NEVADA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY

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Carson City, NV 89701

Joe Lombardo
Governor

James Humm
Director

Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force

Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2026 | Meeting Started at 1:07apm

Call to Order

Chair Jennifer Taylor called the meeting of the Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force to order at 1:07 PM and asked Karen Garcia of the Governor's Office of Energy (GOE) to call roll and establish a quorum.

Roll Call and Quorum

Ms. Garcia called the roll of Task Force members. A quorum was established.

Member	Attendance
Chair Jennifer Taylor	Present
Alise Porto	Present
Andrea Martinez	Present
David Rubin	Present
Erik Hansen	Not present for roll call
Gail Bates	Present
Hayley Williamson	Not present for roll call
Director (GOE) — represented by Jake Herzik, Deputy Director, GOE	Present
Jeremy Newman	Not present for roll call
Henry Shields	Present
Leslie Mujica	Present
Luis Cruz Negron	Not present for roll call
Luke Papez	Present
Michael Park	Not present for roll call
Michael D. Roberson	Present
Assembly Member Richard DeLong	Not present for roll call
Richard Perkins	Present
Robby Hamlin	Present
Dan Lazzareschi	Present
Rachelle Doubinkine	Not present for roll call
Assembly Member Tracy Brown-May	Not present for roll call

Staff: Karen Garcia facilitated roll call and public comment. Director James Humm and Deputy Director Jake Herzik attended on behalf of the Governor's Office of Energy. Nicole N. Ting provided legal guidance regarding the report review and approval process.

I. Public Comment

Ms. Garcia opened the floor for public comment and provided instructions for participants attending by telephone and Microsoft Teams. Members of the public were reminded that comments were limited to three minutes.

Eric King, a Nevada resident and sustainability design consultant, addressed the Task Force regarding wildfire prevention and transmission infrastructure development.
Mr. King encouraged the Task Force to consider incorporating wildfire prevention and risk-reduction measures into future transmission planning and infrastructure development. He emphasized the importance of considering firebreaks, protective design features, terrain considerations, and coordination with fire prevention professionals when developing new transmission infrastructure.
Mr. King also encouraged consideration of existing infrastructure and opportunities to retrofit existing areas with protective design features to reduce wildfire risks in urban, suburban, rural, and wilderness areas. He offered to provide additional information and participate in future discussions on the subject.
Ms. Garcia thanked Mr. King for his comments and confirmed the spelling of his last name for the record. The Chair noted that a second opportunity for public comment would be provided at the end of the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes — November 06, 2026, Meeting

Before consideration of the November 6, 2026, meeting minutes, Member Gail Bates requested a correction to the attendance record, noting that she had been incorrectly listed as present when she did not attend that meeting.
Member Dan Lazzareschi moved to approve the November 6, 2026, meeting minutes as amended to reflect Member Bates's correction. The motion was seconded.

Chair Taylor called for a vote. The motion carried with all members voting in favor. No objections or abstentions were noted.

III. Discussion of the 2025–2026 Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force Report

Chair Taylor introduced the primary agenda item: review and discussion of the draft 2025–2026 Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force Report.
The Chair explained that the draft report had been distributed to members in advance and proposed reviewing the document section by section, including the cover letter, membership list, activities, and recommendations.
Nicole N. Ting advised that Task Force members should provide their comments and proposed revisions during the meeting so GOE staff could incorporate the changes into a revised draft for consideration at the November 20 meeting. Members could also submit additional comments, corrections, and proposed language individually to GOE staff before the next meeting. Ms. Ting reminded members that they should not deliberate with one another outside the public meeting.

A. Cover Letter and Membership

Chair Taylor invited members to identify any corrections or suggested changes to the draft cover letter addressed to the Governor and Director Wilkerson.
No substantive changes or corrections were identified, and members indicated that the cover letter was acceptable.
The Task Force also reviewed the membership section of the report. Members discussed changes to the membership list, including the replacement of former members with their successors. Members were invited to identify any missing or incorrect information.
No additional substantive corrections were raised.

