

BPA NEWS

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BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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Michelle Cathcart named VP of Generation Asset Management *Cathcart will permanently assume the new role July 30*

Portland, Ore. – The Bonneville Power Administration has named Michelle Cathcart as its vice president of Generation Asset Management in Power Services. Cathcart permanently takes over the role on July 30, vacating her role as vice president of Transmission System Operations. Ricky Bustamante, manager of Transmission Planning, will take over as VP of Transmission System Operations in an acting capacity.

“Michelle brings a depth of knowledge and experience to our generation operations and asset management organization,” said Administrator and CEO John Hairston. “I’m confident that she’ll continue to make essential contributions to our executive team in this new role.”

In her move to Power Services, Cathcart will be responsible for directing BPA's Generation Asset Management program, including the development and implementation of strategy to support power marketing and sales. Essential duties involve maintenance of relationships with leaders at other federal agencies, as well as with public and private utilities, on matters related to Power Services’ generation policies and the Federal Columbia River Power System’s management and resources issues. Cathcart will also help guide and formulate policy for BPA's strategic planning, fiscal strategies and business decisions.

“Michelle is a purpose-driven leader with a diverse skill set and I’m excited to have her join our Power team,” said Suzanne Cooper, senior vice president of Power Services.

Since coming to BPA in 2016 as the leader of Transmission System Operations, Cathcart has overseen the safe, reliable and open-access operation of BPA’s high-voltage transmission system. This organization operates and supports BPA’s two 24/7 regional



control centers and represents the agency on operations and other coordination issues with external entities such as the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, Western Power Pool, California Independent System Operator, and other balancing authorities and transmission operators.

Before coming to BPA, Cathcart was the director of Strategy and Organizational Performance at Peak Reliability, a reliability coordinator for the Western Interconnection.

“I am excited for this opportunity to lead another critical function in the agency,” shared Cathcart. “I am a life-long learner and welcome the chance to gain experience with Power Services. There is such a critical inter-relationship between our transmission system and the interconnected generation, and I look forward to working with the dedicated professionals in Generation Asset Management in continuing to keep the lights on in the Northwest.”

Cathcart has a doctorate in geography and environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Business Administration from Washington State University and a Bachelor of Science in engineering from Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania.

About BPA

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Ore., is a nonprofit federal power marketer that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 Northwest electric utilities, serving millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA delivers power via more than 15,000 circuit miles of lines and 259 substations to 490 transmission customers. In all, BPA markets about a third of the electricity consumed in the Northwest and operates three-quarters of the region’s high-voltage transmission grid. BPA also funds one of the largest fish and wildlife programs in the world, and, with its partners, pursues cost-effective energy savings and operational solutions that help maintain affordable, reliable and carbon-free electric power for the Northwest. www.bpa.gov

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