

November 13, 2020

California Independent System Operator
Statement of Interest to Serve on the EIM Governing Body Nominating Committee

I sincerely appreciate your time in considering my request for nomination to the Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governing Body Nominating Committee. With over 16 years in the energy industry, I have experience in permitting, development, finance, construction, transmission, interconnection, policy and regulatory matters pertaining to renewable energy. I have worked in government, private sector and non-profit organizations and have served on several committees and non-profit boards with a focus on clean energy. Below I outline both my experience that I believe lends itself well to the position, as well as my interests in serving on this committee.

I began my career in energy at Bonneville Power Administration in 2004 where I served as an archaeologist for the Environment, Fish and Wildlife Team. After leaving BPA, I worked directly on the development of wind and solar projects for over eight years in the private sector. I then moved on to consulting on mergers and acquisitions and tax equity finance for two years as an independent consultant and two years at UL Renewables, a world leader in renewable energy consulting. For the last two and a half years, I have served as Executive Director of Renewable Northwest, a 501c(3) organization focused on advocating for decarbonization of the electricity sector. The organization has a unique membership comprised of private industry as well as non-profit environmental and consumer advocate organizations. The diverse membership structure of Renewable NW lends itself both to an incredibly broad pool of expertise as well as a challenging environment for reaching consensus on policy and regulatory matters. I believe one of the areas that I have excelled in while in this position is in bringing together a frequently divided membership to reach our organizational goals. I find this aspect of my job incredibly rewarding and believe these skills are essential to working with a diverse group of stakeholders on coming to consensus.

Of the many issues Renewable NW engages in, one that is consistently a priority for our entire membership is market development and governance. The Pacific Northwest plays a critical role in EIM expansion and operation and representation from this region on matters related to EIM governance is extremely important. Both personally and as the Executive Director of Renewable NW, I believe transparency, equity and democracy in governance of energy markets is critically important to the continued evolution of our industry. I am committed to representing the interests of the broadest range of public interest organizations and consumer advocates if selected to the Nominating Committee. Organizations that I typically interact with in my current role and would commit to continued interaction with as a member of the Nominating Committee include: Consumer advocacy organizations, environmental non-profits, clean energy advocates, labor organizations, and equity and just transition organizations.

Thank you for reviewing my request to be considered for the EIM Governing Body Nominating Committee. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss my interests and qualifications for this position.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Hughes', written in a cursive style.

Nicole Hughes

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