B. Summary of Task Force Activities

Chair Taylor reviewed the activities section, which summarizes the Task Force's work during the reporting period.
Members indicated that the section generally and accurately reflected the Task Force's activities. No significant omissions or corrections were identified during the discussion.
Chair Taylor thanked GOE staff for their substantial work in preparing the report and compiling the information.
GOE staff will incorporate a summary of the November 13 and November 20 meetings into the activities section before the report is finalized.

C. Review of Report Recommendations

Chair Taylor introduced the recommendations section, explaining that many recommendations carried forward from the 2024 report, while several new recommendations were added based on recent presentations and discussions.
The Task Force reviewed the recommendations individually and discussed potential revisions.

Recommendation 1–4: Regional Coordination and PACT

Members reviewed the existing recommendations and discussed the importance of continuing regional coordination efforts.
The Task Force discussed the addition of language recognizing the importance of continued engagement with the Permitting Alignment and Coordination Task Force (PACT), following the November 6 presentation.
Members supported maintaining the recommendations and continuing efforts to improve coordination among Western states on transmission planning and permitting.
The Task Force also discussed Nevada's broader role in coordinating with different levels of government as transmission infrastructure development progresses.

Discussion Regarding SB 448 and the January 1, 2030, Deadline

Member Luke Papez requested clarification regarding the statutory requirement for NV Energy to join a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) by January 1, 2030, and whether the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) had determined that the deadline was no longer feasible.
David Rubin of NV Energy explained that the Commission's order established criteria for NV Energy's future filing and recognized that there was not currently a viable RTO option available. NV Energy intends to request an indefinite waiver of the January 1, 2030, deadline because there is not currently an RTO that meets the necessary requirements for participation.
Chair Taylor proposed adding clarifying language to the report indicating that the statutory deadline is subject to a waiver application being submitted by the transmission provider before January 1, 2027.
Members also discussed including a footnote referencing Mr. Rubin's November 6 testimony regarding NV Energy's intent to file the waiver request.
Mr. Rubin supported the proposed clarification. Members agreed that the additional language would help prevent misunderstandings regarding the status of the statutory deadline.

Recommendation 5: Legislative Coordination

The Task Force reviewed the recommendation regarding continued coordination with Nevada legislators and their participation in national organizations, including the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and the Council of State Governments (CSG).
No changes were proposed.

Recommendation 6: Economic Development Coordination

Members reviewed the recommendation regarding the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) continuing to work with the eight regional development authorities to identify economic development opportunities associated with potential RTO participation.
The discussion emphasized the importance of coordinating economic development opportunities with Nevada's energy infrastructure and resource planning.
Members discussed the potential for GOE to assist with facilitating communication between NV Energy and GOED when appropriate. The Task Force agreed that continued coordination would be beneficial.

Recommendation 7: Data Coordination and Privacy

Chair Taylor requested input from Mr. Rubin regarding the recommendation for coordination and access to information necessary to support economic development planning while protecting confidential and private information.
Mr. Rubin supported the recommendation, explaining that information could be aggregated in a manner that would provide useful information to the State without violating privacy requirements.
Members discussed the potential for GOE to assist in facilitating communication between NV Energy and GOED to support implementation of the recommendation.
The Task Force agreed to retain the recommendation.

Recommendation 8: Grid-Enhancing Technologies

The Task Force reviewed the recommendation encouraging the evaluation of alternative grid-enhancing technologies alongside conventional transmission upgrades.
Mr. Rubin confirmed that NV Energy's transmission planning team already evaluates these technologies as part of its transmission planning studies.
Members discussed the importance of supporting the use of existing transmission assets and identifying opportunities to improve grid capacity and efficiency.
The Task Force agreed to retain the recommendation without changes.

Recommendation 9: Statewide Transmission Study and Planning

The Task Force held an extensive discussion regarding the recommendation for Nevada to conduct a statewide transmission study and evaluate potential transmission needs, gaps, and opportunities.

Member Luke Papez raised concerns regarding the scope, cost, and potential duplication of NV Energy's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) process. He noted that a comprehensive statewide transmission study could require significant resources and should clearly identify its purpose and how it would complement existing utility planning efforts.
Members discussed whether the study should incorporate existing IRP information, utility planning assumptions, public power entities, and other available regional transmission studies.

