

May 07, 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Francone at 801.355.4374

The 27th Annual Western States Energy Conference:
“Changing Tracks During Economic and Political Uncertainty”

SALT LAKE CITY — The **Utah Association of Energy Users (UAE)** is hosting its 27TH Annual Western States Energy Conference, Thursday, May 10th, at the **Little America Hotel**, in downtown Salt Lake City, followed by a golf tournament on May 11th at **Eaglewood Golf Course**. The conference attracts representatives from commerce and industry whose energy costs are a major component of their operating budgets. Both operating and managerial executives who are interested in energy efficiency, policy and technical issues are invited, as well as regulatory staff from western states, legislators and utility representatives.

The conference is sponsored by: **American Pacific, Anadarko Petroleum Corp, Questar, BP Energy Co, CIMA Energy LTD, ATK Aerospace Group, Energy Strategies, Hatch, James & Dodge, Hexcel Corp, Holland & Hart, Intermountain Power Agency, Rocky Mountain Power, and Utah Industrial Energy Efficiency Challenge.**

The conference topics will focus on the potential change in leadership in the 2012 election, the national outlook on energy policy, the impact of Demand Response on energy and reliability, discussing the need for change in utility regulation and the financial impact of Renewable Portfolio Standards in the West.

The afternoon session will feature the changing dynamics of natural gas delivery in the West with new pipelines, an outlook on natural gas in the Rocky Mountain region, and a panel on the challenges and opportunities for renewable energy developers in the West.

The conference will feature Dr. Manik Roy, Vice President of the Strategic Outreach Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, who will discuss the national energy policy, environmental issues and the looming presidential election. Dr. John Anderson, CEO and President of the Electric Consumers Resource Council, will address the challenges for implementing Demand Response (a key energy conservation tool) at the industrial level and its impact on energy and reliability. A panel including Ron Lehr (Utilities 2020), Robert Pomeroy (Holland & Hart), John Nielsen (Western Resource Advocates) and Ric Campbell (Utah Public Service Commission) will discuss the need to change the regulation of utilities in the shifting energy landscape. Justin Farr, Senior Consultant for Energy Strategies, will close out the morning session with a discussion on the financial impact of the Renewable Portfolio Standards, particularly in the West.

The luncheon keynote speaker is Rich Walje, CEO and President of Rocky Mountain Power.

The afternoon session will feature a panel on the changing landscape of natural gas delivery. Shelley Wright-Kendrick with Questar Pipeline and Will Brown, both marketing and business development managers, will discuss the impact of the new Ruby Pipeline on the delivery of natural gas inside and outside the Rocky Mountain area, which was previously locked in.

Ed Brewer, vice president of Commercial Operations for Williams Northwest Pipeline will provide a Rocky Mountain natural gas outlook on supply, market drivers, impending regulations, etc. Our final panel for the afternoon will address the opportunities and challenges for renewable energy developers as federal incentives shift or are eliminated and RPS rules change in the West. Moderated by Utah Clean Energy Executive Director Sarah Wright, the panel will include Troy Gagliano from enXco on solar energy, Terry Page with Enel on geothermal and Peter Sullivan with First Wind on wind development.

At the conference luncheon, UAE will present four “*Outstanding Leadership in Energy Efficiency and Conservation*” awards to UAE members: Hexcel Corporation, Intermountain Healthcare, Simplot – Vernal Mine, and Utah State University.

Hexcel Corporation completed energy efficiency efforts in 2012. These conservation improvements were made to their two new Fiber lines 11 and 12. The improvements include energy efficiency work on supply fans, evaporative cooling, motors, lighting, and exhaust fans. The estimated kW savings are 528 kW, with savings of 3.5 million kWh.

Intermountain Healthcare has conducted 50 individual projects at 25 hospitals over the last four years at a cost of \$3 million. The projects include improvements in HVAC units, lighting, insulation, temperature controls, and others. The total energy savings over the four years are \$2.6 million and reduction of nearly 15 million kWh. The projects also significantly reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, and mercury.

Simplot Phosphates has been working on projects at the Vernal mine in Utah aimed at reaching their goal of reducing energy intensity at the mine by 25 percent in ten years. The projects include replacing or retrofitting lighting for greater efficiency, instrumentation put in place to reduce mill water usage and improving water consumption. The combined projects will save 6 million kWh annually.

Utah State University has recently completed construction of a 2 million gallon thermal energy storage tank. The 115 foot diameter and 30 foot tall pre-stressed concrete tank is completely buried under the HPER playfield. Chilled water is cooled and stored in the tank during the night and used to air condition the central campus buildings during the peak hours of the day. There are currently about 30 buildings on campus connected to the central chilled water system. Using the tank will move 10,200 kWh per day to off peak and reduce demand by 1.25 MW.

Construction of the tank also increases the capacity and reliability of the central energy plant and will provide a back-up cooling source during an electrical outage.

UAE will also honor Senator Mark Madsen for his collaborative work on Senate Bill 12, which allows industrial energy users to purchase a certain amount of their energy to serve their load from renewable energy as long as they pay for all the costs. The bill opens up opportunities for companies that wish to do that, while holding all the other customers harmless. Outgoing president Joan Walker- Ratliff will also be honored with an “*Outstanding Services Award*” at the luncheon.

The afternoon will conclude with a social hour. On May 11, the conference will conclude with a golf tournament at the Eaglewood Golf Course in the morning.

Registration is required in advance. Contact Kelly Francone to register, at 801.355.4374 and for information about attending.

UAE members spend over \$500 Million annually on energy, and provide 40,000 highly technical jobs to Utahns. Since 1986, UAE members have participated in all major regulatory and legislative activities that impact electricity and natural gas markets in Utah. Members of UAE are significant users of large amounts of electricity and natural gas, and as a result are greatly affected by rulings of the Utah Public Service Commission. UAE publishes a monthly newsletter to keep its members informed of key energy issues, and provides weekly market, regulatory and legislative updates. Through monthly membership breakfast meetings, annual meetings with Utah regulators and other agencies, members of UAE are kept well informed on events shaping energy markets in Utah. Contact Kelly Francone at 801.355.4374 for information on membership.