

**National Hydropower Association  
December 12, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting  
Meeting Minutes**

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**Attendees:**

Executive Committee

Mike Haynes	Thomas St. John	Sharon White
Pam Sullivan	Jim Hancock (General Counsel)	

Board Members (virtual where noted)

Carl Atkinson (virtual)	Suzanne Biddle	Suzanne Grassell (virtual)
Scott Hennessey (virtual)	Sarah Kulpa	Jeff Leahey
Joel Ledesma (Advisory)	Chris Mattson	Alan Michaels
Megan Nesbitt	Chris Rousseau	Chuck Sensiba (virtual)
Mary Gail Sullivan	Justin Trudell (virtual)	Eric Van Deuren
Heidi Wahto		

NHA Staff/ NHA Committee / Council / Task Force Representatives (virtual where noted)

Marla Barnes	Francesca Blanco Hadjimichael	Jeremy Chase-Israel (virtual)
Kimberly Costner (virtual)	Chris Hayes	Joseph LoSasso
Brittney May	Michael Purdie (virtual)	Kelly Rogers (virtual)
Ellie Rubalow	Catherine Ryan (virtual)	Copeland Tucker
Barbara Tyran (virtual)	Malcolm Woolf	Alvin Thoma
Connor Nelson (virtual)	Sydney Rovner (virtual)	Mike Pedersen (virtual)

*[Note: 19 of 20 voting Board members were present, representing a quorum. The minutes reflect the order that agenda items were discussed. All times are Pacific.]*

Notes follow the Board meeting agenda (Item #) included in the final Board Book, unless noted.

Board Meeting starts at 8:29 AM Pacific – Mike shares a safety moment.

**MEETING SUMMARY NOTES**

**Item 1 – Consent Agenda / Updates**

- Mike Haynes notes the Consent Agenda Items are listed in the Board Book, including the updated Committee and Council report.
- ***Heidi moves to approve consent agent; Thomas seconded. Motion passed.***

**Item 2 – CEO Report on Key Activities**

- Malcolm presents CEO report, provides a personnel update, and shares updates on progress made on NHA's 2023 Strategic Priorities. Details are provided in the Board Book.
  - New Staff members: Ellie Rubalow (Events Specialist), Connor Nelson (Regulatory and Market Affairs Specialist), Sydney Rovner (Program Assistant)
- Some key topics discussed include:
  - Advocacy topics: Streamlining Licensing and Relicensing- bills introduced in House and Senate, moved out of House committee, bipartisan support; Hydropower license reform package- successful hearing in both the Senate and House; Creating Tax Support to Preserve Existing Hydropower- we will be in January/February package, bipartisan group of ten Senators to support, bipartisan group of House members to support, good momentum to get into end of year package; Investing in Waterpower R&D- record appropriations in 2022, this year's bill has not been finalized, Republicans threatening to reduce funding; Effective Implementation of BIL and IRA- actively engaged with Treasury,

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money is flowing; Retrofitting Non-Powered Dams- Water Resources Development Act was passed, need COE to implement what the law says; Wholesale Markets- actively engaged with RTOs, need conversation on how we are shaping market rules; Avoiding Unnecessary Regulatory Barriers- financial assurance all quiet from FERC, Biden 401 rule not what we wanted it to be, filed for preliminary injunction in Louisiana.

- Connect topics: Attracting Asset Owners- over 1,600 registrants for Clean Currents, exceeded revenue expectations, need to do more to attract asset owners; Waterpower Week to enhance NHA's advocacy efforts- record participation in 2023, successful WPW Advocacy day (over 173 from industry participating); Promoting DEI at NHA events- always more we can do.
- Inform topics: Expanding NHA's social media engagement- 30% growth in NHA's social media accounts; goal of reaching 1 million millennials- we reached over 5 million but unclear to what extent we persuaded them. Much harder than we realized.
- Implement topics: Deepening member engagement- 33% increase year over year in member engagement, particularly because of technical programming led by Chris; executing office relocation with minimal disruptions; retaining NHA staff- goal to retain whole team, currently at full staff (17 employees).

### **Item 3 – Treasurer's Report**

- Thomas St. John presents the Treasurer Report. No slides presented but data is provided in the Board Book. Some highlights include:
- NHA in strong financial position, has collected over 100% of adjusted budgeted annual revenue and incurred 78% of adjusted budgeted expenses to date.
- NHA's cash position remains strong with over half a million held in the operating account. Decrease due to CC expenses incurred in this quarter.
- Investment account holds \$3.64 million, up from \$3.06 million this time last year. We shifted 500k in cash to investment account.
- Receivables down nearly \$170k compared to last year, meaning cash is being collected at a faster rate.
- Where the adjusted budget approved by the Board in May anticipated a shortfall of (\$386,099) at the end of 2023, NHA now forecasts a positive end-of-year budget of \$359,645 (a swing of over \$745k). NHA's financial strength is largely due to the success of our events, the DOE Uncommon Dialogue grant, and continued fiscal discipline.
- Revenue is strong with 102% or \$3.46 million of budgeted revenue collected through October.
- Clean Currents- surpassed budget by 12% and is expected to net a profit of more than \$900k.
- WPW- expected to generate \$200K in net profit.
- Expenses expected to come in at budget.
- Marla presented on membership status. Now have 329 member organizations. We have heard from a few companies that will not renew (Idaho Power, Puget Sound, Hydro Quebec, Baslow Electric).

### **Item 4 – Clean Currents Financial Review**

- Francesca and Joseph brief the Board on the financial results of Clean Currents 2023 in preparation for the Board's 2024 budget discussions.
- Revenue increasing every year. Expenses are staying somewhat flat.
- Net revenue over \$900,000 for 2023. Not all expenses are in but it's close.
- Looking forward to 2024- 210 exhibitors for 2023, hoping for 220-230 for 2024. Already at 175.
- Still expecting to grow for 2024 but starting to get to universe of exhibiting companies.

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- Additional revenue growth opportunities- sponsor opportunities (25% of exhibiting companies sponsored something in 2023), attendee revenue (getting the right attendees there- decisionmakers, customers).
- See After-Action Report – A Focus on Learnings for more information (report distributed at Board meeting).

**Item 5 – Election of Board and 2024 Officers**

- Slate of candidates for election:
  - Carl Atkinson, Voith
  - Todd Briggeman, Black and Veatch
  - Scott Hennessey, Brookfield
  - Kelly Larimer, Kleinschmidt
  - Gia Schneider, Natel
  - Mark Benacquisto, (UBC) Millwrights
  - Jillian Lawrence, Patriot Hydro
  - Preston Pierce, Duke
  - Kamal Gautam, rPlus
  - Duff Mitchell, Juneau Hydropower
- Board approves results of the 2024 Board of Directors election:
  - Carl Atkinson
  - Scott Hennessey
  - Kelly Larimer
  - Jillian Lawrence
  - Preston Pierce

***Thomas moves to close elections, Jeff seconded. Motion approved.***

- Nominees for Board Officer positions for 2024:
  - Chair: Pam Sullivan, Chris Rousseau
  - Vice Chair: Heidi Wahto, Carl Atkinson, Chris Rousseau
  - Treasurer: Eric Van Deuren
  - Secretary: Sharon White

***Alan moves to approve Sharon as Secretary and Eric as Treasurer (both unopposed). Chris seconded. Motion approved.***

***Alan moves to vote on Chair and Vice Chair in sequence, Eric seconded. Motion approved.***

Pam Sullivan elected Chair. Runoff between Heidi and Chris Rousseau for Vice Chair resulted in tie.

