



“All of us, whether or not we're celebrities, every one ought to spend part of their life making someone else's life better.”

Jerry Springer

“Litigation is the basic legal right that guarantees every corporation its decade in court”

David Porter

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Burrito contains the personal views and food for thought of Gary Ackerman and does not reflect the views of any other person or organization other than Foothill Services Nevada, Inc. The material is intended for adults, including the humor. If you are offended by the humor, then don't read the Burrito. A list of acronym definitions of terms used herein can be found here for the most recent list under the clever heading of Gary Acronym Definitions. Copies of vintage Burritos can found by clicking here.

The two of us speak infrequently, but when we engage in a long-overdue conversation it rekindles fond memories of days past and oddball stories that are now part of our war-torn industry legacy. He's a real journalist, not a hack like me, and he gets paid for tracking newsworthy energy items in California. "I enjoy reading your newsletter," he offered, "but you talk about things that are way over my head." "So what do you read," I queried in return? "The recipes and the stories. At least I understand them."

Alas, such is our dilemma. You and I deal in a world of technical minutia. That must be why renewables as a general rule capture the public's imagination. Renewables are inherently easy to understand: clean energy is good, coal and nukes are bad, and using the abundant sun and wind to make free energy is even better. That's about as deep as Joe Six Pack gets when the topic arrives on his doorstep.

Here's another example of that dilemma. Last week I was in Wyoming explaining Energy Imbalance Markets (EIM) to a group of energy developers and electricity producers, where coal and natural gas were the fuels of interest. I struggled with keeping the delivery of my topic at a high enough level, but there's a big gap between how EIM really works and the

Western States Playbook

WPTF Winter General Meeting:

Online registration is now open . Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26-27, at the Grand Del Mar Hotel in Del Mar, Calif. Keynote speakers will be FERC Chair Cheryl LaFleur and Montana PSC Commissioner Travis Kavulla. [Click here to register and pay any applicable fees.](#)

FERC Technical Conference on EPA's Clean Power Plan: Thursday, Feb. 19, at FERC headquarters in Washington, D.C. A regional variant of this same conference will be held in Denver on Wednesday, Feb. 25. [Click here to read the announcement.](#)

WSPP Op Committee Meeting: Monday-Wednesday, March 9-11, at the Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn, Sonoma, Calif. [Click here for program details.](#)

CAISO Interconnection Fair: Wednesday, Feb. 25 in Folsom. For more information [click here.](#)

notion that EIM represents the future integrated market for the western states. The latter is very possible and I hope it happens someday. But, Lord, we are a long way off from getting to that point. My presentation never successfully bridged the chasm between those two extremes, although I attempted to motivate why EIM is needed, and I also tried to describe how the CAISO/PacifiCorp version of EIM is doing. I should have stuck to the 10-second shibboleth and said, "EIM is the future energy market for the West because it provides the benefits of market efficiency without being a full-blown RTO." There's nowhere else to go but deep into the weeds after that.

Back to the catch-up with my journalist acquaintance, he wanted to talk about the whole ex parte mess at the CPUC. Geez, here we are again at the center of public attention but not for anything uplifting or rewarding. Instead, there's a sudden rash of allegations that recent ex parte abuses might invalidate a generation of CPUC decisions. John Geesman heads the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR), a group dedicated to shutting down SONGS and in due time Diablo Canyon, and this week he used the SCE disclosure filed

- What we believe...**
- 1) Competition yields lower electricity rates.
 - 2) Stable and transparent rules and regulations promote private investment.
 - 3) Private investors, rather than utilities, will spend money on new power plants and transmission facilities if they can earn a return that is balanced with the risks.
 - 4) Private sector investment results in lower average prices without risking consumers' money.