Member Gail Bates emphasized the importance of including public power entities and municipal utilities in a comprehensive statewide evaluation rather than limiting the analysis to investor-owned utilities.
Mr. Rubin explained that NV Energy's IRP process incorporates forecasts from its municipal customers and considers broader system needs. He acknowledged that an independent statewide review could provide additional value if that is the direction supported by the Task Force.
Director James Humm and Deputy Director Herzik discussed the potential funding challenges associated with conducting a study of this magnitude. Director Humm explained that GOE does not currently have funding allocated for such a study but could explore potential funding opportunities through grants, think tanks, and other external sources.
Members discussed the possibility of using available appropriations and identifying potential funding mechanisms without establishing an immediate financial mandate for GOE.
Following discussion, members supported revising the recommendation to focus initially on developing a scope of work for a potential statewide transmission study.

The revised approach would:
Have Nevada consider developing a scope of work for a statewide transmission study based on the Task Force's recommendations.
Consider existing utility resource planning studies and available information as part of the study's foundation.
Evaluate statewide transmission needs, potential infrastructure gaps, and opportunities for additional coordination.
Explore potential funding sources, including external funding opportunities and available state appropriations.
Consider the appropriate scope and cost before proceeding with a full study.
Members generally supported this revised approach. GOE staff agreed to prepare updated language for review at the November 20 meeting.

Recommendation 10: State Siting Authorities
The Task Force reviewed the recommendation regarding continued engagement with other states' transmission siting authorities and organizations responsible for coordinating permitting across local, state, and federal agencies.
Chair Taylor explained that the recommendation would allow Nevada to learn from other states' experiences and evaluate approaches that may help streamline transmission permitting.
Members discussed removing the word "interim" to avoid confusion regarding the intended timeframe of the recommendation.
The Task Force agreed to remove the word "interim" and retain the recommendation for continued coordination and information-sharing with other state siting authorities.

Recommendation 11: Greenlink Nevada Updates
Chair Taylor requested input from Mr. Rubin regarding the recommendation for NV Energy to provide updates on Greenlink subscription information, including subscribed capacity and other relevant project information.
Mr. Rubin suggested clarifying the wording and indicated that NV Energy could provide an update once the subscription information was available.
Members discussed whether the updates should be provided quarterly, annually, or as needed.
The Task Force agreed that an annual update would be appropriate. NV Energy will provide the Task Force with an update on Greenlink subscription status on an annual basis.

Recommendation 12: Transmission Project Funding
The Task Force reviewed the recommendation regarding alternative funding opportunities for transmission infrastructure projects, including potential coordination with the State Infrastructure Bank.
Members expressed support for exploring additional funding mechanisms and improving coordination with the State Infrastructure Bank.
The Task Force agreed to retain the recommendation and remove the word "interim" to clarify that coordination should continue.
GOE staff will continue exploring opportunities to coordinate with the State Infrastructure Bank regarding potential transmission infrastructure funding.

Recommendation 13: Additional Regional Market and Transmission Opportunities

Chair Taylor reviewed the final existing recommendation, which addresses continued evaluation of regional market opportunities, governance principles, and opportunities for enhanced participation in regional transmission planning.
Members discussed the importance of keeping the recommendation broad enough to allow the Task Force to evaluate additional regional market structures and potential benefits as circumstances change.
No substantive changes were proposed to the existing recommendation.

D. Additional Recommendations — Tribal Coordination and Participation

Chair Taylor introduced additional recommendations submitted by Member Andrea Martinez regarding tribal participation, tribal sovereignty, and engagement in Nevada's energy transmission development.
Ms. Martinez thanked the Task Force for the opportunity to provide input and explained that stronger tribal engagement could help advance transmission infrastructure projects while addressing tribal concerns and priorities.
Ms. Martinez provided the example of NV Energy's coordination with the Walker River Paiute Tribe regarding the Greenlink project. She emphasized that early communication and collaboration with tribal leaders can help identify concerns, establish agreements, and support project development.
Ms. Martinez also referenced concerns surrounding the Greenlink project near the Yerington area and emphasized the importance of continuing to include tribal leaders and representatives in discussions regarding future energy infrastructure.
Deputy Director Herzik acknowledged the importance of tribal engagement and referenced GOE's prior coordination with Director Montooth regarding projects involving tribal lands.
Deputy Director Herzik proposed adding a new recommendation between the existing Recommendations 12 and 13, which would become Recommendation 13, with the remaining recommendations renumbered accordingly.
The proposed recommendation would state that the Task Force should continue coordinating with the Nevada Department of Native American Affairs and Nevada's Tribal Nations as the State continues developing energy transmission infrastructure.
Ms. Martinez expressed support for the proposed addition.
The Task Force agreed to include the new recommendation, with GOE staff working with Ms. Martinez to refine the language before the November 20 meeting.

