

# Regional Engagement Committee Meeting

October 10, 2024

# Agenda

- » Updates and announcements
- » Report out from Donald Williams on tribal coordination
- » Scenario development sub-team update
- » Timeline review/recap
- » Public comment

# Updates & Announcements-Funding

- » A funding gap for WestTEC project work was identified late this summer
  - » \$2.15 million funding gap, \$870K needed by October 2024
- » Many answered the funding call and as of today, WestTEC funding needs for 2024 have been met and exceeded
- » WestTEC extends heartfelt thanks to all that contributed
  - » Special thanks to BPA who provided more than was requested and Clean Grid Initiative who contributed significant funding
- » Several entities made commitments for 2025 and the latest information on needs for 2025 funding will be discussed in November

# Updates and Announcements-State Engagement

- » WestTEC actively considering a strategy to ensure meaningful outreach to states
- » CREPC-TC is an excellent avenue for outreach, but there may be additional outreach that could be beneficial to reach state energy offices, other state agencies etc.
- » WestTEC welcomes feedback from the public on whether additional state outreach would be beneficial and what this might look like

# Tribal Coordination Update/Remarks

# Scenario Development Process

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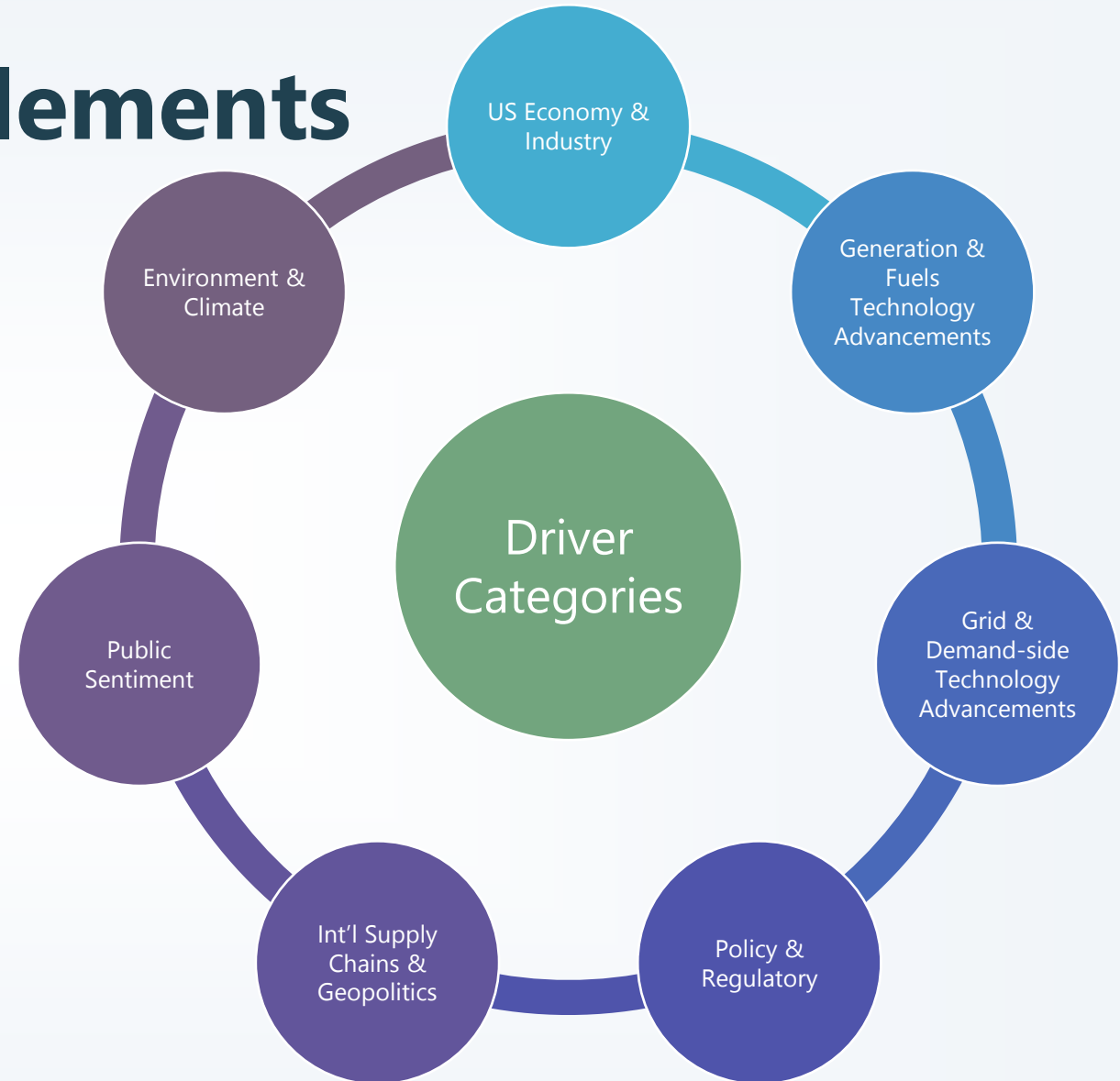
- **Phase 1: Develop list of drivers/future conditions (September-Jan)**
  - **Sub-team will develop initial list of drivers with Energy Strategies, which will then be revised based on feedback of all WestTEC committees**
  - **Public workshop will be held to gather feedback on drivers**
  - **Separate meeting with CREPC-TC and Tribes, as requested, to gather input**
- **Phase 2: Develop scenarios that bundle together drivers and specific conditions (Jan-March)**
  - **Sub-team will develop an initial proposal for scenarios with Energy Strategies support, which will be revised based on feedback of all WestTEC committees**
  - **Public workshop held to gather feedback on scenarios**
  - **Separate meeting with CREPC-TC and Tribes, as requested, to gather input**
- **\*Key goal\* is for the sub-team process to ensure transparency and substantively engage all WestTEC committees**
- **WATT will have the final say to move drivers and scenarios forward to Steering and Steering will hold final approval**