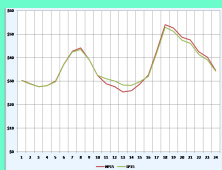
two years after the ex parte discussions on San Onofre's operating condition as a reason to file a motion at the CPUC requesting an investigation regarding the extent of sanctions the CPUC should order against SCE for violating the rules. That is, A4NR and other parties to the case were denied an equal time right that is triggered by ex parte communications; that 'what changed' and caused SCE to file the notice was the fact that the Warsaw hotel meeting notes were seized in the raid on Peevey's home; and that there remain other unreported ex parte communications involving SONGS as well. This is a hardball tactic, of course. I think it's overly opportunistic, must be dealt with, but in the

final analysis the gambit stinks of self interest and not much else in the way of public interest. Going from the sublime to the ridiculous and on the heels of the A4NR filing was an all-party email from the association called Californians for Renewable Energy (CARE), a homespun group of disturbed whackos who thrive in California's anything-goes regulatory climate. According to CARE's imperious leader, the chief Care Bear, "Remember those 65,000 emails they posted redacted communications between PG&E and the CPUC?? I have a hot story for you. Looks like a Remand for CARE vs. CPUC et al. This means I can do discovery and depose the CPUC Commissioners [current and former like Peevey] in US Federal Court over their collusion with the utilities which means I can get those 65,000 emails they posted unredacted and make all their collusion public for the whole world to see." If you let these people have their way, then the inmates will be running the asylum. The reason to keep one's powder dry is not to avoid jail time or side step impeachment, but to keep the bums who pester our regulatory world from taking center stage and creating a complete embarrassment.

Tomorrow is Single Awareness Day (SAD), a comment oft heard from our single female friends around this time of year. I don't hear that same stuff from the guys we know, but women do bring it up ... especially when Erin is talking to them. Her heart goes out to anyone who is alone ... including homeless pets such as rescue dogs and cats.

Speaking of alone, one warm 80-degree day this week I visited my 91-year old mom, and as I entered her assisted-living complex, walking along the front parking lot toward the automatic doors that welcome you into the Great Hall of Rolling Walkers, the glorious Southern California weather embraced me and evoked memories of my Dad. Why? A day like this would have been the setting for walking into my parent's condo not so long ago, and upon letting myself in the door I would see everything in its proper place. My Dad would be relaxing in his blue crushed-velveteen recliner chair reading the LA Times, and my Mom would be reading a book, doing a crossword puzzle, or playing solitaire at the dining room table. I would sit on the living room couch across from my Dad and the conversation would begin. But what strikes me now, eighteen months after my Dad's passing, is that while he was alive my parents had companionship from their 71-year long marriage. It wasn't flashy or dramatic, but a simple and solid affirmation of how life was good and made better because it was shared.

As for me, not a day goes by when I don't thank my lucky stars for being in Erin's life, and hers in mine. I can't explain how or why



MAC'S GRID STACK

[Click here to learn about the author](#)

Let's start with our 4th year of drought update. Above normal rain in December was followed by the driest January on record. The snowpack is down around 15% of normal which is way below average but ironically we are ahead of where we were last year at this time. This last series of storms had a significant impact on the major reservoirs. Both Lake Shasta and Lake Oroville have approached over 70% of normal with good inflows continuing. Our local favorite, Lake Folsom, has risen 10 feet since the start of the month and is rapidly approaching 100% of normal. All signs still point toward another dry hydro year but time will tell.

One of the things I focused on during my career was maintaining a control room resiliency to the changing grid dynamics. It requires a collection of good people with clear direction, robust tools, and good communication with everyone responsible for our mission, to keep the lights on. The goal is to establish and maintain an environment and resources able to respond to events (both short and long term). My proudest achievement was in building the new CAISO control room, which remains state of the art in North America.

Improving data quality and visualization is the key to maintaining grid reliability. The operator's view of the grid is now enhanced with synchrophasors (Phasor measurement units, PMUs) that improves that view from an x-ray perspective to a MRI like analysis.