***Mike Haynes moves to make Chris and Heidi co vice-chairs and add them to the Executive Committee. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

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- Board approves Officer positions for 2024:
  - Chair: Pam Sullivan
  - Vice Chair: Heidi Wahto, Chris Rousseau
  - Treasurer: Eric Van Deuren
  - Secretary: Sharon White
  
- Nominating Committee recommendations for Advisory Board members for 2024:
  - Katia Debian (GE)
  - Todd Briggeman (Black & Veatch)
  - Samantha Quinn (Pacific Ocean Energy Trust)
  - Eric Steimle (Rye Development)

***Carl moves to approve slate of 4 recommendations from Nominating Committee, Jeff seconded. Motion passed.***

- Additional nominations from the Board for Advisory Board members for 2024:
  - Marc Benacquisto (UBC Millwrights)
  - Duff Mitchell (Juneau Hydropower)

Board votes for 5<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board seat.

Board approves Advisory Board members for 2024:

- Katia Debian (GE)
- Todd Briggeman (Black & Veatch)
- Samantha Quinn (Pacific Ocean Energy Trust)
- Eric Steimle (Rye Development)
- Marc Benacquisto (UBC Millwrights)

#### **Item 6 – Executive Session**

- ***Chris moved to go into Executive Session, Eric seconded. Motion passed.***
- ***Mike Haynes moves to delegate authority to ExCom to finalize contract renewal with Malcolm. Eric seconded. Motion passed.***
- ***Heidi moved to conclude Executive Session, Pam seconded.***

#### **Item 7A – Consideration of 2023 Budget**

- Refer to Board book for 2024 Annual Budget Summary, 2022-27 NHA Pro Forma Scenario, and NHA's 2023-2026 Goals and Strategies document (adopted by Board in 2022).
- Malcolm reviewed 2024 Annual Budget. Proposing to invest in most important asset (our team). Budget does not envision growth in staff for 2024. It proposes funding for expanded programming and additional funds for external consultants for IRA advocacy (including 60k for legislative tax advocacy and 120k for regulatory/treasury advocacy). This is a tool, not a cap, will revisit if needed.
- Areas of additional investment in budget: already spent 80k on 401 litigation in 2023, another 120k in 2024 for district court and Court of Appeals work in 2024. If case involves further action, it would be above and beyond. Hydropower training- \$200k in budget. Budget includes about a

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half million more in expenses than revenues. The half million would get us back into compliance with 6-12 month reserve policy.

- Three big assumptions for budget proposal: assumes 5% dues increase with opt out, assumes revenues from Deep Dive policy team, Powerhouse Media Platform, and DOE Uncommon Dialogue grant, and assumes flat growth in terms of net revenues from Clean Currents 2023.

**Item 7B – Spotlight on “Hydropower System Principals Training”**

- Chris Hayes and Joseph share NHA’s efforts to refine the extent of member interest in training and the anticipated costs of developing a high-quality training curriculum.
- Budget proposal includes \$200K in “seed money” to allow NHA to move forward with initial development costs, while anticipating that NHA will present a more detailed recommendation at the March 2024 Board meeting.
- Since October, we sent out a solicitation of interest in the training product. Received interesting data points. In parallel, we sent out a solicitation for service providers to build out curriculum and those to provide in-kind contributions.
- Request for feedback on “Hydropower System Principals” course for hydropower professionals- sent to primary contracts at 329 member organizations and received 116 responses. 70% indicated they would be interested in enrolling employees in 40-hour course. 59% likely to enroll employees in 40-hour virtual course. Most said they would send between 1 and 5 employees to participate. 86% indicated they would be likely to participate in 1-day course, most would send between 1 and 5 employees.
- Takeaway- estimate 150-400 units per year. Encouraged by interest in 1-day course. Reinforces what working group predicted as far as interest in the program.
- Curriculum development- Request for Expressions of Interest (precursor to RFP) closes December 19, 16 responses received thus far. Includes bidders, trainers, in-kind contributions, 201 level training opportunities, future lunch and learns.
- Pathway to March 2024 Board meeting:
  - Finalize bidders list- December 19
  - Issue RFP- week of January 1
  - Schedule information call with bidders- week of January 15
  - Mobilize proposal review team (manage conflicts)- month of January
  - Proposals due- week of Feb 12
  - Proposal selection (process)- through February ending March 1
  - Budget development- March 8
- Post March 2024- establish peer review team to help monitor QAQC, confirm in-kind contributions, lock down schedule, issue contract for curriculum development, pick learning management system, complete program framework, validate user experience, recruit trainers, complete 1-day course curriculum, complete 40-hour course curriculum.
- Could 1-day course be ready for Clean Currents? If staff gets the green light in March, it’s possible.
- 200k in seed money in 2024 budget to get started, vision to finish RFP by WPW Board meeting, discuss costs and industry interest and move forward.

**Item 7C – NHA’s Digital Ad Campaign**

- Copeland Tucker reviews the results of the 2023 “Clean Living” campaign
- 2023 campaign aimed at millennials in 10 states. Ad served as a reminder of waterpower’s importance in maintaining a 24/7 clean energy grid. Results- 78% have a strong baseline positive association with hydropower. We exceeded visibility goals (hit around 5 million millennials with

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increased frequency). No statistically significant movement on message retention, favorability, importance, and impact. Can't say it had a positive effect. Lessons learned: with favorability already high, it will take additional time and effort to bring those numbers significantly higher. A more targeted campaign may yield stronger results. We may get further by targeting thought leaders who have large platforms.

- Further elevating hydropower in Year 3 requires a fresh approach. Ideas from Bully Pulpit: 1) dive into policy conversation in DC, 2) appeal to zillennial climate advocacy, 3) get climate influencers (policymakers) talking (i.e. state governments, media, think tanks, PUC staff), and 4) deepen relationship with millennials focused on climate-concerned millennials aged 25-40.
- NHA's proposed 2024 budget includes \$300K for digital media campaign and \$100,000 already budgeted for DC advocacy.
- Proposed spend for 2024: \$200,000 for option 1- DC thought leaders and \$200,000 for option 3- climate thought leaders. Option for members to provide regional funding for option 4- millennial outreach (100k per region).
- Board agrees this funding is appropriate.

**Item 7D – Vote on 2024 Budget**

- ***Mike Haynes moves to adopt 2024 budget. Chris Mattson seconded. Motion passed.***

**Item 8 – The Long and Winding Road to Overhauling the Federal Power Act**

- Chuck presents on the status of legislative license reform efforts.
- Good news- we have a bill that was passed out of full House Energy and Commerce Committee. Not Uncommon Dialogue bill but combination of original Cathy McMorris Rodgers bill with changes to be closer to Uncommon Dialogue bill and attract more Democratic support. We got 3 Democrats on bill.
- Next step is to go to the floor.
- On Senate side, harder to get Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to take up the bill. Have been on list to be included in a mark-up session since October. Not unexpected. We are deep in negotiations with staff in Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Subcommittee of Oceans within Senate Commerce Committee. Our partnership with Uncommon Dialogue partners is strong. Deploying strategies to get some balance to negotiations with Democratic staff.
- Senator Barrasso's staff deep in review on bill.
- Will try to move bill in first part of next year. The closer we get to Presidential election cycle, the less interest and more partisanship.

**Item 9 – NHA's "3R" Tax Proposal to Preserve the Existing Hydropower Fleet**

- Brittney May presents on NHA's efforts to include the "3R" tax proposal to provide a 30% ITC for environmental and dam safety investments in any year end (or January) tax package that may advance in Congress.
- Investment tax credit for existing fleet- reframed it for dam safety investments. Message struck people on the Hill. Bill was reintroduced this fall with broad bipartisan coalition of ten U.S. Senators (5 Democrats, 4 Republican, 1 Independent). Bill was introduced in House last week. Hoping it will be included in end-of-year package. At mercy of larger politics. Since they aren't doing a budget until February, that's the natural vehicle for tax credits.