# Driver Categories & Elements

(Presented to the Sub-Team on 9/18)

- » **US Economy & Industry:** Economic Growth, Interest Rates, Domestic Manufacturing, Data Centers, Cryptocurrency, Population Growth, Migration, Workforce Availability, Workforce Training, Innovation
- » **Generation & Fuels Tech Adv:** Alternative Fuels, Storage, Geothermal, Fossil Fuels, Nuclear, Turbine/Generator Efficiency, IBRs, Carbon Capture, Advanced Materials, Pipelines, Mining & Extraction, Fuel Transportation
- » **Grid & Demand-Side Tech Adv:** Advanced Conductors, Transformers, HVDC, GETs, VPPs, Prosumers, Smart Homes, Demand Response, Load Shift, Energy Efficiency, EV Charging Stations, Public Transportation, Appliance Electrification,
- » **Policy & Regulatory:** Tax Credits, Subsidies, State Policies/RPS, Western Markets, FERC/NERC, State Energy Zones, EPA, Regulatory Barriers, Election Outcomes, Court Decisions, Regional Coordination, Cross-Interconnection Interties, Cost-Allocation, Reliability, Resource Adequacy, Utility Financials, Clean Energy Goals, Reserve Sharing, Advocacy & Rate Case Outcomes, Fire Risks, Lawsuits
- » **Int'l Supply Chains & Geopolitics:** Supply Chains & Lead Times, Tariffs, Commodity & Fuel Prices, Metals & Mineral Availability, Manufacturing & Processing, Shipping Costs, Int'l Demographics & Economies, Globalization, Fuel Security, Military Influence, Cyber & Physical Security
- » **Public Sentiment:** Technology Preferences, Policy Preferences, Consumption Patterns, EV Adoption, Tribal Lands & Preferences, Land & Viewshed Conservation, Landowners, Rural Communities, Recreation, National & State Parks, Historical & Heritage Sites
- » **Environment & Climate:** Hydro Availability, Temperature, Extreme Weather, Resilience, Wind/Solar Resource Quality, Air Quality, Water Quality, Wildlife, Vegetation