The North American SynchroPhasor Initiative (NASPI) work group has guided the development of synchrophasors, their deployment and software development to improve reliability throughout the nation. These units are the most significant addition to maintaining grid reliability in my 40+ years of managing grid operations. We can thank Phil Overholt at DOE, Jeff Dagle at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), Tom Burgess at NERC and the NASPI project manager Alison Silverstein for the hard work that brought this effort to fruition and its continued success.

our time together provides such a solid emotional rock for us. We may get frustrated with each other at times, but we never tire of being together. So, if tomorrow is a SAD for you, then I want you to do something, think of at least one person to whom you can reach out with a phone call or an email and make them feel better just for remembering them and letting them know their existence means something more than the unmarked passage of time. I'll do the same because it's a good thing to undertake for any of us. Don't expect to be rewarded by the person you call, and don't anticipate the favor will ever be reciprocated. Just do it, and see what happens. Then let me know how you feel.

A colleague sent me an hourly report of the Feb. 10th real-time flows on the AC/DC backbone system between the Pacific Northwest and California. In each of the 24 hours

What we believe (cont.) ...

- 5) However, when IOUs do the investing, the risks to them are minimal or non-existent because ratepayers cover all of the costs.
- 6) Overcapacity lowers electricity spot market prices; yet retail rates can increase in this case due to full cost-of-service regulation.
- 7) Markets work best when there are many buyers and sellers.
- 8) At-risk money will be put to work and attract new investment where markets exist that are legitimate and yield credible prices.

the DC line reported goose eggs (nothing flowing) and the AC line had 32 MW to 38 MW flowing in each hour. The installed transmission capacity of the combined AC and DC lines between the two regions easily tops 7,000 MW and one would expect that real-time transactions would be much larger! What is the meaning of such low utilization? Is this unusual, and another sign of decaying trading volume in the western states? Or is it an example of markets that are becoming increasingly isolated from California? You tell me. A prize will be given for the best answer.

Let me close this section by acknowledging a good thing being undertaken by the CPUC. Last month President Picker announced the formation of three 2-

commissioner committees to study areas for, [“improving communication among Commissioners, becoming more transparent to the public, and developing governance tools to aid the Commission.”](#) These are commendable goals and much needed. I'm no fan of bureaucratic fixes to agency problems but this approach seems like the best way to proceed, it is timely, and should (hopefully) be very efficient. Commissioners Randolph and Sandoval prepared a memorandum that I thought would be discussed at yesterday's Cappuccino meeting about practical aspects of establishing the committees and describing their rules of conduct. Yet the details of those committees were not discussed, and remain open ended. Maybe at the next meeting something more formal will be presented to the public.

Commissioners Randolph and Sandoval put forth three types of committee models:

- 1) [informal advisory committees consisting of less than a quorum of the Commissioners. Those committees would not be subject to Bagley-Keene noticing requirements because they would not be permitted to take action.](#)
- 2) [informal advisory committees but notice them as full meetings of the Commission. Members of that committee would be expected to attend, but other members of the Commission could attend if they chose. This is similar to a practice sometimes](#)

employed for all-party meetings where the meeting notices follow Bagley-Keene requirements and the agenda indicates that all members of the Commission may attend.

- 3) formal standing committees subject to Bagley-Keene noticing requirements. If such committees are established, other Commissioners can attend the meeting but are only permitted to observe, not participate.

The second structure was the preferred paradigm, and it will be used to address at least three areas of interest:

- a) Finance and Administration
- b) Policy and Governance
- c) CPUC Modernization.

The most important of these three, IMHO, would be Policy and Governance because one of the topics therein is, “[review of ex parte rules.](#)” The CPUC also wishes to encourage public participation in all the committees. I’m supportive of the Commission’s effort to improve its handling of its many rules and procedures, but the Cappuccino quickly needs to fix the ex parte policies. Left as is, the current communication chill will continue to freeze out intelligent discussion and meaningful exchange of ideas. A state with a \$2 trillion economy needs a better way to go about handling its energy, water, and telecommunication issues.

