12/22/2020 UAMPS newsletter



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## **UAMPS Ends Year on High Note**

We wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

The year 2020 has been remarkable for UAMPS. The last several weeks have been especially eventful as we work together to decarbonize our energy portfolios while keeping the grid stable and rates affordable for customers.

## **Highlights from UAMPS 2020 Annual Meeting**

Over 1,000 years of experience. In his Annual Meeting opening speech on Dec. 16, Board Chair Jason Norlen celebrated UAMPS' 40th anniversary, noting that UAMPS now has 16 projects and 48 members in six states. UAMPS leaders' wealth of experience helps position UAMPS for 40 more years of progress, he said. Norlen cited some remarkable statistics: "It sounds almost unbelievable, but total UAMPS member representatives' experience in the utility industry is an extraordinary 1,135 years. That number includes 30 representatives with 20 or more years of utility experience, and a



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representatives with 20 or more years of utility experience, and a remarkable 22 representatives with 30 or more years of experience."

Norlen said the big challenge going forward is decarbonizing energy portfolios while maintaining a stable grid stable and affordable rates.

**Support in D.C.** Congressman Chris Stewart delivered the keynote speech. He encouraged UAMPS and its members to reach out to him when support is needed in Congress. He said, "The House of Representatives will be better balanced in the coming congressional session and compromise will be needed to get things done." He is a "huge supporter" of nuclear energy and said, "Anyone who is concerned about climate change isn't really serious unless they support nuclear power."



Chris Stewart

The Lessons of UAMPS History. In his CEO report, Doug Hunter provided a history lesson, recounting UAMPS challenges, progress and bold action over the last 40 years. He said, "UAMPS' accomplishments show the value of joint action and the power of working together to solve big problems. Similar collaboration and cooperation will be required to meet the challenges of the future, especially developing clean, carbon-free, and affordable energy resources."



Doug Hunter

## **Articles & Updates**

Member spotlight: Get to Know Wells Rural Electric Company. UAMPS is excited to welcome Wells Rural Electric Company (WREC) as the newest member

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of UAMPS. WREC joined UAMPS to participate in the Carbon Free Power Project.

WREC serves three Nevada communities and surrounding areas, including Wells, Carlin and Wendover, with 4,178 active accounts. CEO Clay Fitch will serve as the member representative to UAMPS.



WREC is a proud public power cooperative and its culture and dedication to customer service fit nicely with the other 47 UAMPS members from six western states.

**UAMPS Boosts Solar Capacity and Considers Additional Renewable** 

**Projects.** UAMPS has entered into a 25-year power purchase agreement with Steel Solar, LLC, to deliver 40 MW of electricity scheduled to be online in December 2022. Fifteen members will participate in the Box Elder County project, including Blanding, Bountiful, Fairview, Fillmore, Heber L&P, Hurricane, Hyrum, Lehi, Mt. Pleasant, Paragonah, Payson, Price, Santa Clara, South Utah Valley Electric Service District and Washington City.

New Options For CFPP. UAMPS is evaluating a significant new opportunity with regard to the Carbon Free Power Plant (CFPP). NuScale Power, which will provide the nuclear technology for the plant, has announced a power uprate of its nuclear module to 77MWe from 60MWe. That enables a smaller plant size that remains cost-effective. NuScale is offering six- and four-module plant configurations, in addition to the 12-module plant. A smaller plant would still need to meet the \$55 per MWh levelized cost of energy price target. Read NuScale press release about the uprate HERE. Deseret News article about the uprate and CFPP new options HERE. Power Magazine covers the latest developments HERE.

Biden Administration Likely to Support New Nuclear. The Washington Examiner reports: "President-elect Joe Biden is poised to embrace nuclear power in pursuit of aggressive reductions to carbon emissions and will look to build upon the Trump administration's support for new smaller forms of the technology. 'As a candidate, Joe Biden's climate plans were explicitly pro-nuclear and pro-nuclear innovation,' said Jeff Navin, a former acting chief of staff at the Energy Department during the Obama administration. Biden's support for nuclear power, as articulated in his climate plan and affirmed in the Democratic Party platform, promises to be one of the rare instances of energy policy continuity between the incoming and outgoing administrations." Read full article HERE.

**Planning for a Clean Energy Future.** UAMPS CEO Doug Hunter talks about advanced nuclear and carbon-free generation in an interview with Smart Electric Power Alliance. He discusses why UAMPS is pursuing nuclear energy and the importance of planning ahead. See the video HERE.

## In Other News . . .



Jeremy Redd

Long-time UAMPS board member Jeremy Redd from Blanding has accepted a position in Washington City as the new city manager. Redd served on the UAMPS board from 2014 to 2020. UAMPS extends its appreciation to Jeremy for his service on the board, and looks forward to working with him as city manager at Washington City.

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Dave Burnett

The American Public Power Association's Demonstration of Energy & Efficiency Developments (DEED) program has appointed long-time UAMPS board member Dave Burnett to represent Region 1 (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming) on the DEED board of directors. Burnett has worked in public power for 37 years and now is power director for Brigham City. DEED funds research, pilot projects, and education to improve the operations and services of public power utilities.

If you have questions about UAMPS' plans for a carbon-free future, please email them to jackie@uamps.com.

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