

Wholesale Electricity Markets Analyst

ABOUT THE POSITION

The Wholesale Electricity Markets Analyst at the Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB) is responsible for providing technical analysis of economic and reliable operation of wholesale electricity markets in the Western U.S. The Wholesale Electricity Markets Analyst primarily provides staff support to facilitate and enhance the Western Energy Imbalance Market Body of State Regulators (WEIM-BOSR) engagement in the processes at the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) on initiatives related to the operation of the Western Energy Imbalance Market, Extended Day-Ahead Market, and other related coordination efforts across the West.

This position reports to the Executive Director of WIEB and works in close collaboration with the Wholesale Electricity Markets Program Manager.

ABOUT THE WESTERN INTERSTATE ENERGY BOARD

WIEB is an organization of 11 Western States and 2 Western Canadian Provinces. The legal foundation for WIEB is the Western Interstate Nuclear Compact (Public Law 91-461). The governor of each state and the premier of each province appoints a member to the Board.

WIEB facilitates and promotes the cooperative energy policy efforts of its member U.S. states and Canadian provinces, including collaboration with the federal government. WIEB engages state and federal agency personnel and policy makers, regulated entities, industry experts, and other interested stakeholders in collaborative and ongoing discussions about key energy issues affecting the Western Interconnection. WIEB's mission is to provide the instruments, framework, and technical support for cooperative state efforts to "enhance the economy of the West and contribute to the well-being of the region's people."

Much of the work of the Board is conducted through its committees: the High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee (HLRWC) and the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC). WIEB also provides staff support to the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB), the Western Energy Imbalance Market Body of State Regulators (WEIM-BOSR), the Western Resource Adequacy Program Committee of State Representatives (WRAP-COSR), the Markets+ State Committee (MSC), and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Transportation Technical Advisory Group (WIPP TAG).

Commitment to Diversity

WIEB is committed to creating and maintaining a workplace in which all employees have the opportunity to participate and contribute to the success of the business and are valued for their skills, experience, and unique perspectives.

WIEB is committed to a diverse, inclusive, and respectful workplace; it is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, disability, age, or other legally protected status.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Analyze and evaluate the economic and reliability impacts of proposed enhancements to the market design of the Western Energy Imbalance Market and Extended Day-Ahead Market, and, if necessary, recommend alternative policy actions.
- Conduct research on Western Energy Imbalance Market and Extended Day-Ahead Market market constructs such as price formation, market power, resource sufficiency, greenhouse gas accounting, and the economic unit commitment and dispatch of electric generating units.
- Develop guidance and advice regarding the economic performance of wholesale electricity markets in the Western U.S. for a regulatory and state policy audience.
- Participate in the development and review of policy initiatives of the CAISO and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- Participate, track, and report on wholesale electricity market activities and reliability initiatives of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC).
- Provide support to other wholesale electricity market and reliability state committees that are part of WIEB as wholesale electricity market policy issues arise.
- Represent the WEIM-BOSR at key regional policy forums, meetings and webinars of CAISO, FERC, and WECC.
- Prepare written issue briefs and slide presentations for WEIM-BOSR members and other participants.
- Verbally present and defend public policy recommendations as they pertain to wholesale electricity markets and reliability initiatives.
- Assist the Program Manager with the planning and facilitation of monthly meetings, semi-annual meetings, and trainings of the WEIM-BOSR.

MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Ability to effectively communicate complex technical analysis to both technical and non-technical stakeholders.
- Proficiency in economic and statistical data analysis and data management.
- Strong problem-solving abilities and attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a deadline-driven, remote environment.
- Familiarity with wholesale electricity markets or energy policy.

PREFERRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Experience with electricity- and energy-related organizations such as utilities, ISOs/RTOs, WECC, NERC, FERC, and state public utility commissions, especially in the Western Interconnection.
- High proficiency to independently conduct statistical and economic analysis and present findings.

- Thorough knowledge of economic theories, including supply and demand curves and marginal pricing.
- Experience with utility ratemaking.
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills.

QUALIFICATIONS

- 4-year degree from an accredited college or university. Preferred fields of study include economics or STEM-fields.
- Minimum of 2-3 years of professional experience in analytics. Preferred experience includes state utility commissions, state energy offices, electric utilities, energy consulting firms, federal agencies, or similar organizations/entities dealing with electricity matters.
- Advanced education in an appropriate field of study may substitute for professional experience; advanced and relevant professional experience may substitute for education.

WORK ENVIRONMENT, TRAVEL, AND CONDITIONS

Environment: This is a remote position; however, all employees must work at a site located within one of WIEB's eleven western states (AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY), which are all in the Western Interconnection. WIEB also maintains an office in downtown Denver, Colorado. Due to the regional nature of WIEB's mission and membership, daily work is conducted entirely remotely and supplemented with in person meetings, trainings, and conferences. Regular meetings with staff, state and provincial members, and other stakeholders are conducted via video conference platforms.

Travel: Travel is integral to the execution of WIEB goals. Travel for this position is required and estimated to be between 10-20% of the employee's time. Travel is prioritized and vetted with, and approved by, the Executive Director in advance.

Conditions: This is a full-time exempt-employee position. Employment is subject to a successful background check and verification of eligibility to work in the United States.

COMPENSATION

Salary Range: The salary range for this position is \$70,000 to \$90,000 per year and will be determined based on qualifications.

Benefits: The standard benefits package for full-time exempt positions includes but is not limited to*:

Insurance: WIEB supports employees by offering a comprehensive and competitive benefits program including medical, vision, and dental, as well as Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment, and Long-Term Disability insurances. WIEB pays 100% of the employee premiums.

Retirement: WIEB provides a 401(k) plan for employees and offers a 7.5% match on eligible compensation and employee contributions.

Paid Time Off: WIEB currently offers 10 holidays per year, 20 days of PTO, and 13 days of paid sick leave; PTO and sick leave are accrued on a rolling basis. WIEB also offers paid family and medical leave.

Tuition Reimbursement Program: WIEB offers a Tuition Reimbursement Program designed to provide educational assistance to employees seeking a graduate degree at an accredited University or College.

Stipend: WIEB provides employees with a modest monthly stipend for office supplies and incidentals.

**All benefits are subject to the details outlined in the WIEB Employee Handbook.*

RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND TIMING

Timing: WIEB aims to fill vacant positions as expeditiously as possible to ensure continuity for members, partners, and other staff. The closing date for applications is **Sunday, September 24, 2023 at midnight MDT.**

How to Apply: To apply for this position please submit a cover letter and resume to Elaine Hsu, Office Manager, at ehsu@westernenergyboard.org. Applications should be delivered in PDF format and not exceed two pages. References will be requested for top applicants.