

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE NO. 2018WSC003
DATE: October 2, 2018

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Can Idaho Tap into Energy Opportunities?

What would it look like for Idaho to be well positioned for emerging energy opportunities? Energy experts are coming together October 10th and 11th in Boise and Idaho Falls to discuss this question and how to get there. Speakers from Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Power, Power Engineers, and The Risky Business Project will dive deep into barriers to mass distributed energy generation and how to overcome them and grow our economy.

Estimates show that the annual value of the U.S. energy storage market is expected to exceed \$1.2 billion in 2019 and will continue to grow exponentially.¹ With the right investments, Idahoans will benefit from this market growth and could be well positioned to lead in the new energy economy. Actions that could contribute to Idaho's economic and environmental resilience include:

1. Allocate more money to research, development, and commercial application. The U.S. Department of Energy has key programs dedicated to electricity transmission, reliability, resilience, and energy storage.² Priorities that would benefit from increased funding include:

- A. **Smartgrid** - Adapt and integrate the use of advanced digital technology to modernize the nation's electric grid for enhanced operational intelligence and connectivity.
- B. **Microgrid** - Improve localized microgrid functionality and operations, including development and improvements to help mitigate grid disturbances and strengthen grid resilience.
- C. **Energy Storage** - Improve and reduce costs of materials for battery, electrolytic capacitor, and flywheel systems, while developing and testing advanced components and storage systems.

2. Provide incentives for distributed generation. Innovative incentive programs facilitate community generation by reducing initial investment barriers faced by residents and businesses. Programs that help electricity consumers manage and reduce usage can complement the statewide efforts to generate cleaner energy.

Idaho's economy will directly benefit from increased funding for grid, storage, generation, and efficiency projects and research. Beyond the local jobs created, energy saved, and pollution reduced from the projects themselves, an

¹ GTM Research: <https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/us-energy-storage-market-tops-the-gwh-milestone-in-2017>

² See Office of Electricity, *Advanced Grid Research and Development*, <https://www.energy.gov/oe/mission/advanced-grid-research-and-development>.

active energy sector in Idaho will attract design and manufacturing firms specializing in these technologies as well as companies committed to using 100% renewable energy.

It's time for Idaho to take a major leap toward being well positioned for energy opportunities: One that will increase jobs and revenue and provide greater reliability and security for Idahoans. Join us!

DATES, LOCATIONS, AND TIMES: *Driving Innovation for a Secure and Prosperous Idaho*

October 10, 2018, Hyatt Place, 1024 W Bannock Street, Meeting Place 1, 1:00 - 2:30 PM

October 11, 2018, Idaho Falls Center for Advanced Energy Studies, 995 University Boulevard, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Following the Idaho Falls panel we will offer the following tours:

- 2 - 2:45 Tour of INL [ESL facility: Sign up for ESL Tour Here](#)
- 3 - 3:45 Tour of [CAES facility: Sign up for CAES Tour Here](#)

For more information, visit <https://registeridahoenergyinnovation.eventbrite.com> or contact Deborah Hiller LaSalle: (208) 919-1682. To arrange interviews with these experts outside the 3 - 3:30 pm timeframe click on the links below:

- [Schedule to Meet with Kurt Meyers](#)
- [Schedule to Meet with Kate Gordon](#)
- [Schedule to Meet with Todd Haynes](#)
- Contact Mitch Colburn directly to schedule: MColburn@idahopower.com, 208-388-5546
- Contact Jared Hansen directly to schedule: JHansen@idahopower.com, 208-388-2706

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SPEAKERS:

Kate Gordon, Founding Director, Risky Business Project

Kate Gordon is a nationally recognized expert on the intersection of clean energy and economic development. She serves as a Senior Advisor at the Paulson Institute, where she provides strategic support on issues related to climate change and sustainable economic growth. She is also a nonresident Fellow at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University and a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal as one of the paper's "Energy Experts." Gordon is perhaps best known for her work as the founding Executive Director of the "Risky Business Project," co-chaired by Michael Bloomberg, Henry Paulson, and Tom Steyer, and focused on the economic risks the U.S. faces from unmitigated climate change.

Kurt Myers, Renewable Energy Lead, Idaho National Laboratory

Kurt Myers is a renewable electric and grid integration market area lead, project manager and staff electrical engineer at Idaho National Laboratory. He works on many types of power transmission, distribution and generation technologies including wind, solar, fuel cells/storage, diesel and gas, and many aspects of power control, protection and integration. Other specialties include wind data analysis, wind and solar power feasibility studies, wind and solar farm design and construction projects, micro/island grids, battery/storage systems testing and integration, and research in dynamic transmission rating.

Todd Haynes, Renewable Energy Project Manager, Power Engineers

Todd Haynes is a renewable energy specialist with a broad range of professional experience including business, technical, real estate and writing. At POWER Engineers, Todd manages energy storage, wind, and solar projects – ranging from studies and preliminary design for early project development to SCADA design & electrical protection for new projects to ongoing support for operational projects.

Mitch Colburn, Resource Planning and Operations Director, Idaho Power

Mitch leads an organization responsible for the energy future of the 1.2 million people that Idaho Power's serves. In addition to resource planning and operations, Mitch oversees work on hydrologic forecasting, cloudseeding, water policy, river engineering, streamflow gaging and developing a billion-dollar joint-venture transmission line project.

Mitch has an in-depth understanding of power generation, transmission and distribution after working in the energy industry for 11 years. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Idaho with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, with an emphasis on power systems. He received his master's of engineering from the University of Idaho, and his master's in business administration from Boise State University.

Mitch is an Idaho native who loves alpine skiing, fly fishing, mountain biking, golfing and traveling.

Jared Hansen, Transmission and Distribution Planning Engineer Lead, Idaho Power

Jared Hansen joined Idaho Power in 2006 as a Distribution Planning Engineer. He spent time working in different areas at Idaho Power before transitioning to become the leader of the Distribution Planning group in 2015. Jared oversees Idaho Power's area planning functions. He works with stakeholders across the Idaho Power footprint to develop local electrical plans. His team determines capital projects necessary to serve the growing load in Eastern Oregon and Southern Idaho.

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR COMPLETE SPEAKER BIOS.