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**Item 10 – Show Me the Money**

- Mike Purdie updates the Board on DOE's implementation of the \$750 million in the section 240 grant programs.
  - Section 242 program- \$125 million appropriated in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). For CY 2023 payments, \$38 million was awarded to 66 entities.
  - Section 243 program- \$75 million appropriated in BIL. DOE received 93 applications for a requested funding amount of \$199 million. Program oversubscribed. Expect awards to be announced prior to WPW.
  - Section 247 Program- \$553.6 million appropriated in BIL. Received 378 applications. Unsure of the cumulative requested funds- may be oversubscribed. Next steps are TBD.
- Non-240 Programs- NHA has made available a funding sheet as a living document and held webinars designated to draw attention to these other programs. Many of these funding opportunities will run out of appropriations in the near-to-medium term.
- NHA's efforts to shape Treasury's implementation of critical IRA provisions. These include: elective pay, Section 48 ITC, domestic content for for-profit and tax-exempt entities, tech neutral credits under Section 45Y PTC/48E ITC, advanced manufacturing credit under Section 45X, Hydrogen Production Tax Credit under Section 445V. NHA to complete RFP process for tax counsel. It is difficult to influence Treasury. They are often in listening mode- not productive. Keep issuing guidance documents that aren't addressing hydropower. Now we are actively lobbying DOE, which is advising Treasury.
- Feedback on what NHA should prioritize in 2024 and how NHA can help member companies take advantage of these opportunities.
- WPTO authorization is up in 2025, need to think about efforts to reauthorize it.

**Item 11 – Biden Administration's Clean Water Act 401**

- Chuck provides update on NHA's challenge to Biden administration's re-write of the Trump Administration's 401 rule.
- On December 4, NHA filed complaint with federal district court for Western District of Louisiana challenging 401 regulations. Filed with group of states, American Petroleum Institute, and Interstate Natural Gas Association. Also filed request for preliminary injunction to prevent rule from applying to projects with pending 401 applications. Seeking nationwide injunction.
- Next step in injunction is court will impose deadline for United States to respond.

**Item 12 – How to Scale Our Markets Advocacy Efforts**

- Mike Purdie presents on NHA's efforts to help the industry engage in shaping market design, including leveraging the Markets Committee to be the issues clearinghouse, and engaging before FERC and RTOs on issues of particular impact to the industry.
- Historically, NHA's input into market rule changes has been narrow and targeted. One-size-fits-all market design will never take hold. NHA has operated as a clearinghouse at the Markets Committee as a way to share information across regions.
- Many asset owners have a broad portfolio and have to balance their advocacy accordingly. Each region has its own stakeholder processes and market designs. How do we get NHA to be seen by NHA members and outside groups as an important entity in this space?
- Options for Board Consideration:
  - Option 1: Continue status quo with Markets Committee targeting issues as they arise. Pro is it is a bottom-up process with limited budget impact. Downside is NHA is a complement to advocacy already occurring.

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- Option 2: Targeted RTO/ISO Stakeholder Engagement: Option 1 but become a stakeholder, can bring forward market policy designs. Could be resource intensive and challenges in getting all members in that region to agree on a design change.
- Option 3: Market Policy Thought Leader. Focuses more on developing market designs and partnering with external parties (other trades, certain companies). Would require market participants to bring the designs to the respective stakeholder bodies. Limited FTE impacts but requires high outside consultant budget for economist.
- Alan: Something between options 2 and 3. Issue based not RTO based. Let members raise relevant issues.
- Pam: Need to get the right people on this committee who live and breathe RTO/ISOs.
- Board agreed to continue Option 1 and try thought leadership approach with message of 24/7 grid resiliency.

**Item 13 – Cultivating New External Relationships**

- Barbara Tyrant presents on how NHA can help raise awareness of the benefits of waterpower by partnering with ACORE and other clean energy organizations to successfully connect with regional, state, and local decision-makers.
- NERC just issued winter reliability assessment last week- huge portions of country at risk on insufficient resources to operate through extreme weather. Makes system vulnerable.
- Importance of external relations. Community eager to get more information.
- Barbara has been meeting with different institutions over the last couple of weeks to get ready for 2024, including State Utility Commissioners, NARUC, National Governors Association, National Conference of State Legislatures, etc. Need to work with other energy associations to leverage combined resources.
- Barbara spoke at National Governor’s Association Energy Policy Summit on hydro and transmission issues. Invited to Speak at National Conference on State Legislatures’ workshop on these topics. National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) annual meeting.
- Exploring Democratic or Republican conventions and other opportunities. Pay to play opportunities before other organizations.

**Item 14 – Roll Out of Op-Ex Reimagined**

- Chris Hayes shares updated tool with Board and seeks guidance on how best to roll it out and encourage greater utilization of the resource.
- 267 reports in Opex, 12 more have been delivered to NHA to enter into system. Want to leverage regional meetings- tie workshops to those.
- How can NHA staff help you to help us drive submissions to the Op-Ex tool?
- We are hearing it is a top-down request. Assignment needs to come from the top at member organizations to get people to log in to look at the reports. Eric- this won’t work because our team is too busy. But if you are starting a new project or activity, one item of preparation would be to review Op-Ex. The more you make it part of what you have to do anyway, the more they will use it. When NHA team got on a webex with asset owners for an Op-Ex overview, it helped.
- Sharon: Ask members who submit FERC incident reports to submit report to Op-Ex or actively monitor eLibrary for incident reports and ask members to submit parallel Op-Ex report.

**Item 15 – Looking Ahead to Potential Strategic Opportunities**

- Helping existing hydro champions. Need to support Senator Cantwell who is in the upcoming election cycle. Important for industry to throw a fundraiser for Senator Cantwell. She won’t take PAC money. Asking each Board member to write a \$500 check.



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- Other strategic opportunities to provide additional value to members?
- Next steps with respect to Clarion and HydroVision? We had an internal staff brainstorm that developed questions on this. Do we think HydroVision will continue, go out of business, or be sold? How does that impact us? What if HydroVision merged with CEATI? If HydroVision asked us to buy it, are they valuable?
  - Do we use their name or retire it? “HydroVision, now part of Clean Currents”
  - International aspect- do we want to expand into that and do we have that expertise?
  - Hydro Review and publications could be valuable.
  - Women in Hydro Vision award could be moved over to NHA.
  - Do we do nothing and let it run its course.
  - Consensus to wait it out and let them come to us.
- Opportunities to partner with CEATI and/or HRI?
  - Could we do more to support other organizations, like Northwest Hydro? International Hydro Association? Do we need a subset of the Board to brainstorm before our strategic meeting in six months?
  - Those organizations should approach us for help.
  - Should not get involved with for-profit organizations like Clarion and CEATI.
  - We should partner with regional transmission organizations to position hydro to support changes that will occur in those spaces.
  - Tech neutral clauses in IRA are important- aligning our approach with other tech neutral groups could take burden off our team.
  - Barbara- we are working with ACORE on the macro-grid initiative- a communications campaign on transmission grid and needed upgrades.
  - Could NHA play the coordination role with other organizations?

**Item 16 – Preview of the Next Two Days and the California Regional Meeting**

- Marla previews California Regional Meeting programming.
- Dam safety workshop on Comprehensive Assessments tomorrow afternoon- Dave Capka from FERC to attend.
- 180 registrants- largest California regional meeting in NHA history.
- Board meetings in 2024- March at WPW in DC, second in Chicago (tentative) week of July 8, third in October in Portland at CC, December in DC.

