

**ALISON SILVERSTEIN**  
**ALISON SILVERSTEIN CONSULTING**



Independent consulting, strategy, communications and facilitation in electric system reliability and resilience, energy efficiency, renewable energy, electricity technology and market strategy, with a solid reputation for sound insights, creative solutions, and getting things done.

**EXPERIENCE:**

**Consultant, Austin TX**

2004 to present Providing advice, facilitation, research, and writing on strategic, market, project management and regulatory matters to a variety of private and federal clients. Broad consulting practice entails extensive technical interaction and collaboration with electric industry leaders, engineers, operators, planners, investors, vendors and regulators across North America, and extensive public speaking and writing.

Non-federal work includes:

- Wildfire preparation coordinator, PG&E -- Troubleshooting, analytical, strategic and regulatory guidance to officers and staff at California utility working to prevent utility-caused wildfires and reduce the number, scope and impact of Public Safety Power Shut-offs in northern California, reporting to utility President and SVP-Electric Operations. (March-November 2020)
- Pro bono contributions to Energy Systems Integration Group paper, "[Transmission Planning for 100% Clean Electricity](#)", World Resources Institute-Resources for the Future project on electric market redesign options for decarbonized energy system, and Houston Advanced Research Council on climate change impacts on Texas. (winter 2020 and 2021)
- Author, "[Resource Adequacy Challenges in Texas: Unleashing Demand-side Resources in the ERCOT Competitive Market](#)," for Environmental Defense Fund. (2020)
- Contributor to Energy Futures Initiative 2020-2021 analyses and workshops on electric market redesign for high-renewables future and 2019 assessment of California's decarbonization plan and options.
- Strategy and facilitation for American Wind Energy Association. (2019)
- Co-author, "[Customer-Focused and Clean -- Power Markets for the Future \(Full Report\)](#)" and PJM and MISO versions (November 2018), with Rob Gramlich, Michael Goggin & Steve Shparber, prepared for Wind-Solar Association.
- Co-author, "[A Customer-focused Framework for Electric System Resilience](#)," with Rob Gramlich & Michael Goggin, prepared for Natural Resources Defense Council & Environmental Defense Fund. (May 2018)
- Strategic consultation and conference support for Quanta Services. (2005-18)
- Lead for Columbia Grid independent panel investigation and paper assessing Bonneville Power Administration's South of Allston 500 kV project and transmission planning process (2016,

released May 2017) that led to [cancellation of BPA's planned I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project](#).

- R&D project reviewer, Bonneville Power Administration's Technology Innovation Council (R&D program), numerous years.
- Independent Facilitator for the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission's Reliability Studies Working Group proceeding, working with stakeholder and expert group to identify technical and policy means to increase use of renewables in Hawaii islands' electric systems. (2011-13)
- Reviewer for Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (Hawaii) Energy Excelsior energy innovation technology grants. (2011-14)
- Author, WIRES study, "Smart Transmission: Modernizing the Nation's High Voltage Transmission System." (2011)
- Author, "The Reliability Benefits of Interoperability" (2009) and the "Decision-Maker's Interoperability Checklist," for the GridWise Architecture Council. (2010)
- Research for the California Energy Commission with Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and Electric Power Group on cost allocation and benefits analysis for regional transmission expansion, culminating in 2009 co-authored [Electricity Journal](#) article.
- Co-author of three state reports (TX, FL, MD) for the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) on the potential for states to use energy efficiency and demand response to meet state energy needs. (2007-08)
- Contributor through American Wind Energy Association on DOE-NREL-AWEA report, [20% Wind Energy by 2030: Increasing Wind Energy's Contribution to U.S. Electricity Supply](#). (2008)
- Author of a chapter on energy infrastructure security issues in [The Forgotten Homeland: A Century Foundation Task Force Report](#) on homeland security and critical infrastructure, edited by Richard A. Clarke and Rand Beers. (2006)
- Strategic consulting to several utilities, Independent System Operators, and smart grid companies, industry associations and NGOs.

