

DWP/Neighborhood Council Meeting December 7, 2019 Highlights

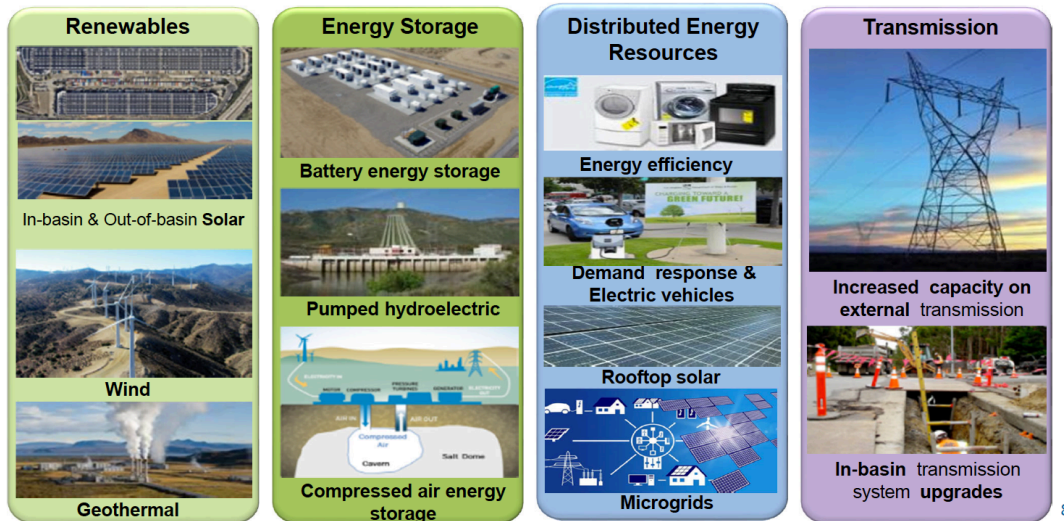
Walter Hall, GVGC Representative
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Jack Humpreville reported that the next DWP Board meeting agenda includes approval of a \$299M transfer from its department to the City's General Fund. This is lower than was previously estimated and, Humpreville asserted, is due to ongoing litigation challenging any transfer.

The LA100 study on how to achieve 100 percent renewable energy, being conducted by National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), has been making adjustments to its models because of the City's decision not to repower its coastal plants. Previously these plants were assumed to continue to operate during the interim transition period leading to the ultimate 100 percent endpoint. Because of these adjustments, no cost estimates are yet available. The next advisory group meeting will be in March. Costs are a concern to many and it was pointed out that LADWP's bonded indebtedness is now at 65% of its bond covenants.

The DWP engineer in charge of In-Basin Generation, a term used to describe plants in the immediate vicinity of the City, gave a presentation titled *Clean Grid LA/Reimagining LA's Power Grid*. Abandoning the gas-fired coastal plants forces significant rethinking as how to maintain system reliability, i.e., "keeping the lights on." The Haynes coastal plant in Long Beach is given credit for keeping all the lights on when the Saddle Ridge Fire in Sylmar forced multiple transmission line losses, limiting the amount of power that could be imported from outside the City. Following are various options being considered to maintain reliability during the transition to 100 renewables.

Clean Grid LA Resources



Paul Schultz, engineer in charge of external generation, i.e., non-local resources, gave a presentation on plans for the Intermountain Power Plant (IPP) in Delta, Utah. The plant is run by LADWP under contract with the Intermountain Power Agency, a cooperative of Utah and California entities. DWP's present contract expires in 2027 and has been renewed to run through 2077. The 1900 MW (million watt) coal-burning plant will end its use of this fuel in 2025 with present plans to convert to a 840 MW gas-burning plant to be used in the 20-year interim till the 2045 100% renewable resources deadline. Presently being studied is the possibility to use the plant to burn a hydrogen-gas mixture, the hydrogen being created using electrolysis when renewable resources, such as solar and wind, are in excess of system needs. Stored hydrogen would then be burned at times when renewables are otherwise unavailable, for example, when the sun is not shining. This scheme is facilitated by the fortuitous circumstance that the plant is situated on ground above the only large subterranean salt dome in the western United States, cavities within the salt dome being used for hydrogen storage. The salt dome is also being considered as a storage facility for pressurized air, which in turn can be used to drive generators producing electricity. A largely informative and accurate article on these matters is reported in the Los Angeles Times at: <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2019-11-19/climate-change-activists-urge-los-angeles-not-to-build-new-gas-plant-in-utah>