

Fall 2024 WORKSHOP
Hydroelectric Productivity Committee (HPC)
Agenda
Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas
Scottsdale, Arizona
September 15-18, 2024

All stated times are Mountain Standard Time

Monday, September 16, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. General Session: Executive Welcome & Keynote Speaker

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

HP-01: Welcome and Introductions

David Sanna, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), HPC Chair

This introductory session will give all committee members the opportunity to introduce themselves and their companies.

12:00 Noon – 12:30 p.m.

HP-02: Top Performance Analysis, Methodology and Results

Gbadebo Oladosu, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and

John Schuknecht, HPC Data Consultant

In this session, we will examine key findings from the 2024 data cycle and reflect on changes in the business environment. This session is also intended to signal novel issues and needs for the committee to focus on in the upcoming year.

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. HP-03: 2023 Top Performers – Analysis and Results including Long Term Leaders – Part I

Peer Group: 0 – 30 MW, Matabitchuan and Hauges Reach Generating Stations, Ontario Power Generation, Mary Poulter

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch

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2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. HP-04: 2023 Top Performers – Analysis and Results including Long Term Leaders – Part II

Peer Group: 30 – 100 MW, Fishing Creek Hydroelectric Plant, Duke-Energy, Jason Crump

Peer Group: 100 – 500 MW, Caribou #2 Powerhouse, Pacific Gas and Electric, Aaron Cortes

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. HP-05: 2023 Top Performers – Analysis and Results including Long Term Leaders – Part III

Peer Group: Greater than 500 MW, Boundary Hydroelectric Project, Seattle City Light

Peer Group: Pump – Generate, Jocassee Pumped-Storage Hydro Plant, Duke Energy, Jason Crump

4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. HP-06: Day Wrap Up & Identification of Topics for Future Workshops

David Sanna, USACE and HPC Chair

In this time, a review of the day's presentations will be made and noting any ideas for a future workshop.

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Networking Event

End of Day

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

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9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. HP-07: Ontario Power Generation (OPG)'s Capital Expenditures Compared with HPC

Mary Poulter, OPG

OPG is undertaking a large investment to upgrade its hydropower generation fleet and has compared its capital expenditures with other HPC utilities. The results of this analysis will be provided.

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. HP-08: Capital Project Prioritization within the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR)

Terry Brown, BoR

The BoR's prime mission across 17 western United States is to provide delivery of water and power benefits to multiple customers. It is the largest wholesale water supplier in the United States and is responsible for 490 dams, 294 reservoirs and 53 hydroelectric plants. The total annual budget in 2023 was \$1.073B which includes funds for capital expenditures. Ms. Carroll will provide an overview of the process utilized by the BoR to allocate the capital funds.

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. HP-09: 2024 Staffing Survey Results

Jim Miller, Signal Hydropower Consultants

During the first HPC call in 2024, the proposal was made to conduct the hydroelectric business unit level staffing survey. The survey has not been conducted since 2021. The committee agreed to revise the form with the elimination of data elements and to focus the survey on full-time equivalents (FTE). The revised survey form was discussed and approved by the committee at this year's spring workshop. Survey results will be provided at this time.

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Break

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11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. HP-10: HPC Data Presentation – Task Team Update, Data Submission Survey Results and Discussion

Clark Bishop, Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) & Rob Mager OPG

A status report of the team’s activities will be provided. Additionally, the results of a committee-based survey on the issues encountered by HPC members in their annual cost and performance data will be provided.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. HP-11: Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) & Exchange Rate – Impacts, Drivers of Use

Gbadebo Oladosu, PhD, ORNL

Since 2011, the HPC has utilized PPP instead of foreign currency exchange rates to adjust cost data from non-US based utilities to US dollars. Questions of this approach were brought to the attention of HPC leadership. Dr. Oladosu will provide an explanation of the benefits and drawbacks of each method of cost adjustment.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. HP-12: 2024 Data Review Meeting Follow-up Items & Proposed Data Guide Revisions

David Sanna, USACE and HPC Chair

The HPC conducted its annual data review virtually in July 2024 and the status of the action items will be reviewed. Additionally, committee members will have an opportunity to provide lessons learned so these can be incorporated into the 2025 data review meeting.

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Break

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3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. HP-13: 2024 Data Observations & Discussion

John Schuknecht, HPC Data Consultant

In the 2024 HPC data review meetings, several data issues were located, and Mr. Schuknecht will discuss these and provide key points to examine before the 2025 data submission.

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. HP-14: Day Wrap Up & Identification of Topics for Future Workshops

David Sanna, USACE, and HPC Chair

In this time, a review of the day's presentations will be made noting any ideas for a future workshop.

End of Day

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. HP-15: ORNL Project Update – Hydropower Fleet Intelligence

Pradeep Ramuhalli, PhD, ORNL

The objective of Hydropower Fleet Intelligence (HFI) is to develop and demonstrate standard processes to make data-driven operations and maintenance or O&M decisions. This data includes unit and plant level, and national scale, to enable cost-effective hydropower asset management under evolving contexts. Dr. Ramuhalli will provide information on the software tools and methods that are being developed by ORNL staff to align, correlate, and analyze disparate national and plant scale data sets to provide actionable information for optimizing O&M decisions.

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. HP-16: Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) Public Safety Program

Renee Fernandez-Lipp, PG&E

PG&E operates and maintains electrical power generating facilities at 61 powerhouses located in 16 river basins. In addition to the power functions, many of these facilities have public recreational areas. Renee will provide an overview of how PG&E manages public safety risk around its hydro operations.

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10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Break

**10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. HP-17: HPC Topics - 2025 Spring Workshop Agenda Planning, Roundtable,
and Action Item Review**

David Sanna, USACE, HPC Chair

In this session, the topics provided in the session title will be discussed.

11:30 a.m. – Noon HP-18: HPC Leadership & Business Meeting

David Sanna, USACE, HPC Chair

HPC leadership utilizes this opportunity to discuss HPC business matters and is open to all committee members.

Adjournment

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