

JULIA SOUDER PROCHNIK
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERT

Ms. Prochnik is a trusted advisor to the energy and environmental sector. She enjoys working to solve the impossible. She brings over 19 years of experience in strategy regarding renewable energy permitting and contracts, regional and state integration planning, markets, regulatory affairs, and negotiation services with the industry.

Currently, she is the Director of Western Renewable Grid Planning at the Natural Resources Defense Council. She works on regional and inter-regional planning initiatives, and reliability concerns and advocates for incorporation of public policies and land use. She is also focused on just and equitable energy transitions, market creation, and improving regional and inter-regional transmission planning. She is a past board director at Western Electricity Coordinating Committee and currently a Peak Reliability Member Advisory Committee serving on the Board Nominating Committee, Budget Liaison to membership and Board and Human Resources Liaison.



Mrs. Prochnik was the Project Developer Manager at Clean Line Energy Partners, where she managed the Centennial West Clean Line high-voltage direct current transmission line. She oversaw the local, state and federal permitting process, developed relationships with generators and load serving entities, coordinated public outreach efforts and negotiated agreements with contractors and project vendors.

As the Director of Intergovernmental Relations for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), Julia promoted effective coordination and positive relations between NERC and FERC, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and many other federal and state entities. She worked with Congress and trade associations on cyber security and reliability standard legislation.

Previously, Mrs. Prochnik was the Western Regional Coordinator for the Office of Electricity and Energy Delivery. Principally, she was the DOE project manager for Section 368 of the 2005 Energy Policy Act and worked closely with state and federal agencies on transmission siting and permitting. She was a Presidential Management Fellow and began working at the DOE in 2002 in energy efficiency and then assisted with the 2003 blackout investigation.

Energy Imbalance Market Board Nominating Committee
Statement of Interest
Julia Prochnik

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for the EIM Board Nominating Committee. It is truly impressive to see how many benefits the EIM has provided to the utility customers, policymakers and stakeholders in the western interconnection. The studies, conversations, and debates over the past years have helped propel the EIM to be a success.

For almost two decades I have been involved in western interconnection reliability issues and I have loved every minute of the ups and downs and intense challenges we have all faced. Whether it as the U.S. DOE liaison to the West, working on TEPPC, SSGWI, CREPC, WIEB or debating NERC policies around the country or developing a HVDC transmission line for renewable energy, and then most recently negotiating a new governance structure at WestConnect, it has all been rewarding to be part of group who is making a difference.

Leading various energy initiatives in the federal government and then helping open and run the NERC Washington, D.C. office, were exciting times. Starting my own consulting company and managing state regulatory filings and proceedings for clients as well as providing strategic insights into western politics was very insightful and productive. As a project developer for the Centennial West Clean Line I helped drive the creation, momentum and success of MOUs, local agreements, environmental studies and regulatory filings in four western states as well as with the federal government. And at NRDC I enjoy diving into the details of grid planning as well as real time reliability operations while promoting environmental interests.

Here are some past positions I have held, which build on my experience to demonstrate my ability to be part of the EIM Nominating Committee:

- WECC Board Member (member of transition working committee)
- While at Clean Line Energy Partners, I also served on the WECC Scenario Planning Task Force, WECC Environmental Data Task Force, and more.
- At NERC, I attended all the Member Representative Committee, Operating Committee, Planning Committee meetings and presented to the Board regularly and successfully negotiated reliability standard debates, cyber security legislation, regional compacts, and outreach to a diverse stakeholders.
- Currently, I am the Vice-Chair of the Planning Management Committee at WestConnect (the only NGO to sit on an executive team of the FERC 1000 regions).
- Currently, I am serving the last elected term as the class 4 representative to the PEAK RC Member Advisory Committee (representing both consumers and environmental advocates). Over the years I was elected and served on Finance Committee, Budget Liaison for Board and membership (2 years), Board Nominating committee (2 years), Data Sharing Work Group class representative, and the Human Resources Liaison to the Board.