**Item 17 – Recognition of Outgoing Board Members**

- Mike Haynes
- Randy Herrin
- Mary Gail Sullivan
- Alvin Thoma (as past Chair)

**Item 18 – New Business**

- None.

**Action items:**

- Malcolm to send email about Cantwell fundraiser
- Kimberly to send draft schedule of Board meetings for next year

**Jeff moved to adjourn meeting, Pam seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm Pacific.**



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## Activities of NHA Programs March 12, 2024

### ADVOCACY

#### LEGISLATIVE

##### **Hydropower Licensing Reform –**

The House and Senate bills continue to make progress in their respective chambers. In the House, H.R. 4045, the *Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act* passed out of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security, with a final vote of 16/12, along party lines, on October 25<sup>th</sup>. On December 5<sup>th</sup> the Full Energy and Commerce Committee took up and passed H.R. 4045 on bipartisan basis by recorded vote with all Republicans voting yes, with Reps. Kuster (D-NH), Peters (D-CA) and Schrier (D-WA) crossing the aisle.

Chairwoman Rodgers also announced that after 20 years of elected government service in the United States House of Representatives, she would be retiring at the end of her current term to spend more time with her family. That said, we're hopeful that Chairwoman Rodgers will continue her efforts to bring this legislation to the House floor as soon as possible, but larger Republican dysfunction in the House of Representatives could impact the timing of this. Passing her bill through the House and negotiating a licensing reform law before the end of the year could become the cornerstone achievement of her long and storied career supporting the hydropower industry in Congress.

In the Senate, S. 1521, the *Community and Hydropower Improvement Act* has had a legislative hearing and is now waiting to be considered by the full committee during a forthcoming Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee business meeting. Unfortunately, progress has stalled due to concerns that continue to be articulated by Trout Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy with respect to Section 18. We're hopeful that in working with the bill sponsors and the Uncommon Dialogue stakeholders we

will be able to announce additional progress on the legislation in the coming week, which will in turn clear the way for the bill to come up for a vote on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

These two bills are directionally similar and have bipartisan support. If the Senate and House bills can successfully pass out of their respective chambers during the spring and summer months, they would then be sent to conference for both chambers to negotiate the final text.

### **Tax Credit for Environmental Improvements and Dam Safety Upgrades at Existing Hydropower Facilities –**

The *Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity and River Restoration Act*, H.R. 6653 / S. 2994, now has bipartisan, bicameral support in both the House and Senate.

In the House, Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE) introduced the House companion of the bill on December 7<sup>th</sup>, with 5 additional bipartisan cosponsors, which include Reps. Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Claudia Tenney (R-NY), Ann Kuster (D-NH), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Kim Schrier (D-WA).

S. 2994, has 9 cosponsors, including Sens. Murkowski (R-AK), Sullivan (R-AK), Stabenow (D-MI), King (I-ME), Tillis (R-NC), Gillibrand (D-NY), Shaheen (D-NH), Peters (D-MI), and Collins (R-ME).

The status of the tax package currently being debated by the United States Senate, H.R. 7024, the *Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024*, is very uncertain. This tax package, which was negotiated by Ways and Means Chairman Jason Smith (R-MO) and Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR), is running into strong opposition from Senate Republicans, who have significant concerns with the Child Tax Credit provisions. This presents both challenges and opportunities for NHA.

As it stands, the hydropower ITC legislation is not in the tax deal, but if Senate Republicans get their wish to amend this bill, it becomes an opportunity to include our priorities. If the bill dies, then we would not have a legislative vehicle for our hydropower ITC legislation. The next available opportunity to pass our tax bill might not materialize until after the November 2024 elections or later into the next Congress in December 2025 when the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act tax provisions start to expire.

The pathway forward on tax is very dynamic and it's possible that this update will require additional real-time follow-up on where things stand the week of the board meeting.

### **Hydropower Start-of-Construction License Extension Legislation –**

NHA has been supportive of efforts led by Nelson Energy, Juneau Hydro, and Rye Development to develop legislation that would allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency (FERC) to extend a congressionally mandated start-of-construction deadline for existing FERC licensed hydropower projects by 4 years. This extension aims to accommodate the time lost due to COVID-19, supply chain disruptions, inflation, and interconnection queue delays, which have collectively hindered the progress of 36 FERC-licensed, unbuilt projects in 17 states totaling more than 2.6 GW of hydropower, which are at risk of missing the start-of-construction deadline, with the earliest deadlines approaching in March and April of 2024.

S. 3373, a bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects, was introduced by Senator Daines on November 30<sup>th</sup>. So far, the bill has 7 cosponsors, including Sens. Casey (D-PA), Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Fetterman (D-PA), Sullivan (R-AK), Murkowski (R-AK), Cassidy (R-LA), and Kennedy (R-LA).

NHA submitted a letter of support to Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso and will continue meeting with Congress to advance this bill through the legislative process. Chairman Manchin has verbally promised that this bill will be included in any future permitting packages.

#### **FY2025 Appropriations –**

For the first time, NHA will be broadening its appropriations work in FY2025 to incorporate a new effort in support of additional appropriations for BIL hydropower incentive programs, EPA Sections 242, 243, and 247. NHA will continue to support its longstanding efforts to fund the Water Power Technologies Office in its work on research and development activities on both marine energy and conventional hydropower.

#### **BIL/IRA Implementation –**

Post passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the Committee has focused on emerging federal regulation and will continue to provide guidance related to the implementation of this regulation. The Legislative Committee will continue to work with the Regulatory Committee to submit comments and feedback on all applicable Administration policies, ensuring that industry's voice is heard.

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### **REGULATORY**

- NHA is continuing to advocate on behalf of the industry for beneficial treatment under the Inflation Reduction Act. Since the last board meeting, NHA has:
    - Met multiple times with Treasury, White House, Department of Energy staff on tech neutral credits, domestic content, and elective pay issues.
    - NHA filed four sets of comments since the last Board meeting on the 80/20 Rule, Section 48 Investment Tax Credit Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Domestic Content requirements for Elective Pay, and Section 45V Hydrogen Production Tax Credit.
  - NHA and numerous other plaintiffs are suing the EPA regarding the CWA 401 Final Rule issued last fall. A preliminary hearing was held in the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit in early March.
  - NHA has tasked Pacific Gas & Electric to develop a strategy for NHA to change FERC's threshold for requiring license amendments for certain O&M and capital investments.
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### **ENERGY MARKETS**

- The Markets Committee is continuing in monthly meetings as a clearinghouse of information to describe what is occurring in each of the FERC jurisdictional markets.
- Markets Committee leadership has been expanded so that we have coverage across a variety of RTOs/ISOs.
- NHA and its members are monitoring numerous design changes throughout the FERC-jurisdictional markets such as capacity accreditation (PJM and ISO-NE), new day-ahead markets (CAISO and SPP), and reserve price formation (ISO-NE and NYISO).