From the pantries of the Cappuccino to the kitchens of Laura Manz, what is in store for us? Laura wrote, “[Cheryl Martin’s capable team of DOE energy experts marshaled a dizzying array of innovations at the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy \(ARPA-E\) Summit conference.](#) In National Harbor, Maryland, *remoulade* was the culinary innovation of the week. Either red or white, this lovely seafood sauce works its way down the continent to pair from Chesapeake crab backfin meat to Gulf of Mexico boiled shrimp. Substitute ground mustard with a little garlic if necessary, but the dish sparkles with creole mustard that uses black mustard seeds from New Orleans!”

In a large bowl combine ½ cup prepared horseradish, 1 cup of creole mustard, ¼ cup of mayonnaise, 1/3 cup of paprika (note: omit paprika for white *remoulade*), and 1 Tbsp. of black pepper. Add 3 cups of minced celery, 2/3 cup of minced parsley, 1/3 cup of minced onions, mixing everything together well. To serve, place 1 pound of fried or steamed seafood in a mixing bowl, add a good amount of *remoulade* sauce (more for shrimp, less for crab) and mix well. Serve on a bed of lettuce.

Fresh seafood with a proper sauce can’t be beat.

Here’s your coastal condiment for this week:

... and, what we should do:

1. Believe in ourselves.
2. Encourage creation of independent, multi-state regional transmission organizations that coordinate policies with respective state utility commissions.
3. Support rules for resource adequacy that apply uniformly among all load-serving entities.

>>> Things FERC
@@@ DOE Investigation of FERC Use of Non-Public Data

>>> Shout Outs

>>> Odds & Ends (_!_)

>>> Things FERC
@@@ DOE Investigation of FERC Use of Non-Public Data

Last month DOE's Inspector General (IG) issued a report on the public statements made by former FERC Chairman Jon Wellinghoff regarding the mysterious attack of the substation at Calpine's Metcalfe power plant, located a few miles south of San Jose, CA. The report didn't name Wellinghoff directly but stated, "[In February 2014, sensitive internal information regarding the electric grid analysis was mentioned by national media](#)

...and, what we should do (cont.):

4. Enforce competitive solicitations by utilities for purchasing either thermal or renewable power.
5. Support choice among retail electricity customers.
6. Lobby for core/non-core split of retail customers.
7. Advocate against policies that limit, through bid mitigation, merchant returns on investment that are utility-like returns.

and attributed in the press to a former Commission Chairman." That was Wellinghoff's statement to the [WSJ](#) that touched off a storm of national media coverage because he referred to the event as a terrorist attack.

There were other allegations of improper handling of nonpublic information according to the IG report, "[We found that \[FERC\] staff inconsistently handled and shared Commission-created analyses that identified vulnerability of the Nation's electric grid without ensuring that the data was adequately evaluated for sensitivity and classification.](#)" That's a worthy reminder about the sensitive nature of our grids. A decade ago no one would have given this much thought, but today everything is different ... and I suppose our

regulators must be mindful about the potential impact of sharing grid-related information. The IG report also identifies three other problems that arose in the course of its investigation:

1. [In February/March 2013, the former Chairman directed Commission staff to identify critical electric substations by location and create substation failure scenarios simulating the impact of the loss of these assets on the Nation's electric grid.](#)
2. [Despite the sensitivity of the analysis and the simulations suggesting substation failures, the former Chairman and other Commission officials began to share some or all of the information with industry and Federal officials beginning in March 2013. This was done without having the material reviewed to determine whether it was classified.](#)
3. [Concerns were expressed internally and were later raised by senior Department of Energy officials that the electric grid analysis, including the substation failure simulations, could contain classified information. Yet, the Commission failed to obtain a formal classification review of the material for nearly a year.](#)

The above citations could easily be looked upon as an internecine turf battle between two federal agencies, but I'm not sure that's a reasonable assessment. The IG report certainly heightens our attention to the nature of the information commonly known in our circles, and it suggests there are proper ways for this nonpublic information to be handled. In other words, gone are the days when we can loosely and openly discuss facts regarding critical infrastructure.