The sub-team defined drivers as important and uncertain trends that may influence power system developments over a 20-year timeframe. 8

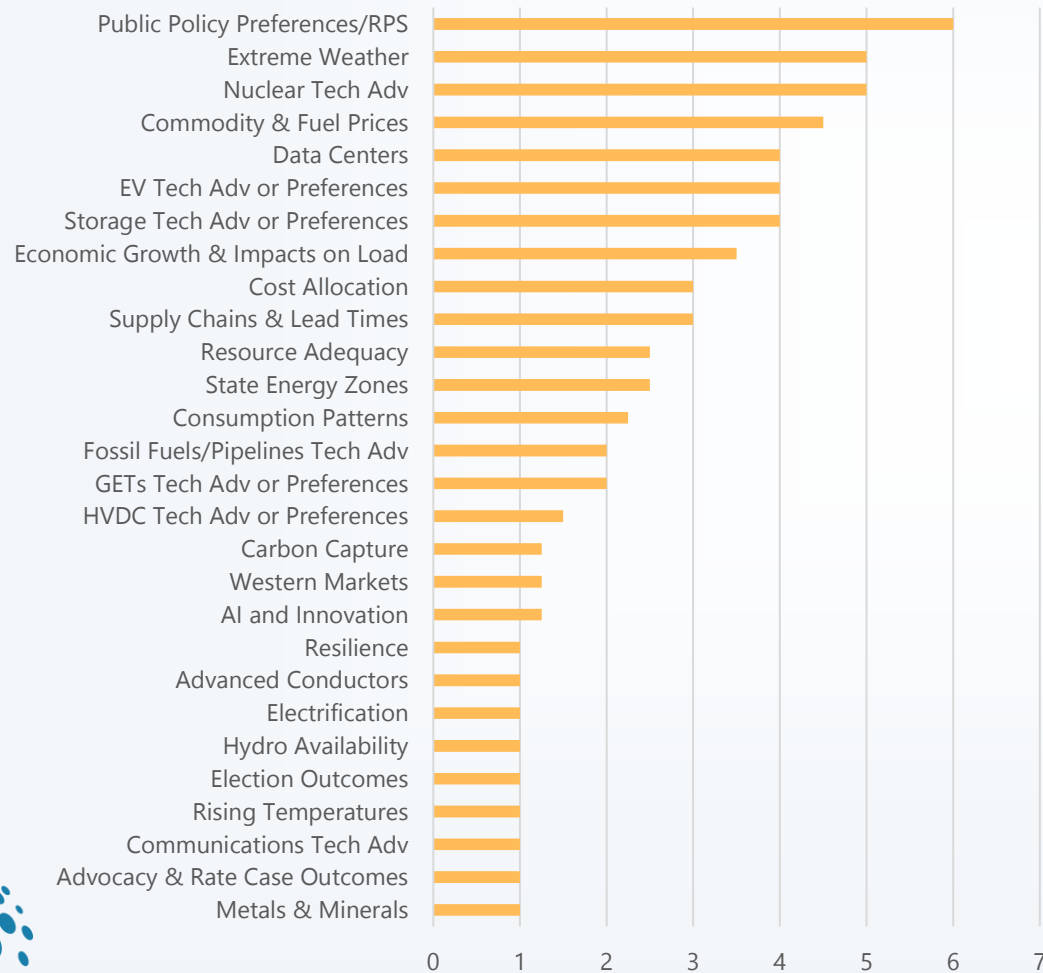




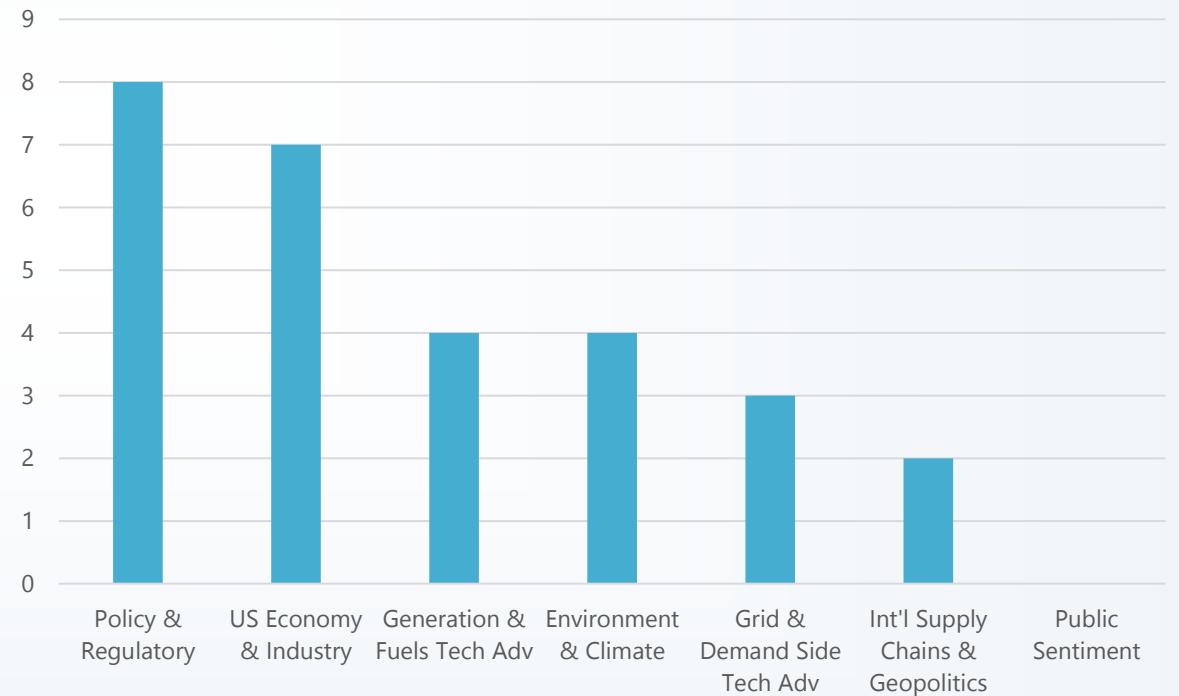
# Sub-Team Survey Results

## (Survey Responses collected 9/18 - 9/26)

Poll Response: Top 5 Driver Elements



Poll Response: Top 3 Driver Categories



# Initial List of Drivers (1/2)

| Driver Element               | Category                            | Description  | Key Areas of Impact | Range of Outcomes       | Possible Impact Parameters   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Economic Growth              | US Economy & Industry               | State of the US economy  | Any or All          | Growth - Recession      | Resource costs, fuel costs, financial assumptions                            |
| Data Centers & Manufacturing | US Economy & Industry               | Growth in energy-intensive data, compute, or manufacturing facilities  | Load                | High - Low Growth       | Load growth  |
| Storage Tech. Adv.           | Fuel & Generation Tech. Adv.        | Advancements or efficiency gains in battery storage, pumped storage, and other energy storage technologies             | Storage             | High - Low Advancements | Availability or cost of storage (incl. long-duration), storage efficiency    |
| Fuels Tech Adv.              | Fuel & Generation Tech. Adv.        | Advancements or efficiency gains in fuel extraction, processing, transport, or use in generation; carbon sequestration | Gen                 | High - Low Advancements | Fuel cost, fuel types & availability, fuel emissions                         |
| Generation Tech Adv.         | Fuel & Generation Tech. Adv.        | Advancements or efficiency gains in generator, inverter, or nuclear technologies                                       | Gen                 | High - Low Advancements | Availability, cost, or timeline of deploying various generation technologies |
| Grid-Enhancing Tech Adv.     | Grid & Demand-Side Tech. Adv.       | Advancements or efficiency gains in advanced transmission or distribution conductoring, GETs                           | Tx                  | High - Low Advancements | Availability, cost, timeline or capacity of various types of transmission    |
| Supply Chains & Lead Times   | Int'l Supply Chains and Geopolitics | International supply chains, materials and manufacturing lead times  | Gen & Tx            | Constrained - Efficient | Resource costs, project lead times, constraints on capital expansion         |
| Commodity & Fuel Prices      | Int'l Supply Chains and Geopolitics | Price of fuel & other commodities used in grid technologies  | Gen & Tx            | High - Low Prices       | Fuel costs, resource capital costs   |