## MEMBER PROGRAMS

### HYDROPOWER TECHNICAL COMMUNITY



#### Highlights of Community Activities:

- Operational Excellence (OpEx) Online Resource Tool
  - o New tool is live on the NHA Member Portal
  - o Features:
    - 267 event reports, categorized by: Maintenance, Safety, Operations, and Environmental
    - Video Library, providing access to on-demand webinars on a variety of topics
  - o 12 new event reports submitted in CY 23.
  - o “Roll Out Action Plan” in place covering:
    - development of consumable safety moments
    - release of new event reports (1 per month)
    - one on one demonstrations with member organizations
    - leveraging content for usage as part of NHA events and media
    - leveraging NHA committees, activities, meetings and media to promote content
  
- Asset Owner Forums
  - o Consists of three groups, open to any power producer/asset owner that is an NHA member organization:
    - Senior Leaders Forum
      - *Met in San Diego in December 2023 during the NHA California Regional Meeting*
      - *Next Meeting: April 19, Virtual*
    - Chief Dam Safety Engineers (CDSE) Roundtable
      - *Q1 Virtual meetings on Feb 23 and March 8*
    - Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Roundtable
      - *Q1 Virtual meetings on Feb 28*
  
- Lunch and Learn Webinar Series for Member Organizations
  - o 2 webinars offered so far in 2024 (Jan and Feb)
  - o 194 total participants (average of 97 participants per webinar)
  - o Each webinar is recorded/uploaded to the OpEx Video Library for viewing “on demand”
  - o Next webinar scheduled for March 27; Dam Safety Monitoring at Southern Company and how radar satellite technology is leveraged.

## WATERPOWER INNOVATION COUNCIL

### Highlights of Council Activities:

- Third Innovation Lunch and Learn held on January 31
    - Guest Speaker: Dr Tamás Bertényi, CTO, RheEnergise
    - Topic: High Density Hydro
    - More than 100 contacts at member organizations participated
    - Offering 1 hour of professional development credit (PDH) for those that participate
    -
  - Continuing efforts to inform the funding request for the U.S. Department of Energy's Water Power Technologies Office for FY 2025 Energy and Water Development Appropriations measure.
- 

## HYDRO ACADEMY



### Highlights of Academy Activities:

- **Eels Workshop to be Offered in Washington, D.C., during Waterpower Week:**
  - Will focus on the American Eel, their long history in North America, importance to water systems and quality as well as their safe passage through hydropower production facilities including operational, policy and regulatory aspects.
  - Will discuss science-based best practices that support mutually beneficial outcomes such as simplified hydro operations, healthy fisheries, and improved water quality.
  - Intent is to bring forward the challenges that both natural resource agencies and hydropower practitioners face in addressing competing priorities (e.g., maintaining and developing renewable energy sources and reversing the decline of the American eel population).
  - Worked with U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Natel Energy to develop curriculum.
- **Educational Workshops Offered at California and Southeast Regional Meetings:**
  - Dam Safety Workshop: Performing Comprehensive Assessments – Lessons Learned, Best Practices and What Comes Next?*
    - Focus on undertaking Comprehensive Assessments under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's new guidelines.

- Valuable insights shared covering the planning process, execution, level of effort, and next steps following a comprehensive assessment, including how to leverage outputs to inform decisions and prioritize work.
  - Several perspectives shared, including those from FERC (Dave Capka, Will Brown), independent consultants, and hydroelectric project owners.
- **Hydropower System Principals Certified Training Course:**  
Working with an Ad Hoc Working Group of board members, created a proposal for a Hydropower System Principals Training Course (proposal was in front of the Board for consideration/approval at the October 2023 meeting), actions taken since include:
- Member survey on need for employee training issued on November 15, 2023; results presented at December 2023 Board Meeting
  - Requests Expressions of Interest to Develop Curriculum for Training Course issued on November 18, responses requested by December 18.
  - RFP issued on January 16, closed on February 16, 4 responses received.
  - Budget development and revenue forecasting activities underway.

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### **FUTURE LEADERS OF WATERPOWER (FLOW)**

- FLOW at WPW
  - FLOW participants receive 50% discount (FLOWDC)
  - Happy Hour at Union Pub on Wednesday, March 13, 5-8 PM, ticketed event (added to registration). Under 40 event, but we want anyone who is NEW to the waterpower industry to join as well.
  - Interested FLOW participants and WPW first-timers will be paired up with senior-level industry members for a coffee chat during WPW.
- Monthly Calls
  - Great first two calls of the year. January, FLOW heard from SMI's Paul Gay on effective advocacy practices along with marine energy updates. In February, FLOW got to hear about the various programs and activities within NHA while getting to know the leaders who have volunteered to lead those efforts.
  - Monthly FLOW calls will be covering either "industry 101" topics or career development tips and tricks
- FLOW is recommending the creation of a Rising Star Award to recognize water power professionals with 3-10 years of experience in the industry who have shown exceptional leadership skills and/or achieved notable success as an early career professional in the water power industry. FLOW is looking forward to the NHA Board of Directors consideration of this award.

## MARINE ENERGY COUNCIL

- We are closely monitoring the federal appropriations process. The FY 2024 budget for energy and water is has been slow to pass in Congress, and a full year CR is not out of the question at this point. As of March 1, 2024, the bill has not passed and a short-term CR is expected to be passed for a week, ending on March 8. For FY 2025, we are awaiting the President's Budget Request but beginning to engage with key Congressional appropriations staff to ensure our priorities are included in Congressional Directive Language.
- Our Advocacy Working Group is very active and is working on a recommendations document to DOE outlining how DOE could better align its marine energy program to commercialize marine energy technologies; draft state model legislation which will create market pull mechanisms, incentivizing more marine energy deployments at a state level; and DOE Office of Clean Energy Demonstration engagement to create a liftoff report for marine energy, as they have done for other renewable energy technologies
- Our Priorities Working Group is finalizing its third edition of the "Marine Energy Priorities Position Paper"
- We are actively engaging and partnering with fellow marine energy organizations to information-share and use a unified voice in raising the visibility and awareness of marine energy technologies.
- We are excited about the marine energy offerings at Waterpower Week. There will be a marine energy topic during each concurrent session period at the conference, along with an in-person Council meeting and a dialogue with DOE's Marine Energy Program.

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## PUMPED STORAGE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Pumped Storage Leadership Council hosted two meetings in December 2023:

- 1) December 8 Pumped Storage Development Council meeting: provided policy and project status updates; developed plans for 2024 Waterpower Week and 2024 PSDC meeting schedule
- 2) December 19 California Advocacy discussion: reviewed San Diego Regional Summit outcomes and planned 2024 activities

The past and present leadership of the Pumped Storage Development Council (PSDC) held coordination calls on February 26 and March 6, 2024 to prepare for their first 2024 meeting at Waterpower Week. In addition to summarizing 2023 PSDC focus areas for continuation, the leadership teams also discussed other actions in 2024 that the PSDC could consider: 1) Rate recovery scenarios; 2) California advocacy representation; 3) Hydropower's role in achieving a decarbonized grid; and 4) Potential 'myth-busting' session to address common misperceptions about pumped storage hydro. Additional discussion is anticipated during the March 15 members-only meeting which will address an update of the 2021 Pumped Storage report and DOE/national lab ongoing studies and analyses.



## EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Grid resilience and reliability is a key energy priority for the current Administration and Congressional leadership. The first quarter of 2024 was fruitful in establishing NHA's thought leadership in these areas. Malcolm Woolf addressed this topic at the January 27 US Energy Association's State of the Energy Industry Forum held at the National Press Club where major national trade association CEOs outlined their critical objectives for the new year. He delivered the same message the following week at the National Association of State Energy Officials 'Energy Policy Outlook' where 56 state/territorial energy offices gathered to focus on the theme "Energizing America's Economy". NHA senior leadership also met with the Western Governors Association, comprised of nineteen states and three territories, to explore opportunities for Governors to communicate the benefits of hydropower, pumped storage, and transmission to ensure reliable electricity.

As the transition to clean energy progresses through funding from the bi-partisan infrastructure bill and Inflation Reduction Act, NHA will continue to elevate the contribution of hydropower as a highly dispatchable clean energy resource. Several speaking proposals have been submitted to 2024 national conferences, as well as to other venues where energy matters are discussed.

