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Regional Organization for Western Energy (ROWE) Inaugural Board of Directors Formally Appointed by ROWE Formation Board

The new ROWE Board of Directors has been officially seated and will begin its work in October

September 30, 2026 - The Regional Organization for Western Energy (ROWE) Board of Directors became official today with final approval from the ROWE Formation Board during this morning's Formation Board meeting. This important milestone for the West is a culmination of the Pathways Initiative Launch Committee's work over the last three years to create an independent governing organization for Western electricity markets.

ROWE board members John Di Stasio, Evelyn Kahl, Paul Kjellander, Deborah Smith, and Rebecca Wagner will commence their work to implement the structures and processes of the ROWE that will institutionalize that independent governance with their first meeting in October. Bringing deep expertise in energy leadership, market innovation, and governance, the newly formed ROWE Board shares passion for and dedication to this new venture that will advance Western energy market services.

"I am thrilled with my selection to the inaugural ROWE Board." **shared John Di Stasio, former President of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC).** "I look forward to working with stakeholders across the West to unlock the full potential that regional collaboration can provide. Ultimately, I'm excited to contribute to improving affordability, reliability and environmental outcomes for consumers across the West."

"I am honored to have been selected to serve on the ROWE Board of Directors and grateful for the opportunity to help shape the future of Western energy markets. Establishing an independent governance structure that builds trust, encourages broad participation, and recognizes the diverse interests of the West is an important undertaking." **said Paul Kjellander, who previously served on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and became its longest serving President.** "I have tremendous respect for my new colleagues on the Board and look forward to working alongside them to advance ROWE's mission and deliver meaningful benefits to the region."

Evelyn Kahl, who has been serving as General Counsel and Chief Policy Officer of the California Community Choice Association (CalCCA), shared, "I'm honored and excited to join the inaugural ROWE Board. So many people across the West have worked hard to bring us to this moment, and I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to help build what comes next."

“I’m honored to have received support in today’s vote for the inaugural ROWE Board. I’m humbled by the responsibility and energized by the work ahead.” **stated Deborah Smith, who has been serving on the CAISO Western Energy Markets Governing Body and on Pacific Northwest National Laboratory’s Energy & Environment Directorate Advisory Committee.**

“This is an important moment for the West, and I’m excited about the opportunity to help build ROWE into a strong, independent regional organization.”

“I’m honored to join the ROWE Board and excited by the challenge ahead.” **said Rebecca Wagner, who has been serving as a member of the Western Energy Markets Governing Body.** “Western energy markets have been a passion of mine for the past decade, and the Pathways Initiative has laid important groundwork for this next chapter. I’m grateful to the Nominating Committee and Formation Board for their confidence in me and look forward to working with my fellow board members to carry that work forward.”

About the Regional Organization for Western Energy (ROWE)

The Regional Organization for Western Energy (ROWE) is a newly formed 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization created to provide independent governance over voluntary energy markets and services across the Western United States, including but not limited to the Western Energy Day-Ahead Market and the Western Energy Imbalance Market. Representing Step 2 of the West-Wide Governance Pathways Initiative’s (Pathways Initiative) three-step process, ROWE is designed to be “a new entity with independent governance capable of offering an expansive suite of West-wide, voluntary wholesale electricity market functions across the largest possible footprint.” Work is underway to establish the legal and organizational structures, ensuring the ROWE is prepared to govern energy markets and services in the West. Additional information can be found at rowesternenergy.org.

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