The sub-team defined drivers as important and uncertain trends that may influence power system developments over a 20-year timeframe.<sup>10</sup>

# Initial List of Drivers (2/2)

| Driver Element                   | Category              | Description   | Key Areas of Impact | Range of Outcomes        | Possible Impact Parameters  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|---|
| State Policies                   | Policy & Regulatory   | State policies affecting power system developments including RPS  | Any or All          | Anything Plausible       | RPS or emissions constraints, economic/fuel policies, plant retirement constraints                  |
| Regional Coordination            | Policy & Regulatory   | Willingness of states and jurisdictions to coordinate, fund, and build Infrastructure or systems together | Gen & Tx            | Anything Plausible       | Multi-owner unit retirements, 10 or 20-year transmission builds or build candidates                 |
| Resource Adequacy                | Policy & Regulatory   | Policy & regulatory approach to resource adequacy   | Gen                 | Anything Plausible       | Planning reserve margins, ELCC/firm capacity contribution of renewables                             |
| Advocacy & Rate Cases            | Policy & Regulatory   | Utility rate case outcomes & influence of advocacy  | Gen & Tx            | Anything Plausible       | Constraints on capital expansion costs, cost of O&M   |
| Technology or Policy Preferences | Public Sentiment      | Consumer technology or policy preferences or adoption timelines   | Any or All          | Anything Plausible       | Constraints on resource expansion or technology adoption  |
| EVs & Electrification            | Public Sentiment      | Consumer preference for electric vehicles or appliances   | Load                | High - Low Adoption      | EV Impacts to load & emissions, load growth, load shape   |
| Extreme Weather                  | Environment & Climate | Impacts to planning from extreme weather  | Any or All          | High - Low Impact        | Temperature rise, hydro availability, extreme events, wildfires, lawsuits                           |
| Wind/Solar Resource Quality      | Environment & Climate | Locations with highest wind/solar quality   | Gen                 | High - Low Consideration | Preference of wind & solar resource locations vs. proximity to grid or environmental considerations |

The sub-team defined drivers as important and uncertain trends that may influence power system developments over a 20-year timeframe.<sup>11</sup>



# Scenario Sub-Team Next Steps

- » Sub-team presented the initial list of drivers to REC, WATT and Steering on 10/8
- » Feedback received to refine this list—possibly making the categories higher level/fewer and consider how they will be used in different scenarios
- » Sub-team working to refine this list over the next week, next step will be share drivers with CREPC-TC for their input at October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting
- » A public workshop will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss drivers; registration/announcement will be made soon
- » Drivers will be finalized at in-person all committees meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> in Salt Lake City



# Overall WestTEC Project Timeline

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NEAR-TERM PLANNING HORIZON EFFORTS

LONG-TERM PLANNING EFFORTS

PROJECT DISTRIBUTION  
& REGIONAL PARTNER  
ENGAGEMENT

QUARTERLY PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2024  
Q3

2024  
Q4

2025  
Q1

2025  
Q2

2025  
Q3

2025  
Q4

2026  
Q1

2026  
Q2

2026  
Q3

2026  
Q4

2027  
Q1

Oct 21:  
CREPC-  
TC  
Meeting

Nov 15:  
Public  
Workshop

Feb:  
Public  
Workshop

Feb:  
CREPC-TC  
Meeting

Aug 2025:  
Initial 10-year  
Horizon Report  
Complete

Sept 2026:  
Completion of 20-  
year Horizon Report  
and Final 10-year  
Horizon Report

Sept  
2024:  
Final  
Study  
Plan

# Public Comment