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## EVENTS

### NATIONAL EVENTS

#### WATERPOWER WEEK IN WASHINGTON



#### **Content – Conference Program:**

- 30 Concurrent Sessions/Workshops, on these topics:
  - 2 DEI
  - 3 Funding/Finance
  - 1 Innovation
  - 2 Legislative
  - 5 Marine Energy
  - 1 Markets
  - 2 Public Affairs
  - 3 Pumped Storage
  - 3 Regulatory
  - 1 Workforce
  - 7 Cross-Cutting (more than one topic)

- 141 speakers
- 12 federal government agencies participating in the Government Agency Meet and Greet on Wednesday afternoon, March 13

**Supporters:**

- 18 supporters
- New approach this year – asking organizations to become a supporter to help financially support the policy/advocacy work of NHA
- \$84,700 in supporter revenue (107% to budget)

**Attendance:**

As of 3/3/24:

- 433 registrants (75% to budget)
- \$270,185 in registration revenue (66% to budget)
- \$84,700 in supporter (sponsor) revenue (107% to budget)

	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actuals</b>	<b>2022 Actuals</b>
Registrants	575	590	477
Registration Revenue	\$410,000	\$404,948	\$311,609
Supporter Revenue	\$79,000	\$78,500	\$68,375

**2025**

- March 31 – April 2, 2025
- Capital Hilton Hotel

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**[CLEAN CURRENTS CONFERENCE + TRADESHOW](#)**



Where **Waterpower** Moves Forward | Powered by **NHA**

- **Dates:** Monday, **October 7 through Thursday, October 10, 2024** (CC Central open on Wednesday, October 9, and Thursday, October 10)
- **Location:** Portland, Oregon

- **Venue:** Oregon Convention Center
- **Official Hotels:** Hyatt Regency Portland and Hotel Eastlund (both immediately across the street from the Convention Center)
- **Official Partnering Association:** Northwest Hydroelectric Association (NWHHA)
- **Hosts (confirmed):** Tacoma Power (thanks, Chris Mattson!)
- **Hosts (inviting/discussions underway):** PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hydroelectric Design Center
  
- **Attendee Marketing:**
  - Registration opens March 15
  - Specific push on increasing % of attendance coming from Power Producers
  - Working on communications about safety in Portland
  
- **Content:**
  - Submissions for Call for Speakers was due March 1 (more than 125 submissions received to date, with more on the way); commitment to notify submitters of outcome by **May 15, 2024**
  - Forming Content Development Committee to review submittals and to create sessions with “invited” speakers (~40% of program comes from call for speakers)
  
- **Exhibits:**
  - **191** exhibiting companies, as of 3/4/24 (*210 total exhibitors in 2023*)
    - \$1,260,200 committed revenue so far (payment in full is due in July)
    - For comparison of numbers:
      - Clarion Events’ HYDROVISION International 2024 (week of July 15) has **88** exhibiting companies
      - CEATI International’s Hydropower Conference 2024 (week of March 18) has **83** exhibiting companies (sold out)
      - Northwest Hydroelectric Association’s Annual Conference 2024 (week of February 5) had **42** exhibiting companies (sold out)
      - Ontario Waterpower Association’s Power of Water Canada Technical Conference (week of May 6) has **61** exhibiting companies
  - Exhibitor Information Calls each Month – exhibitors love them!

	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actuals</b>	<b>2022 Actuals</b>	<b>2021 Actuals</b>
<b>Registration- Revenue</b>	\$600,000	\$567,948	\$566,077	\$259,325
<b># of Registrants</b>	2,000	1,617	1,670	861
<b>Exhibit Revenue</b>	\$1,454,000	\$1,313,101	\$985,800	\$621,550
<b>Sponsor Revenue*</b>	\$375,000	\$285,850	\$283,195	\$221,550

\*= does not include revenue from host utilities

## 2025

- October 13-17, 2025
- David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Official Hotels: Westin and Omni
- Contracts signed for Convention Center and Hotels

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## REGIONAL MEETINGS



	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actuals</b>	<b>2022 Actuals</b>
Registrants	600	590	477
Registration Revenue	\$90,000	\$404,948	\$311,609
Sponsor Revenue	\$150,000	\$78,500	\$69,871

\$142,000 sponsor revenue confirmed for 2024 (95% of budget)

### **2024 National Level Sponsors (Sponsoring “All Four” Regional Meetings)**

#### **2024 National Level Sponsors (Sponsoring “All Four” Regional Meetings)**

- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| • American Babbitt Bearing    | • L&H Mechanical       |
| • American Hydro              | • Litostroj Group      |
| • Andritz                     | • Mavel Associates     |
| • Ballard Marine Construction | • Mesa Associates      |
| • Black & Veatch              | • Schnabel Engineering |
| • Emerson                     | • Stantec              |
| • GE Renewable Energy         | • Thompson   HCMS      |
| • GEI Consultants             | • Troutman Pepper      |
| • HDR                         | • TurbinePros          |
| • J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.  | • WSP                  |
| • Kleinschmidt Associates     |                        |

**2024 Specific Region Sponsors:**

Midwest:

- Anchor QEA
- BCI Construction
- Johnson Machine Works
- Lemke Industrial
- Michels Construction

Southeast:

- BCI Construction

Alaska:

- McMillen

California:

- McMillen

**Meeting Details “At a Glance”**

Region	Location	Date	Host/Partners	Tour
Southeast	Auburn, Alabama	January 23-24	Alabama Power Georgia Power	Martin Dam – options to tour powerhouse/dam or to tour the reservoir and shoreline, via pontoon boat
<p><b>Results of Southeast:</b>  <i>265 registrants; 219 actual attendees</i>  <i>\$36,098 in registration revenue</i>  <i>\$35,500 in sponsorship revenue</i>  <i>\$40,000 contribution from Southern Company</i></p>				
Midwest	Des Moines, Iowa	April 30 – May 1	Missouri River Energy Services / Midwest Hydro Users Group / Hydropower Collegiate Competition, a project of the U.S. Department of Energy, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and the Hydropower Foundation	Red Rock Dam (new hydro at an existing Corps of Engineers’ dam)
Alaska	Juneau, Alaska	August 27-28	Juneau Hydropower / Alaska Energy Authority / Alaska Electric Light & Power Company / Alaska Power Association	TBD
California	Redding, California	December 10-11	Pacific Gas and Electric Company	Pit 1 (PG&E) - confirmed Shasta – requested from Reclamation

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

### **2024 Digital Media Campaigns**

Building on the progress made during 2023's "Clean Living" digital media campaign, NHA is launching two new outreach efforts aimed at increasing the visibility and favorability of hydro to an energy policy and thought leader audience by positioning water power as "the clean energy solution that's right in front of you." This spring, NHA will run digital ads on social media and streaming platforms with this message to two different but connected audiences: A Washington-DC area policymaker audience, and a nationwide climate thought leader audience, respectively. We look forward to sharing the results of these two campaigns.

### **Expanding the Public Affairs Committee's Mission**

In 2024, the Public Affairs Committee has a new leadership team comprised of chair Rachel Hansen (Chelan Pud), and vice chairs Leonard Greene (FirstLight Energy) and Brandy Donaldson (Constellation). This great team of hydro communicators is expanding the reach of the committee, establishing a new monthly, members-only meeting to facilitate discussion and support around shared communications goals, as well as quarterly information sessions that are open to the public. The first members-only meeting, held in February, featured great discussion, helpful knowledge exchange and powerful community building. We encourage your organization's communications team to join!

### **Public Affairs at Waterpower Week**

At this year's Waterpower Week, held in Washington, DC from March 13-15, we are offering two sessions based around communications and public affairs priorities:

[Media Trends to Watch for in 2024](#) – A panel of DC energy and climate journalists, representing major outlets such as Bloomberg and Politico, will discuss the topics and themes that are driving energy media coverage this year, and will provide tips on how to get your stories noticed by reporters.

