

Stephen (Steve) Wright
Curriculum Vitae
January 20, 2022

General Manager, Chelan County Public Utility District 2013-2021

Responsibilities

Marketing 2,000 MW hydropower capacity, 1100 aMW energy. 48,000 retail customers, 500 MW peak. 825 employees. Operates balancing authority. Utility has fiber, water and wastewater business lines.

Established two five year strategic plans utilizing aggressive public engagement that successfully reduced debt, invested in assets and people and established a public power benefit program to enhance quality of life in service territory. Debt reduced from \$815 to \$396 million. Capital program increased from \$30 million to \$190 million annual. Broadband availability increased from 65 to 75% of residential premises.

Customer satisfaction ranged from 87-95% satisfied or very satisfied.

Established Chelan as in the class of highest bond ratings for US public power utilities

WECC described Chelan as premiere registered entity for reliability standards compliance in 2020.

Established creative marketing program that increased revenues with low risk

Established open access transmission program

Successfully managed influx of cryptocurrency miners

Provided executive sponsorship for establishment of Western Resource Adequacy Program

Created Reinvigorating Hydropower a joint product with National Hydropower Association to define federal and state policies to support hydropower investment necessary for clean energy transition

Co-chaired APPA Climate Change Task Force 2019-2022

Chair of Public Generating Pool during which time studies produced: (1) evaluating least cost approaches to electricity sector carbon emissions reductions in the Pacific Northwest and (2) reliability implications of aggressive clean energy standards (80% and above) in the Pacific Northwest

Co-Chair of Columbia River Treaty Power Group

Alliance to Save Energy Board member and chair Audit and Finance Committee

Executive Sponsor for Large Public Power Council Energy Regulation Task Force addressing all FERC issues affecting public power, Nominating Committee Chair 2019

Created “Leadership Through the Power of Public Service” training program used by American Public Power Association and Washington Public Utility District Association

Independent Consultant, 2013

Served as one of four participants on an Independent Advisory Panel to five largest California utilities for study considering the impacts of expansion of Renewable Portfolio Standard beyond 33%. Study considered impacts on rates, reliability and greenhouse gas emissions. The study has been effective in gaining consideration at the state level of moving away from RPS expansion toward the development of a clean energy standard. See link: http://www.ethree.com/public_projects/renewables_portfolio_standard.php

CEO/Administrator Bonneville Power Administration, 2000-2013

Responsibilities

Marketing 22,000 MW capacity, 8,000 aMW energy. 15,000 circuit miles of transmission. Approximately \$3.5 billion in annual revenue from power and transmission sales. 3100 direct employees. Another 5000 employees at generation facilities managed for BPA's benefit (hydro and nuclear). 80 percent hydrogeneration and one nuclear plant. \$23 billion asset base. FERC nonjurisdictional utility providing transmission under a filed open access transmission reciprocity tariff. 130 power customers. Over 200 transmission customers. Rate setting authority vested in the Administrator. Managed largest fish and wildlife restoration program in the world with direct costs of roughly \$350 million and indirect costs of another \$350 million annually. Registered balancing authority and transmission operator under FERC/NERC reliability rules. Energy efficiency programs that delivered 50 to over 100 aMW incremental savings annually. Subject to DOE, OMB, Congressional, GAO, IG oversight. Substantial public involvement/transparency program. GAAP opinion for financial audits. Full net revenue responsibility – no appropriations.

Excelled at managing for results, leading/motivating with passion, building collaborative relationships to resolve contentious issues, improving customer/stakeholder satisfaction, producing operational excellence through process improvements

Results

- High customer, constituent and tribal satisfaction (measured)
- Maintained high bond ratings (AA- to AA+) despite having to manage through west coast energy crisis and the financial aftermath
- Implemented agency-wide performance management system including for assets (hydro and nuclear) not owned by BPA
- Increased federally authorized access to capital from \$3.7 billion to over \$9 billion
- Negotiated 20 year power sales contracts with power customers that established new less risky business relationship for BPA's largest source of revenue
- Following 3 years of negotiation, achieved settlement with 3 states and 7 Indian Tribes addressing largest environmental risk associated with hydrosystem (salmon restoration)
- Largest transmission construction program in the country 2003-2005. In 2008 developed and received FERC approval for innovative proposal to define commercial needs and build new transmission.
- Beat agency safety target in 11 out of 12 years. Target is set at roughly one-half the national average
- Exceeded regional planning targets for energy efficiency acquisition 2001-2012.
- Actual regional renewable resource interconnections doubled regional planning target for 2007-2012
- Implemented new asset management and capital allocation processes
- Established risk management and technology innovation as professionally managed disciplines within BPA
- Increased diversity in senior executive ranks
- Clean audit opinions all 12 years in compliance with GAAP
- Evidence of high ethical standards while operating in a high visibility job.
- Appointed and retained through three Presidential Administrations (Clinton, Bush, Obama), four Secretaries of Energy and five Deputy Secretaries of Energy

- Initiated and Co-Chaired Pacific Northwest Wind Integration Steering Committee 2007- 2013
- Initiated and Co-Chaired Northwest Energy Efficiency Task Force (2008 - 2012)
- Initiator and participant in Western Electricity Industry Leaders (CEOs/senior executives for major transmission owners in the western United States)
- Electric Power Research Institute Board 2009-2012
- North American Electric Reliability Council Members Representative Committee 2005-2006
- Chair of US Entity from 2000-2013, responsible for implementation of the Columbia River Treaty with Canada. Initiated Pacific Northwest stakeholder engagement process that led to 2013 recommendations for Treaty modernization post-2024.

1998-2000 - Senior Vice-President Corporate

- Accountable for finance, internal business services, human resources, public affairs

1990-1998 Manager Washington DC office

- Accountable for all Washington DC relationships (e.g. Administration, Congress, FERC)

1987-1990 Manager California Office

- Accountable for all California power, transmission and regulatory relationships

1984-1987 Public Affairs Specialist, Washington DC office

- Accountable for BPA relationships with U.S. House of Representatives

1981-1984 Energy Efficiency and Generating Resource Planner

- Energy efficiency program evaluation, energy efficiency supply curves development, integrated resource planning

Awards and Commendations

- Presidential Rank Award Winner at the Distinguished (Highest) Level (reserved for top 1 percent of Senior Executive Service members)
- Secretary of Energy Exceptional Service Lifetime Achievement Award

- American Public Power Association Alan Richardson award for statesmanship
- Alliance to Save Energy Charles R. Percy award for public service
- Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance Chairman's Award
- Washington Public Utility District Association Lifetime Achievement award
- Corps of Engineers Bronze Order of de Fleury medal for service to the Corps (highest civilian honor)
- Museum of the Warm Springs Indians Lifetime Achievement
- Northwest Public Power Association Paul Raver award for community service
- Idaho Customer Owned Utilities Association named scholarship for service
- University of Oregon first distinguished alumni from the School of Public Policy and Management
- Executive Board and Nominating Committee chair for Community Foundation North Central Washington (present)
- Board member Volunteers of America Portland Oregon 2010-2013
- Testified before Congress more than a dozen times
- Multiple testimonies before FERC Reliability conferences

Education

- MS in Public Administration, University of Oregon 1981
- BA, Central Michigan University, majors in journalism and psychology, 1979