

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **GridWise® Architecture Council elects new associate members**

*Knapp, Matthews and Rahimi join GWAC Team*

**RICHLAND, Wash.** – The [GridWise Architecture Council](#) has elected three new associate members: Stephen Knapp, Gordon Matthews and Farrokh Rahimi. GWAC associate members are nominated for one-year terms by GWAC members in recognition of their ongoing participation in the work of the council. The new associate members were announced this week during the council's meeting and transactive energy workshop held at the offices of the California Independent System Operator.

**Stephen Knapp** is the chief compliance officer in the Law, Compliance, and Business Ethics unit of Power Generation Services, Inc. (PoGens™). In this role, he oversees the Corporate Compliance Program, which functions as an independent and objective body that reviews and evaluates compliance issues and concerns within the organization. He also serves as the company's vice president of regulatory affairs. Prior to joining PoGens™ in 2013, Knapp was director of operations at Constellation Energy Group. He possesses more than 38 years of experience in transmission and generation operations, Regional Transmission Organization/Independent System Operator stakeholder processes, and regulatory policy in the energy sector at both wholesale and retail levels. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in electrical and computer engineering, both from Johns Hopkins University.

**Gordon Matthews** has worked in the electric utility industry for more than three decades. He currently serves as the embedded transmission representative within the Bonneville Power Administration's Office of Technology Innovation (OTI). As part of OTI, he helps BPA focus its research dollars to best meet the needs and address the challenges of BPA and the Pacific Northwest, and to seek collaboration opportunities in the U.S. Department of Energy's research agenda. A BPA employee for the past 23 years, his work has included assignments spanning the power marketing, corporate, and transmission business functions. Matthews has prepared and delivered seminars, developed workshops and short courses on cable pulling fundamentals (based on accepted practices and his original research and testing), and has given numerous presentations to professional organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree in materials and power engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

**Farrokh Rahimi** is senior vice president for market design and consulting at Open Access Technology International, Inc. (OATI), where he is currently involved in analysis and design of power and energy markets and smart grid solutions. He holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and brings more than 40 years of experience in electric power systems analysis, planning, operations, and control, with the most recent eight years focused in the smart grid area. Before joining OATI in 2006, Rahimi collaborated with California ISO for eight years, where he was engaged in market monitoring and design. In addition to his extensive industry-related experience, he has served as a university professor, researcher, and consultant in power and industrial control systems. He has been active in smart grid task forces and committees collaborating with prominent agencies and professional organizations.

### **About the GridWise Architecture Council**

The GridWise Architecture Council was convened in 2004 by the Department of Energy with support from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. As a volunteer council, the GWAC includes practitioners and leaders with broad-based knowledge and expertise in power, information technology, telecommunications, financial systems and other fields who are working together toward a coordinated GridWise vision—the transformation of the nation's energy system into a rich, collaborative network filled with decision-making information exchange and market-based opportunities.

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