[Informing and Influencing the Next Generation of Policy Leaders](#) – Representatives from two major public affairs firms will share insight from past and present campaigns -- including NHA's own digital media efforts -- aimed at influencing key stakeholders around clean energy and ESG priorities. No matter how large or small your organization is, you will be sure to gain important insights that can help your message break through.

### **Hydro in the News**

[How Existing Hydropower Could Benefit from the Inflation Reduction Act](#)

[How to Find and Win Federal Funding to Accelerate Your Organization's Mission](#)

[Pumped Storage Hydropower: A Clean Energy Necessity](#)

## ***Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)***

### **2024 Initiatives**

#### **1. DEI-Related “Soft Skills” Training Offerings**

- Rethinking Diversity and Inclusion Workshop during Waterpower Week
- Thursday, March 14, 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Taught by Kristina McMillan, Director of Growth and Engagement, Hatch, and Founder of Crew Collaborative, an International Workforce Development Non-Profit
- Workshop Description:

*Workforce development.*

*Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.*

*These have become buzz phrases across several industries, ours included. These topics are subject of numerous meetings, task forces, and conferences. We are pouring time, energy, and funds into these initiatives, but are we seeing any sort of traction?*

*In this workshop, presented by NHA’s Hydro Academy, Kristina McMillan will turn these concepts over so we can examine our role in the solution.*

#### **2. Contributing to DEI Framework Project**

- Purpose of project: quickly advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the clean energy industry
- Renewables Forward is leading the effort, with participation and funding from the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), Clean Energy Buyers Institute (CEBI), American Clean Power (ACP), and NHA
- The Project consists of three elements:

1. A DEI Clean Energy Framework for Action - (see lots of details about the envisioned framework at the end of this email)

2. A Clean Energy Industry “DEI Resources Library” (this will include resources and metrics, such as survey data on workforce demographics and DEI practices)

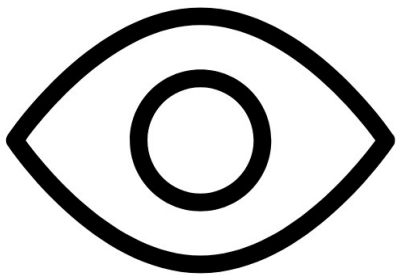
3. Guidelines for Clean Energy Industry measurement and reporting of DEI actions and progress – to be completed, confirmed, and collectively released for adoption by May 2024.

- These tools will be available to those who wish to deepen their organizational and/or community engagement journeys
- Renewables Forward has contracted with consultants/contractors to develop/complete the three elements above with the guidance from the contributing associations.
- An Adoption Campaign is planned for May 2024, to communicate the availability of the tools to member organizations of the supporters

**POWERHOUSE Website Statistics**  
All Data Pulled from Date Range: 12/1/2023 - 2/29/2024



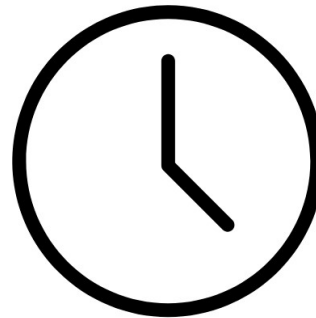
**[www.hydro.org/powerhouse](http://www.hydro.org/powerhouse)**



**8,173**

**(# of Page Views)**

**12% of visits to hydro.org**



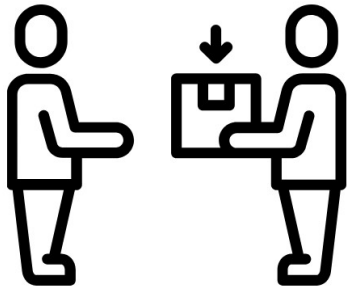
**1:18**

**(Average # of Minutes Spent on POWERHOUSE Pages)**

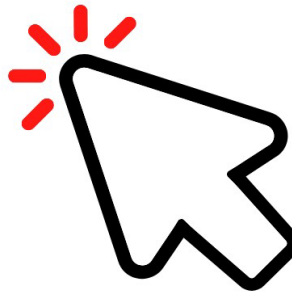
**Every week, NHA staff posts content on [www.hydro.org/powerhouse](http://www.hydro.org/powerhouse). Sections of content are: Insights, Connect and Learn, and Company Announcements.**



**POWERHOUSE Email Statistics:**  
 Averages from All Weekly Emails Sent 12/1/23- 2/29/24



8,100  
 (Average # of Recipients)



292 (4% of Recipients)  
 (Average # of Unique Clicks\*)



2,532 (31% of Recipients)  
 (Average # of Unique  
 Opens\*\*)



12%  
 (Average % of Unique  
 Clicks to Open\*\*\*)

**POWERHOUSE is distributed on a weekly basis. By utilizing RASA, an AI informed news aggregator, NHA is able to find and identify stories about waterpower related to member interests. Relevant stories are then 'fed' back to readers via a personalized email.**

\* Unique Clicks = # of unique recipients that click on a link

\*\* Unique Opens = # of recipients who opened the email

\*\*\* Unique Clicks to Open = Of the recipients who opened the email, the % who clicked on a link

**Social Media Statistics from  
December 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024**



<b>3,792 (Total # of Followers)</b>	<b>5,939 (Total # of Followers)</b>	<b>2,242 (Total # of Followers)</b>	<b>495 (Total # of Followers)</b>
<b>53 (Total # of <b>New</b> Followers)</b>	<b>595 (Total # of <b>New</b> Followers)</b>	<b>6 (Total # of <b>New</b> Followers)</b>	<b>22 (Total # of <b>New</b> Followers)</b>
<b>2% (Growth)</b>	<b>11% (Growth)</b>	<b>1%% (Growth)</b>	<b>5% (Growth)</b>

**Social Media Statistics from  
December 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024**



<b>76 (Total # of Posts)</b>	<b>60 (Total # of Posts)</b>	<b>56 (Total # of Posts)</b>	<b>43 (Total # of Posts)</b>
<b>107 (Total # of Reactions)</b>	<b>2,059 (Total # of Reactions)</b>	<b>311 (Total # of Reactions)</b>	<b>197 (Total # of Reactions)</b>
<b>17 (Total # of Comments)</b>	<b>53 (Total # of Comments)</b>	<b>14 (Total # of Comments)</b>	<b>15 (Total # of Comments)</b>



## 2024 NHA Priority Actions

January 31, 2024

**ADVOCATE** to preserve, enhance, and expand the use of water power generation to advance a 21<sup>st</sup> century clean energy grid. 2024 priorities include:

- **Streamlining Licensing and Relicensing** – Enact hydropower licensing and relicensing reform legislation into law that incorporates NHA top priorities by growing the stakeholder coalition and cultivating relationships with members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and House Energy & Commerce Committee.
- **Creating Tax Support to Preserve and Enhance Existing Hydropower** – Enact the 3R investment tax credit legislation to preserve and enhance existing hydropower facilities by growing the stakeholder coalition and cultivating relationships with members of the Senate Finance and House Ways & Means Committees.
- **Investing in Water Power RD&D** – Deepen relationships with members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees to increase federal RD&D funding for marine energy, pumped storage, and conventional hydropower technologies.
- **Promoting Effective Implementation of DOE’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Grants**– Continue to actively engage with DOE to ensure that the \$750M+ secured for section 240 hydropower grants in the Bipartisan Infrastructure law is effectively distributed.
- **Pushing for Effective Implementation of Inflation Reduction Act** - Actively engage with Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, White House staff, Department of Energy, and others to ensure that implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act benefits water power, including the Domestic Content provisions, the technology neutral credit implementation, and the related issues regarding repowering existing hydropower.
- **Successfully Challenging the Biden Administration’s Clean Water Act Section 401 Rule** – Actively engage as a party in challenging the Biden Administration’s CWA Section 401 rule to preserve aspects of the Trump Administration rules, such as the timing and scope of 401 activities.