The IG report said it interviewed Wellinghoff (again, not ever mentioning his name ... I guess his name is classified), and because of inconsistencies between the FERC staff's story and the former Chairman's, the IG requested email records from FERC in order to get to the bottom of it. When you want to get to the bottom of something, you must use emails. And here I thought California was the national center for kiss-and-tell emails, but again I am proved incorrect.

[“When we attempted to compare the statements made to us by the former Chairman to supporting information, we found no e-mail traffic in the former Chairman's account for the relevant period in October and November of 2013. Commission staff told us that they provided all of the former Chairman's e-mails that were contained in the Commission records for the time period requested. We were, however, able to obtain certain e-mails generated or received by the former Chairman that were not found in his account from the e-mail accounts of other Commission staff members. Nonetheless, because of the inability to obtain information from the former Chairman's e-mail account for that period, we were unable to completely reconcile the differing positions.”](#) Oh, oh. Missing emails. As we continue looking for the missing revenue in our organized markets, we are also looking for missing email traffic. I tell you, there is a “missing” contagion going on.

Immediately, current FERC Chairman Cheryl LaFleur responded to the IG's report and embraced its findings regarding future treatment of sensitive information that may or may not be classified, but the default assumption going forward will not be “it's okay to share the info because no one told us otherwise.” Cheryl wrote in her letter to the DOE IG dated January 15, 2015, [“I concur with the Draft Report's recommendations and have begun to implement them ...”](#)

The last page of the report is an open notice to the public requesting feedback. [“The Office of Inspector General has a continuing interest in improving the usefulness of its products. We aim to make our reports as responsive as possible and ask you to consider sharing your thoughts with us.”](#) I sent a copy of that page to the folks at CARE so they could begin their preparation of subpoenas for present, former, and deceased FERC Commissioners. I'm sure the DOE IG will thank me later.

>>> Shout Outs

A couple of anonymous submissions top our stack of weekly letters. The first is from a self-confessed FERC groupie with long contacts at the agency: [“Bill Hogan was absolutely right. The last few Commissions have avoided articulating where the markets should go or giving direction. Those Commissions have been content to let deal with little things without taking a step back and seeing how all these little things hang together in the](#)

big picture. Time for things like scarcity pricing and generally getting the prices right to be a priority. The Commission seems to have lost its vision or is tired or scared or something.”

Or something.

Another anonymous onlooker wrote: “The damaging evidence is a recording of the market monitor saying Chen didn’t violate any tariffs. That makes the evidence more relevant. Whether it rises to the level of materiality or not is still a bit grey, and it’s still hearsay, but I suppose it could be used for impeachment purposes regardless of the hearsay rules. And certainly if FERC plans to call Bowring himself as a witness, then I think it’s definitely material evidence. Given Powhatan’s defense, I’m wondering if FERC is claiming that Powhatan is in violation even though they complied with the tariffs. Is that possible?”

Ah, could you hear the moan of resignation across the land as that last question is asked over and over again?

Yet another anonymous note in reply to last week’s anonymous rant regarding the application or lack thereof of the Brady rule in the Powhatan matter was as follows: “First, being convicted in a trial process with the presentation and rebuttal of evidence is different than a mutually agreed settlement. Second, who the hell is the anonymous author to support the federal government taking liberty and property illegally, and especially KNOWINGLY? It is exactly that kind of crap that is at issue. Powhatan and Dr. Chen speak eloquently for themselves throughout the record. In their eyes there was no way of knowing PJM/FERC-OE/FERC would, after the fact, consider actions that were contemplated at the time of filing and implementation of the Tariff/Protocols to be any kind of violation. Period.”

Finally on this same topic, John Estes wrote: “The answer to the question whether or why Brady applies to a FERC Enforcement case is that FERC adopted a policy that said it does.”

That last note has a ring of finality to it.

Paul Choi is partnering with a friend of his in Houston to manage a new food and wine bar known as Beckrew Wine House located on 2409 W Alabama St., Houston, 77098, www.beckrew.com. Check it out and send me your reviews.