E. Additional Recommendation — Evaluation of Regional Market Benefits

During the discussion of future Task Force activities, members identified the importance of continuing to evaluate the potential economic and reliability benefits of broader Regional Transmission Organization participation beyond the implementation of day-ahead and real-time markets.
Mr. Rubin discussed potential future benefits, including regional resource adequacy, co-optimization of ancillary services, joint transmission planning, and more coordinated transmission tariff administration.
Members discussed the importance of understanding both the costs and benefits of RTO participation, including economic, reliability, and other benefits that may be difficult to quantify.
The Task Force also discussed the potential value of independent studies and regional collaboration to evaluate additional benefits. Members recognized that studies of this nature may involve significant costs and would benefit from coordination with other Western states and regional entities.
Following discussion, members supported adding a new recommendation directing the Task Force to continue evaluating opportunities to capture additional economic and reliability benefits through RTO formation beyond those expected from day-ahead and real-time market participation.
GOE staff will incorporate the additional recommendation into the revised report.

F. Executive Summary

The Task Force discussed whether the final report should include an executive summary in addition to the transmittal letter.
Members agreed that the transmittal letter and executive summary serve different purposes. The transmittal letter introduces the report, while the executive summary provides a concise overview of the Task Force's activities, major findings, and recommendations.
The Task Force supported including an executive summary.
GOE staff will prepare an executive summary for inclusion in the final report.

G. Future Topics for the 2027–2028 Reporting Period

Members discussed potential topics and areas of focus for the next reporting period.
The discussion emphasized the importance of moving beyond general background information and beginning more detailed evaluations of the potential costs and benefits of Nevada joining or participating in a Regional Transmission Organization.
Members discussed the need for additional information regarding:
Potential economic and reliability benefits of RTO participation.
Regional resource adequacy and coordination.
Opportunities for joint transmission planning.

Co-optimization of ancillary services.
Regional transmission tariff administration.
Independent studies evaluating potential costs and benefits.
Opportunities to coordinate with other Western states and regional organizations.
Mr. Rubin emphasized the importance of evaluating what additional benefits could be achieved through broader regional coordination beyond day-ahead and real-time market participation.
Members also discussed the potential for regional collaboration to support independent studies and reduce the financial burden on Nevada.
Chair Taylor encouraged members to identify potential presenters, experts, and organizations that could provide additional information during future meetings.
The Task Force agreed that these topics should help guide future discussions and recommendations for the 2027–2028 reporting period.

IV. Next Meeting Dates and Report Planning

November 20, 2026 — Online Meeting: The meeting is intended to serve as the final review and approval meeting for the 2025–2026 Regional Transmission Coordination Task Force Report.

Chair Taylor thanked members for their participation and the productive discussion during the November 13 meeting.
GOE staff will incorporate the proposed changes, prepare a revised draft with redlined revisions, and circulate the updated report to Task Force members.

Director Humm and Deputy Director Herzik indicated that staff would work toward distributing the revised draft by Tuesday or Wednesday to allow members sufficient time to review the document before the November 20 meeting.
Members were encouraged to submit any additional comments, corrections, or proposed language directly to GOE staff before the next meeting.
The Task Force intends to review and vote on the final report on November 20, 2026, before it is transmitted to the Governor and the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

V. Items for Future Agendas

Chair Taylor asked whether members had any additional items they wished to include on future agendas.
Members discussed the importance of continuing to examine the potential costs and benefits of RTO participation, identifying additional regional coordination opportunities, and developing more specific recommendations tied to the Task Force's statutory responsibilities.
The Chair encouraged members to submit suggestions for future presentations and discussion topics to GOE staff.
No additional items were raised.

VI. Public Comment

Ms. Garcia reopened public comment.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:51pm