

Department of Energy | Office of Electricity
ELECTRICITY POLICY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

TA Request Form

The Office of Electricity (OE) provides independent and unbiased technical support to states, regions, and Tribes on their electricity-related policies through its Electricity Policy Technical Assistance Program. Types of assistance offered and activities supported include: analysis assistance; stakeholder-convened discussions; education and training through workshops and webinars; consultations with technical experts. Technical assistance is provided through national laboratories, regional and national associations of state decision-makers, and federal government staff. OE provides technical assistance in response to requests from eligible entities. For more information, please visit the program website: <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/electricity-policy-technical>.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), on behalf of OE, provides objective technical assistance, upon request, to state regulatory commissions, state energy offices, tribes and regional entities. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to: transmission and electric system resource planning; reliability and resiliency; demand response and smart grid; regulated utility business models; integrating variable generation; rate-payer funded energy efficiency; electric sector interdependencies (e.g., gas-electric, water, transportation); environmental regulations; and resource diversity.

To help OE and LBNL better understand your inquiry, please provide us with the information identified on the following page. The OE and LBNL contacts provided below are available to answer questions. OE and LBNL will review the information submitted and respond to your request.

Please direct questions and send requests to the appropriate LBNL subject matter expert listed below:

Energy Efficiency

Lisa Schwartz
LCSchwartz@lbl.gov
510-486-6315

Smart Grid and Demand Response

Peter Cappers
PACappers@lbl.gov
315-637-0513

Fossil Generation

Pete Larsen
PHLarsen@lbl.gov
510-486-5015

Utility Business Models

Andrew Satchwell
ASatchwell@lbl.gov
(510) 486-6544

Regional Planning/Transmission

Peter Larsen
PHLarsen@lbl.gov
510-486-5015

Grid Modernization and Other Electricity System Decision-Making Issues

Lisa Schwartz
LCSchwartz@lbl.gov
510-486-6315

Renewables

Ryan Wisner
RHWisner@lbl.gov
510-486-5474

OE PROGRAM STAFF: Larry Mansueti, Lawrence.Mansueti@hq.doe.gov, 202-586-2588

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Please include all of the below information in your TA Request and forward it to the appropriate LBNL staff member listed on the previous page.

DATE OF REQUEST: *To be completed by PSC per January 25, 2019 order.*

ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE (Name, location, address): *To be completed by PSC*

POINTS OF CONTACT

1. Primary senior official point of contact for requesting agency (e.g., lead utility commissioner for project) - *(Name, title, phone number and email address)* *To be completed by PSC.*
2. Primary staff points of contact for requesting agency - *(Names, titles, phone numbers and e-mail addresses)* *To be completed by PSC.*
3. Primary contacts for other involved state agencies or stakeholders (one contact for each) - *(Names, titles, phone numbers and e-mail addresses)*

- Cheryl Murray
Utility Analyst with the Utah Office of Consumer Services
(801) 530-6957 - cmurray@utah.gov
- Artie Powell
Manager with the Utah Department of Public Utilities
(801) 530-6032 - wpowell@utah.gov
- Kate Bowman
Renewable Energy Program Manager with Utah Clean Energy
(801) 343-4046 - kate@utahcleanenergy.org
- Briana Kobor
Program Director with Vote Solar
(801) 899-0100 - briana@votesolar.com
- Stephen Mecham
Attorney for Vivant Solar
(385) 222-1618 - sfmecham@gmail.com
- Ryan Evans
President of Utah Solar Energy Association
(801) 509-1201 - revans@utahsolar.org
- Tyler Poulson
Sustainability Program Manager for Salt Lake City Corporation
(801) 535-7259 - tyler.poulson@slc.gov
- Elias Bishop
Director of Government Affairs & Public Policy with Auric Solar
(801) 598-5108 - elias.bishop@auricsolar.com
- Sophie Hayes
Senior Staff Attorney with Western Resource Advocates

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(801) 212-9419 - sophie.hayes@westernresources.org

- Jana Saba
Regulatory Affairs Manager with Rocky Mountain Power
(801) 220-2823 - jana.saba@pacificorp.com

JUSTIFICATION (provide 2-3 paragraphs that describe the following):

1. What is the issue/question/task you are working on?
2. What is your role in addressing that issue/question/task? Who else are you working with (their roles)?
3. What challenges have you identified in your efforts that you think OE can help address?
4. How will the technical assistance provided inform your issue/question/task?

The Utah Public Service Commission (“Commission”) is currently presiding over a docket that will determine a compensation rate for exported power from customer distributed generation systems in Utah (the “Export Credit”). Each party participating in this proceeding will have the opportunity to present evidence of reasonably quantifiable costs and benefits associated with customer distributed generation, as well as other factors that each party believes are relevant when formulating the Export Credit. Ultimately, the Commission will be responsible for reviewing the evidence presented by parties and determining the Export Credit.

A fair Export Credit that is representative of the value of exported energy must account for all costs and benefits associated with modern solar technology, including batteries and smart inverters, and its impacts on the grid. The stakeholders in this proceeding will benefit from a common understanding of the current methods for quantifying and valuing the costs and benefits of distributed solar, which are rapidly evolving as solar equipment and software is increasingly configured to meet new standards regarding the interconnection of solar or new goals for end-use customers. Technical assistance from LBNL will provide the parties participating in this docket an understanding of the most up-to-date valuation methods and their data requirements. Ultimately, this will increase the quality of the evidence submitted to the Commission for review so that the Commission can identify a just and reasonable Export Credit in Utah.

DESIRED OUTCOMES: What do you hope to learn/accomplish through the requested technical assistance?

Our hope is to provide the parties participating in this proceeding both a common understanding of the current methods for quantifying and valuing the costs and benefits of distributed solar, and a better understanding of the associated data requirements. To that end, we believe assistance focused on the following topics will be most helpful:

- Potential costs and benefits associated with integration of distributed solar energy on the distribution and transmission system at varying levels of penetration
- Impact of distributed solar on transmission and distribution line losses
- Potential for distributed solar to impact timing and need for capital investments on the distribution and transmission system
- Studies of distribution-level costs and benefits attributable to distributed solar, including locational costs and benefits
- Impact of other distributed technologies in conjunction with distributed solar
- Capabilities and services provided by advanced inverters

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- Short-term vs. long-term evaluations of the costs and benefits of distributed solar
- Analysis of customer deployment of solar or solar and storage under different export credit rates
- Analysis of utility shareholder and ratepayer impacts
- Ancillary services provided by distributed generation, including voltage and frequency regulation
- Types of data that are relevant to determining the value of exported solar energy
- Other relevant topics as recommended by LBNL

BENEFITS/VALUE-ADDED: How will the requested technical assistance affect your organization’s ability to achieve its objectives/goals?

The requested technical assistance will help inform each party in this proceeding.

TYPE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED (Choose all that apply):

- Consultation
- Presentation(s)
- Support for workshops, collaboratives (e.g., stakeholder-convened, technical expert participation)
- Technical review of legislation, commission policies, guidelines
- General information to inform the development of rules, regulations, guidelines
- Uncertain about what type of assistance is required
- Other (Specify): _____

KEY TASKS AND DELIVERABLES:

To the extent known, or in consultation with the appropriate OE or LBNL contact, please identify any key tasks and/or deliverables and any time sensitivities related to your request in the table below (including for the above checked services/products requested).

Service/Product	Requested TA Delivery Date	Project Deadline, if Applicable
Technical Workshop(s) to address the scope of topics described above	June 30, 2019	