

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at the Clark County Government Center, Commission Chambers, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89155.

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairwoman	Puoy K. Premsrirut
Vice Chairwoman	Kara J. Kelley
Commissioner	Dan Stewart
Commissioner	Steve Walton

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Commissioner	Allen J. Puliz
Commissioner	Cody Winterton
Commissioner	Marilyn Kirkpatrick

DEPUTY ATTORNEY(S) GENERAL

Special Counsel, Attorney General	Michelle D. Briggs
Special Counsel, Attorney General	David W. Newton

COMMISSION STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Director	Eric Witkoski
Senior Assistant Director	Sara Price
Chief of Finance and Administration	Douglas N. Beatty
Assistant Director, Engineering and Operations	Shae Pelkowski
Assistant Director, Energy Information Systems	Kaleb Hall
Assistant Director, Hydropower	Gail Bates
Assistant Director, Natural Resources	Warren Turkett, Ph.D.
Chief Accountant	Gail L. Benton
Hydropower Program Manager	Craig Pyper
Energy Management Data Analyst	Rebecca Suafoa
Hydropower Analyst	Elissa Emery
Power Systems Operations Manager	Walter Shupe
Senior Energy Accountant	Hyelim Hong
System Coordinator	Chris Smith
Natural Resources Specialist	Danielle Collins
Natural Resources Specialist	Kristina Sasser
Executive Assistant Manager	Gina L. Goodman
Manager, Communications and Gov. Affairs	Noah Fischel
Administrative Assistant IV	Elsa Nava
Administrative Assistant III	Tamisha Randolph
Administrative Assistant II	Joshua Cleveland
Administrative Assistant II	Bobby Hickman
Administrative Assistant II	Thyandra Lewis

OTHERS PRESENT: REPRESENTING

City of Boulder
City of Henderson
College of Southern Nevada
Las Vegas Valley Water District
Legislative Counsel Bureau
Southern Nevada Water Authority
Southern Nevada Water Authority

Joshua Hardy
Becky Risse
Tina Dobbs
Laura Browning
Justin Luna
Jordan Bunker
Scott Krantz

COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA

MEETING OF

February 11, 2025

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The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Premsrut at 1:30 p.m., followed by the pledge of allegiance.

A. Conformance to Open Meeting Law.

Executive Director, Eric Witkoski, confirmed that the meeting was posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

B. Comments from the public. Members of the public are invited to comment on items on the meeting agenda or on items not contained therein. (No action may be taken on a matter raised during public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item for possible action).

Chairwoman Premsrut asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

C. *For Possible Action:* Approval of the minutes of the Commission's December 10, 2024, meeting.

Commissioner Stewart moved for approval of the minutes of the December 10, 2024, meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walton and approved by the unanimous vote.

D. *For Possible Action:* Approval of a Vice Chair of the Commission, pursuant to NRS 538.111, that requires the Vice Chair to be selected each calendar year at the first meeting of the new year.

Commissioner Stewart nominated Kara Kelley for Vice Chair of the Commission and moved for approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Puliz and approved by unanimous.

E. *For Possible Action:* Approval of Contract No. ES-25-01 between successful bidder, Archer Energy Solutions LLC, and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada, based on Bid Solicitation No. 69CRC-S3055 for Operation Technology Cybersecurity Risk Assessment for the Commission's operations in the amount of \$74,360 and authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$7,640 for total contract amount not to exceed \$82,000.

F. *For Possible Action:* Approval of Contract No. ES-25-02 between successful bidder, Archer Energy Solutions LLC, and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada, based on Bid Solicitation No. 69CRC-S3063 for Information Technology Cybersecurity Risk Assessment for the Commission's operations in the amount of \$48,010 and authorize a change order contingency amount of \$4,990 for total contract amount not to exceed \$53,000.

Mr. Witkoski presented Items E and F, recommending approval of contracts with Archer Energy Solutions LLC for cybersecurity risk assessments—\$82,000 for Operational Technology (OT) and \$53,000 for Information Technology (IT), both prompted by an Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) legislative audit recommendation. The OCIO lacked capacity to conduct the assessments, prompting an RFP that drew 27 proposals.

