has served as Chairman of the



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Board of Directors of the Northeast Midwest Institute, a bipartisan research arm of the Northeast and Midwest region's Congressional delegations and on the Board of Directors of the Gridwise Alliance.

Craig is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Vanderbilt University School of Law.



## Moderator

### Nina Plaushin

#### **Vice President, Federal & Regulatory Affairs, ITC Holdings**

Nina Plaushin is Vice President, Regulatory and Federal Affairs for

ITC Holdings Corp. Nina has more than 25 years of experience managing government and regulatory policy at the federal and state levels. She is responsible for the company's federal and regional regulatory functions. She also heads the Washington, D.C., office and is responsible for federal affairs activities.

Prior to joining ITC, Nina served as vice president of External Affairs at WPPI Energy, a regional power company serving 50 customer-owned electric utilities in Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Iowa. In this capacity, she was responsible for federal and state government relations activities for the company, as well as corporate communications. She was Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs at Wisconsin-based American Transmission Company, which included regulatory oversight of the company's environmental and permitting functions.

Nina also served as manager of Federal Regulatory Affairs at PPL, an investor-owned utility headquartered in Allentown, Pa., in its Washington, D.C., office.

Nina assisted a variety of energy and environmental clients as Vice President at Hill & Knowlton, one of the largest communications consulting firms in the world, and Van Ness, Feldman & Curtis, a D.C.-based law firm. Before entering the private sector, she worked for several members of Congress including Senator Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R-CT), Senator Spark Matsunaga (D-HI), and C. Thomas McMillen (D-MD).

She earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. Nina is a former WIRES president, and serves on the Board of Directors.