And now, hereeeee’s Jack (Ellis): “California is going to need a lot of help from its neighboring states to meet the 50% RPS goal. There’s an obvious need for buyers of surplus renewable production at certain times and equally obvious need for sellers who can help fill in the gaps when solar and wind production fall off. Some of that assistance will be reasonably predictable and can be scheduled day-ahead or hour-ahead, but there are likely to be numerous instances where sizable energy surpluses, shortages and ramping constraints will have to be dealt with in the real-time market. Regardless of the time scale, the need to follow NERC and WECC operating standards means California won’t be able to rely entirely on the kindness of its neighbors as Denmark does and it won’t be able to impose large unscheduled flows on the neighbors as Germany currently does.

“Enlisting the help of other parties in the Western Interconnection, especially to deal with expected large seasonal surpluses of renewable energy, won’t be cheap or easy. Current studies suggest a large fraction of these surpluses will show up in the spring, which means that during years with high hydro runoff, competition between California and BPA for customers willing to take surplus hydro and solar production will likely drive wholesale prices sharply negative. The resulting wealth transfer will create a political headache for California policymakers when customers and consumer groups realize they’re paying twice for energy they can’t actually consume- once to procure it and a second time to get rid of it. And that’s on top of the potentially high cost of spot purchases to fill in the supply gaps created by fast ramps in solar production and peak demands that occur as solar production starts to fall off. California will be in the chronic position of having to sell energy at low prices and buying energy at high prices when smart people typically try to do just the opposite.

“The EIM will have to be either redesigned or replaced with a trading mechanism that is simpler, more flexible, less prone to political meddling, conducive to forward trading, and administered independently of any single balancing authority or political entity. Politicians will have to either tolerate more price volatility or accept much less efficient and much more cumbersome administratively determined side-payment and clawback mechanisms as they attempt to encourage participation and guarantee performance by generators (and other market participants). We’ll need something better than the existing melange of fragmented, contradictory and overlapping governance arrangements, which don’t inspire confidence that the rules will be fair to all parties or that participants outside California can largely remain independent of California state regulatory authority.”

>>> Odds & Ends (_!_)

Last night two similar celebrations occurred but in different cities; one in San Francisco and the other in Boise, Idaho. The similarity was their purpose: toasting the accomplishments of two truly outstanding and long-serving public utility commissioners: Michael Peevey in California, and Marsha Smith in Idaho. I wrote last week about Marsha’s 34-year record at the Idaho PUC, and I have written many times in the past about Michael ... with more to come. Whereas I attended the dinner for Peevey that was emceed by former San Francisco Mayor, former Assembly Speaker, and overall raconteur Willie Brown Jr., I couldn’t attend the affair for Marsha so instead I sent an emissary in one Bob Mooney who is a native of Boise, Idaho. Bob wrote: “Governor Andrus opened the ceremony—now 84 years young and the person who appointed Marsha to the commission 34 years ago. There were several moving remembrances of her time on the commission and with various regional and national organizations. Probably 200+ in attendance.”

Peevey’s elegant affair also had over 200 attenders, and was produced by former CPUC Commissioner Susan Kennedy and energy PR expert Don Solem. The added feature at Michael’s event that I’m sure was missing at Marsha’s was the teaming media at the entry who were looking for a negative story to pitch much like the vitriol sprung that morning by the San Francisco Chronicle. The program had many speakers beginning with Mr.

Peevey's daughter, and ending with a touching and sincere expression of gratitude by the Man of the Hour. Many people I spoke with commented how this gathering was a blast from the past.

I noticed the same thing, too. I couldn't help feeling that Mr. Peevey's event celebrating his long career was going to be the last of its kind around these parts. It was a paean to an age past, and maybe an age that Peevey epitomized. He was the charismatic Padre that had long roots in the state's energy business, but now the Padre is moving on. I feel there is dwindling camaraderie in California's energy bubble and what lasting associations I grew up with over the last two decades were held together more or less by the aging Brahmins at the utilities, the politicians who were around in the 1990s, the lobbyists with tired eyes and firm handshakes, and the many different trade groups whose constituents are over time becoming as fragmented as the business models they uphold. The social network I once knew has been slowly giving way to a stark business set-up. The new way is more Facebook and less face time.