**CONNECT** member organizations and their employees with other waterpower professionals to build relationships, exchange knowledge, and facilitate business. 2024 priorities include:

- **Continue to Grow Clean Currents** - Outcompete competition by attracting over 1,800 attendees to CC24

- **Expand NHA's Regional Meetings** - Grow NHA's Regional Meetings to average 150+ attendees per event.
- **Promote DEI at All NHA Events** - Accelerate the industry's transition to look more like the customers we serve by promoting diversity in speakers and attendees at all of NHA's events.

**INFORM** members, the industry, policy makers, and stakeholders about timely industry-related policy and technical developments and how those developments will affect the industry, and the many public benefits provided by waterpower. 2024 priorities include:

- **Successfully Creating "Hydropower Systems Principals Training" Curriculum:** Subject to Board approval, new curriculum and certification program will be tailored to address member interest with goal of launching initial program in Q4 of 2024.
- **Continuing NHA's Expanded Member Programming:** Offer an average of 10 member-only NHA-organized webinars, committee/council meetings, and/or other programs monthly.
- **Launching NHA Clean Energy Thought Leader Social Media Campaign** - Reach and persuade 100,000+ DC area thought leaders, and 200,000+ national climate policy thought leaders (such as state energy officials) via paid digital media campaigns

**IMPLEMENT** internal operational practices to ensure a high-performing, effective organization. 2024 priorities include:

- **Deepening Member Engagement** – Increase by 5% the monthly average number of individuals who participate in NHA program activities (2022: 278 monthly average; 2023: 365)
- **Retain Existing, Record-Level of Membership** (e.g., retention plus new members will offset any attrition) (NHA's 2023 levels: 329 member organizations and \$3,407,548 in membership revenue)
- **Retaining NHA Staff** –Minimize staff turnover to 3 or fewer (2023: 4 staff transitions)

<b>Item or Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Staff Member</b>
<i>as of March 1, 2024</i>	<i>as of March 1, 2024</i>
<b>Advocate</b>	
Advocacy Day at Waterpower Week in Washington	Matthew Allen; Brittney May
Deep Dive Policy Team	Malcolm Woolf
Legislation/Interaction with Congress	Matthew Allen; Brittney May
Legislative Affairs Committee	Matthew Allen; Brittney May
Marine Energy Council (MEC)	Kelly Rogers
Markets Committee	Michael Purdie
National Hydropower Day	Copeland Tucker; Kelly Rogers; Jeremy Chase-Israel
Outreach to Energy-Related Associations and NGOs (examples: NARUC, Western Governors, etc.)	Barbara Tyran
Pumped Storage Development Council	Barbara Tyran
Regulatory Affairs Committee	Michael Purdie; Connor Nelson
Uncommon Dialogue	Malcolm Woolf
Waterpower Innovation Council (WIC)	Chris Hayes
<b>Inform</b>	
Content Development for National Conferences	Marla Barnes; Chris Hayes; Jeremy Chase-Israel
Hydro Map - State-by-State	
Hydropower Technical Community (HTC), including topic focus groups of: Dam Safety, Operations and Maintenance, and Operational Excellence	Chris Hayes
<20 MW Club Roundtable	Chris Hayes
Technology Developers Roundtable	Connor Nelson
New Hydropower Development Roundtable	Connor Nelson
Operational Excellence (OpEx) online resource tool	Chris Hayes
POWERHOUSE Media Platform	Jeremy Chase-Israel
Press Relations	Copeland Tucker
Public Affairs Committee and Waterpower Communicators' Fom	Copeland Tucker; Kelly Rogers
Social Media - for clean energy thought leaders	Copeland Tucker
Social Media - for industry	Jeremy Chase-Israel
Waterpower Research Portal (WaRP)	Chris Hayes
www.hydro.org website updates	Catherine Ryan; Marla Barnes
<b>Connect</b>	
Asset Owner Only Forums (Senior Leaders, Chief Dam Safety Engineers, O&M Staff)	Chris Hayes
Career Center (Jobs Board)	Catherine Ryan
CEO Council	Malcolm Woolf; Kimberly Costner
Clean Currents	Francesca Blanco Hadjimichael; Joseph LoSasso; Ellie Rubalow; Marla Barnes; Chris Hayes
Future Leaders of Waterpower (FLOW)	Kelly Rogers
Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters (OSAW) Awards	Jeremy Chase-Israel
Regional Meetings	Francesca Blanco Hajimichael; Joseph LoSasso; Ellie Rubalow; Chris Hayes; Marla Barnes
Sponsorships and Exhibits for Clean Currents, Waterpower Week, Regional Meetings, and POWERHOUSE (i.e., Non-Dues Revenue)	Joseph LoSasso
Waterpower Week in Washington	Francesca Blanco Hadjimichael; Joseph LoSasso; Ellie Rubalow; Marla Barnes
<b>Implement (Operations)</b>	
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Initiative	Joseph LoSasso
Henwood Award	Copeland Tucker
NHA Board of Directors, including quarterly meetings and annual elections	Malcolm Woolf; Kimberly Costner
NHA Member Communications (NHA Member Playbook newsletter, Outlook Meeting Requests, Email Communications)	Catherine Ryan; Marla Barnes; Jeremy Chase-Israel
NHA Membership; Online Member Directory; Member Engagement	Marla Barnes; Joseph LoSasso; Catherine Ryan
NHA Portal	Catherine Ryan; Sydney Ruvner
Scholarship - Past Chairs' Legacy Scholarship	Kimberly Costner

NHA 2024 Executive Committee/Board - Updated Jan 2024							Term
Pamala	Sullivan, Chair	American Municipal Power, Inc.	1111 Schrock Rd., Ste. 100	Columbus, OH 43229	psullivan@amppartners.org	(614) 540-0971	2024
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Michael	Haynes, Past Chair	Seattle City Light	700 5th Avenue, Suite 3200/ P.O. Box 34023	Seattle, WA 98124-4023	mike.haynes@seattle.gov	(206) 684-3618	2023
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Malcolm	Woolf, CEO	National Hydropower Association (NHA)	200 Massachusetts Ave NW Suite 320	Washington, DC 20001	mwoolf@hydro.org	(202) 750-8399	
<b>Board</b>							
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Suzanne	Grassell	Chelan County PUD	327 N. Wenatchee Ave.	Wenatchee, WA 98801	suzanne.grassell@chelanpud.org	(509) 661-4177	2024
Scott	Hennessey	Brookfield Renewable Energy Group (US)	6307 Marywood Rd.	Bethesda, MD 20817	scott.hennessey@brookfieldrenewable.com	(917) 561-5967	2027
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Kelly	Larimer	Kleinschmidt Associates	204 Caughman Farm Lane, Suite 301	Lexington, SC 29072	Kelly.Larimer@Kleinschmidtgroup.com	(509) 260-0151	2027
Jillian	Lawrence	Hull Street Energy, LLC	4747 Bethesda Ave, Suite 1220	Bethesda, MD 20814	jlawrence@hullstreetenergy.com	(856) 906-0180	2027
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Chris	Mattson	Tacoma Power	3628 South 35th Street	Tacoma, WA 98409	cmattson@cityoftacoma.org	(253) 208-6141	2026
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<b>Committee Leadership</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Contact Mobile</b>
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