Mr. Pelkowski noted Archer was selected for its expertise and cost-effectiveness, with pricing from other vendors ranging from \$60,000 to \$1.5 million. Chairwoman Premsrut confirmed the ten percent contingency and contract term of four years.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Walton moved to approve, Commissioner Stewart seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

G. *For Possible Action: Approval of First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement Contract No. CRCPDP-500 between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and the City of Boulder City for the Construction of Electric Facilities to increase the contract price to \$10,850,000 and to extend the completion date from June 30, 2025, to March 1, 2028.*

Mr. Witkoski presented the First Amendment to Contract No. CRCPDP-500 with Boulder City, increasing the contract to \$10.85 million and extending the completion date to March 1, 2028. Mr. Pelkowski explained that a full substation upgrade—identified after transformer bids were received—replaced the original feeder upgrade plan, necessitating the cost and timeline adjustments. He noted that transformers account for about one-third of the revised cost.

Chairwoman Premsrut and Commissioner Kirkpatrick inquired about the justification and long-term value. Mr. Pelkowski confirmed the upgrade supports a 30-year lifespan. Commissioner Walton acknowledged Boulder City's support and approval.

Commissioner Walton moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Kelley. The motion passed unanimously.

H. *For Possible Action: Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Boulder Flats Solar Interconnection Project Documents Contract No. CRCBF-02 Control Enclosure between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and Electrical Power Products, Inc., to increase the contract price to \$1,558,695 that includes a twenty percent contingency for additional work that may be needed due to vandalism that occurred.*

Mr. Witkoski presented Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. CRCBF-02 with Electrical Power Products, Inc., increasing the contract to \$1,558,695, including a twenty percent contingency. Mr. Pelkowski explained that the prefabricated

control enclosure was broken into at the contractor's lot, with key components stolen.

To ensure quality, the enclosure will be rebuilt and tested by the manufacturer before being delivered directly to the site. Summit Line Construction filed an insurance claim and police report. Chairwoman Premsrut confirmed Staff's decision to proceed with repairs before insurance resolution and emphasized preventing future incidents.

Vice Chairwoman Kelley moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Commissioner Stewart. The motion passed unanimously.

I. *For Possible Action:* Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Boulder Flats Solar Interconnection Project Documents Contract No. CRCBF-03 Insulators between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and Peak Substation Services, LLC to increase the contract price to \$114,795 and authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$11,480

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Q. *For Possible Action:* Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Boulder Flats Interconnection Project Documents Contract No. CRCBF-13 Fiber between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and Peak Substation Services, LLC to increase the contract price to \$428,950 and authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$42,895.

Mr. Witkoski introduced Items I through Q, which amend existing contracts to increase material quantities for the Boulder Flats Solar Interconnection Project, supporting the Townsite Phase 2 solar and battery expansion near Boulder City. The changes accommodate a new interconnection agreement between developer Skylar and SNWA, requiring additional components for a one-mile transmission line and switchyard expansion.

Mr. Pelkowski confirmed the materials include insulators, transformers, steel, switches, fiber, and other equipment, all procured under previously awarded contracts. Chairwoman Premsrut noted the amendments align with NRS 704.7820, promoting renewable energy, and praised staff for efficient, transparent execution. Each amendment includes a ten percent contingency.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick asked about total costs and budget alignment. Mr. Witkoski confirmed costs were reviewed and incorporated into a capital request submitted to the Interim Finance Committee in February. Vice Chairwoman Kelley added that the project supports the Governor's renewable energy goals.

Commissioner Walton moved to approve Items I through Q, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Kelley. The motion passed unanimously. Chairwoman Premsrut thanked staff for their preparation and execution.

R. *For Possible Action: Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Contract for Services of Independent Contractor (No. ES-24-02) between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and Burns and McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., to increase the contract not to exceed amount from \$1.2 million to \$3.1 million.*

Chairwoman Premsrirut introduced the proposed amendment to Contract No. ES-24-02 with Burns & McDonnell Engineering, increasing the not-to-exceed amount from \$1.2 million to \$3.1 million. Mr. Witkoski noted that a detailed funding breakdown was provided to both the Commission and the Budget Office.

Mr. Pelkowski explained the increase supports operations and maintenance projects, separate from capital improvements, and is necessary due to limited in-house engineering staff. Project billing will follow task-specific authorizations to ensure proper cost allocation among Commission customers.

Chairwoman Premsrirut raised the possibility of hiring in-house engineers. Mr. Pelkowski and Mr. Witkoski acknowledged staffing challenges and confirmed that expansion is under consideration for future legislative sessions.