Work supporting the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE):

- Peer reviewer for multiple U.S. DOE Office of Electricity technology roadmaps. (2021)
- Lead researcher, analyst and author for U.S. DOE, "[Staff Report to the Secretary on Electricity Markets and Reliability](#)." (2017)
- Project manager and facilitator for the North American Synchrophasor Initiative 2008-2019, working with electric industry members, the Electric Power Research Institute, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation and U.S. Department of Energy to accelerate technology deployment and grid reliability contributions from phasor technology. Principal author for NASPI technical reports on "[High Resolution, Time-Synchronized Grid Monitoring Devices](#)" (2020), the [2016 leap second](#), "[Time Synchronization in the Electric Power System](#)" (2017), "[The Value Proposition for Synchrophasor Technology](#)" (2015), "[Model Validation using Synchrophasor Data](#)" (2015), "[Diagnosing Equipment Health and Mis-operations using PMU Data](#)" (2015), NERC's "Real-Time Application of Phasors for Improving Reliability" (2010) and co-author of various technical papers and articles. Provided quality control and technical support for task team and member technical work, gave strategic advice to member companies and stakeholders, and organized information-dense conferences and technical workshops. Funded by North American Electric Reliability Council from 2008-2013 and by DOE Office of Energy Delivery & Electric Reliability for 2014-2019.
- Member of Oak Ridge National Laboratory team researching grid modernization sensing and measurement metrics. (2017)
- Member of Oak Ridge National Lab team supporting DOE in analysis of the impacts and benefits of the DOE synchrophasor-related Smart Grid Investment Grant projects and demos (2013-14).

- Member of Lawrence Berkeley National Lab team supporting DOE and Topic A and B teams performing Interconnection-wide Long-term System Planning. (2009-2012)
- Lead researcher, analyst and co-author for DOE's 2015 National Transmission Congestion Study and the 2006 and 2009 National Electric Transmission Congestion Studies.
- Expert reviewer assessing transmission and distribution Research & Demonstration programs and projects for Office of Energy Delivery and Electric Reliability program reviews (Transmission Reliability, Visualization and Controls, and Smart Grid programs) over numerous annual review cycles since 2005; technical reviewer for DOE American Recovery & Restoration Act programs (ARPA-e, Smart Grid Investment Grants, Smart Grid Demonstration Grants, ARRA workforce training and interconnection-wide transmission planning grants).
- Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative -- strategy, training, facilitation, outreach and technical assistance on DOE team supporting Hawaii clean energy system transformation plan. (2006-2008)
- Co-author, "[Coordination of Energy Efficiency and Demand Response](#)," Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, with C. Goldman, M. Reid, & R. Levy. (January 2010)
- National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency – four years of support to DOE and Environmental Protection Agency with strategy, product development, technical expertise and editing, with substantive contributions to nine key reports, guides and studies.
- International Energy Agency DSM Project XVII -- U.S. country expert team member and report co-author.

## AFFILIATIONS

- Board member, Secretary and recent Board President, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, and lead agitator for [ACEEE 2020 Call to Action](#).
- Board member, Health Alliance for Austin Musicians
- Distinguished Fellow, Energy Futures Initiative
- Advisory Board member, Resilient Grid
- Advisory Board member, Center for Renewables Integration
- Past board member, National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences Board on Energy & Environmental Systems
- Past member, GridWise Architecture Council
- Past Advisory Board member, Invenergy

## PAST EMPLOYMENT

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington DC**

7/2001-7/04 Senior Energy Policy Advisor to Chairman Pat Wood, III – Assisted top federal regulatory official in policy guidance and implementation for the nation's wholesale electric and gas markets. Worked on rulemakings and orders to promote new infrastructure development, make wholesale markets more competitive, and protect wholesale customers from potential market dysfunction and abuse. Co-chair of U.S.-Canada Blackout Investigation and principal author of bi-national interim (2003) and final (2004) blackout reports and vegetation management report (2003). Industry leadership in infrastructure protection and cyber-security, distributed generation, demand response, and more. Extensive public speaking schedule.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas, Austin TX (6/95-6/2001)** – Advisor to Chairman Pat Wood, III

**Pacific Gas & Electric Co., San Francisco CA (1984-94)** – multiple positions including news rep

**ICF, Inc., Washington DC (1980-81) -- consultant**

**Environmental Law Institute, Washington DC (1979) -- consultant**

**U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Policy Analysis, Washington DC (1977-78) – policy analyst**

**EDUCATION:**

MBA, Stanford University

MSE, Systems Analysis, The John Hopkins University, Department of Geography and Environmental  
Engineering

BA, Economics, The John Hopkins University

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