I wouldn't be surprised if someone twenty years ago said the same thing about California's energy business back then. I suppose it's all a matter of perspective.

Registration is open for the WPTF Winter General Meeting. Jenifer McDonald has put together a dynamite registration page that I urge you to use whether you are a WPTF member or a guest. [Click here](#) to access the registration site.

The 2015 WPTF Winter General Meeting will be held in Del Mar, Calif., on Feb. 26 and 27, 2015. Our hotel is the Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court in San Diego.



The conference rate of \$325/night plus tax is no longer available! To make room reservations, please contact the hotel directly at (855) 314-2030.

Regardless of the status of your hotel reservation, **in order for us to get an accurate head count, you must email Jenifer McDonald at accounting@wptf.org, or call her at 916-333-2364 to inform her that you are attending.** If you register using the WPTF website, then there is no need to otherwise contact Jenifer.

Non-member attendees and consultants to WPTF members must pay a conference fee of \$360/person (or \$69 for government employees) to attend the event.

WPTF General Meeting Agenda:

Thursday, February 26

- 9:00 a.m. Golf: Grand Del Mar (\$195 per player + forecaddie gratuity)
- 6:00 p.m. Reception and dinner at Grand Del Mar, sponsored by [Exelon](#), [Dynergy](#), [Calpine](#), [Shell Energy North America](#), [NextEra](#), and [NRG](#)
- 8:15 p.m. Keynote Speaker: [FERC Chairman Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur](#)
- 10:00 p.m. After-hours WPTF reception

Friday, February 27

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Introductory remarks
9:10 a.m. Guest speaker: **Commissioner Travis Kavulla, Montana PSC**
9:45 a.m. Round robin discussion and presentations by consultants
11:30 a.m. Guest speaker: Mexico's Energy Reforms, **Michael Camuñez, President ManattJones Global Strategies** and **Prof. Pamela Starr, USC** (International Relations) and Special Advisor to ManattJones Global Strategies
12 noon Luncheon
1:30 p.m. Adjourn

Del Mar is about a 20-minute drive north from the San Diego airport. We look forward to seeing you there.



How quickly we arrive at the end of yet another week. So much is going on, but I'll fill you in next week. Here are your stories:

WIFE VS. HUSBAND

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word.

An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position.

As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, 'Relatives of yours?'

'Yep,' the wife replied, 'in-laws.'

Touché. Here's another:

CREATION

A man said to his wife one day, 'I don't know how you can be so stupid and so beautiful all at the same time.'

'The wife responded, 'Allow me to explain:

God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me;

God made me stupid so I would be attracted to you!

Okay, those were short. Here a bonus story to carry you through the Valentine's Day weekend:

The Lemon Squeezer

At a bar in New York City the bartender was so sure that he was the strongest man around, that he offered a standing \$1000 bet. The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and then hand the lemon to the patron.

Anyone who could squeeze two more drops of juice out of it would win the money.

Over the years, many people had tried ... weightlifters, longshoremen, etc., but nobody had ever been able to do it.

One day, a scrawny little fellow came into the bar, wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit.

He sat down, ordered a glass of beer, and started looking around the bar.

After reading the sign on the wall about the lemon challenge, he said in a small voice: "I was just reading your sign, and I'd like to try the bet."

After the laughter had died down, the bartender said: "OK...."

He grabbed a lemon and squeezed all the juice he could out of it...

Then he handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little fellow.

But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his little fist around the lemon.... and six drops fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the guy his \$1000, and then asked: "Do you mind if I ask what do you do for a living? Are you a lumber jack, a weight-lifter, or what?"

The little fellow quietly replied: "I work for Internal Revenue Service!!!"

Clever and timely given the time of year.

Remember to call someone on Saturday and make them happy that you reached out. Have a wonderful Valentine's Day, and a great weekend.

gba