Vice Chairwoman Kelley praised the planning and transparency, citing the aging infrastructure and need for sustained investment. She moved to approve the amendment, the motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

S. *For Information Only: Update on financial audit, budget submitted for FY 2026 and FY 2027 and related matters for the 2025 Nevada Legislative session.*

Chairwoman Premsrirut introduced an informational update on the financial audit, FY 2026–2027 budget submission, and related legislative matters. Mr. Beatty reported that Staff is awaiting key financial data from the State Controller’s Office, delaying completion of the Moss Adams audit. Due to these delays, Staff may need to request a second extension from the GFOA.

An RFP for a new audit contract has been issued, as the current Moss Adams agreement ends this fiscal year.

The commission’s budget hearing is scheduled for February 27th. All budgets are recommended for staff-level approval except Budget 4490, which includes new positions and will undergo legislative review.

There were no questions. Chairwoman Premsrirut thanked Mr. Beatty for the update.

T. *For Information Only: Executive Director operations update on staffing and related matters.*

Chairwoman Premsrirut introduced an update on staffing and operations. Mr. Witkoski reported a net gain of ten employees over the past year, with 14 hires and four separations. Over 30 percent of the Commission's workforce are new hires, contributing to long-term organizational growth.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick praised the progress and urged clear communication of Commission's mission to the Legislature, especially with many new members unfamiliar with Commission's role. She offered to assist with preparation for legislative testimony.

Mr. Witkoski agreed and emphasized the importance of explaining the Commission's work in hydropower, market power, and the Parker-Davis Project, which supports water infrastructure. Chairwoman Premsrirut echoed the need for clear messaging and visual aids.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick also noted the value of Staff's October site visit with LCB fiscal staff, which contributed to positive budget reviews. Chairwoman Premsrirut concluded by thanking staff for their efforts to educate policymakers.

U. *For Information Only: Update on pending legal matters, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada filings and Federal Legislation*

Chairwoman Premsrirut introduced Agenda Item U, an informational update on pending legal matters, including filings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN), and federal legislation.

Mr. Witkoski stated that there were no legal updates at this time but noted that the agenda item remains included as a standing item to ensure any necessary legal developments can be addressed when needed.

Chairwoman Premsrirut acknowledged the update, remarking that no news is good news.

V. *For Information Only: Status update from Staff on the hydrological conditions, drought, and climate of the Colorado River Basin, Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water, basin negotiations, impacts on hydropower generation, electrical construction activities and other developments on the Colorado River.*

Chairwoman Premsrirut introduced the update on Colorado River hydrology, drought impacts, and regional developments. Dr. Turkett reported below-average precipitation and snowpack, with cumulative runoff forecasted at 6.84 million acre-feet (71 percent of average) for the water year—marking a second consecutive

year of decline. Lake Mead and Lake Powell levels are projected to fall, raising concerns over hydropower generation.

Dr. Turkett highlighted the critical elevation of 1,035 feet at Lake Mead, below which most Hoover Dam turbines would fail. Chairwoman Premsrut emphasized the urgency of infrastructure upgrades, and Mr. Witkoski confirmed Commission's support for federal funding to replace outdated turbines.

Vice Chairwoman Kelley asked about conservation impacts. Commissioner Kirkpatrick noted that AB 356 mandates turf removal by 2025, with SNWA tracking water savings for housing development support.

Ms. Price then updated the Commission on post-2026 operating guideline negotiations. While discussions among Basin states continue biweekly, unresolved disagreements and leadership transitions at the federal level have delayed progress. Chairwoman Premsrut thanked staff and reaffirmed Commission's commitment to proactive management.

W. Comments from the public. Members of the public are invited to comment on items on the meeting agenda or on items not contained therein. No action may be taken on a matter raised during public comments until the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an item for possible action.

Chairwoman Premsrut asked if there were any comments or questions from the public members. There were none.

X. Comments and questions from the Commission members.

Chairwoman Premsrut asked if there were any comments or questions from the Commission members. There were none.

Y. Selection of the next possible meeting date.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on March 11, 2025, at the Clark County Government Center, Commission Chambers, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155.

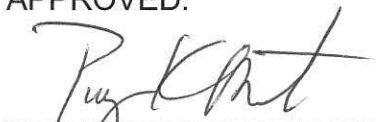
Z. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.



Eric Witkoski, Executive Director

APPROVED:



Puoy K. Premsrut, Chairwoman