



# MEETING MINUTES

## VPP Power Generation Call

*Date / time* 5/20/2021 1:30 PM | *Meeting facilitated by* Alexander Miller and Kelli Heflin

### 1. Roll Call Via Chat Function

Dennis D. Isom	Rebekah Hay	John Nicoll
Alex Miller	Paul Miller	Carl Britton
Ed Wicker	David Iannitelli	Mike Cockerham
Tim Smith	Bradley Kelly	Brian Sullivan
Jim Bevacqua	Russell Ferrell	Courtney Robinson
Richard Gerdes	Brian Ahern	Jason Shaw
David Johnson	Travis Williams	Chris Eytchison
Rich Brown	Michael Joyce	Stephen Henry
Jeff Aaron	Dan Duff	Jerry Gray
Michael Le	John Conroy	Kristal Spicer
Vince Dodge	John Kolarick	JoLynn Rivera
Ray Delfing	Dustin Johnson	M Domey
Hud Griffith	Dutch Duran	John Caccamise
Rob Colt	G. Brown	Keith Tatum
John Condry	Pat Cheever	Anthony Russo
Kelli Heflin	Bob Bach	Chad Smith



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2. Welcome by Kelli Heflin and Alex Miller
3. Safety Moment – Bob Bach – Dighton Power
  - a. ATV & UTV Safety for Utility Workers
    - i. Hazards
    - ii. Safe Work Practices
    - iii. Required PPE
4. VPP Updates – New Applications, New Approvals, Re-Approvals, etc.
  - a. Tim Smith in Region V-Have there been any OSHA onsite visits for the initial evaluation?
    - i. Contact Region V VPP Managers – Nancy Mugavero
  - b. Arapahoe (Onward Energy) – Contingently approved Application. No onsite yet.
  - c. Most sites are in a holding pattern due to 2020 COVID restrictions. Each region is a bit different—Region 8 just got the go ahead to start scheduling onsite assessments in June. Brad is already booked out through September. Other regions have extended the 6-month audit window after application acceptance to a year.
5. VPP Element – Rich Brown – Region 2 OSHA VPP Manager
  - a. COVID-19 NEP and ETS Update
    - i. NEP to prevent worker exposure to COVID-19.
      1. Focused Enforcement
      2. Inspections are focused on industry and worksites with frequency close contact exposures. The updated plan is time limited.
      3. Interim Enforcement Guidelines



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- a. Plans replaced 5.26.2020
4. Outreach and Compliance Assistance
  - a. Nationwide outreach
5. Protecting OSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officers
  - a. Risk are evaluated
  - b. Provide all needed equipment, supplies and PPE.
6. OSHA COVID-19 Resources
7. Keeping Workers Safe in the Heat
  - a. OSHA's Heat Prevention Campaign
8. Safe & Sound Week
  - a. Nationwide event held annual in August to recognize the success of workplaces.
9. Several questions were asked regarding mask mandate expirations and how OSHA would address that. Rich referred to CDC guidance, but it all boils down to protecting employees. He felt that the guidance will probably be adjusted, but there is no official timeline. A question was asked about recording COVID illnesses on OSHA 300 log and if it would eventually transition to what we do with regular influenza. Rich thought that might be the case, but it is not the case currently. There could be the potential to record differently depending on the industry.
6. Group Discussion (Kelli Heflin)
  - a. Robust Health and Wellness Programs



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- b. DMs showed that some employees want the wellness programs monetarily incentivized and thought 2% of someone's salary should be a starting point.
  - c. Northwest Energy moved to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor. It is app based and you earn points towards a goal.
  - d. Prairie State incentivized it with health benefits—gym membership discounts etc.—geared towards the high deductible plans. Resources will also come onsite. Point system is used to avoid higher premiums.
  - e. All on the call agreed that employees are reluctant to participate unless there is an easy to use tool.
  - f. Dave Smith also provided the name of Occupational Athletics—Mark Everest—has a monthly newsletter and can help develop stretch and flex programs.
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## 7. Committee Updates

- a. Newsletter Committee
  - i. Met 5.13.2021
  - ii. The plan is to distribute the first letter on 6.30.2021
  - iii. If you have anything you would like to contribute to the newsletter, contact Courtney Robinson at [Courtney.Robinson@Luminant.com](mailto:Courtney.Robinson@Luminant.com).
- b. Planning Committee
  - i. Met on 3.18.2021
  - ii. Deliverable were covered for May, August, and November 2021
- c. 2021 VPPPA National Conference



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- i. Nashville, TN, on August 31<sup>st</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021
  - ii. Kelli and Alex’s proposal was selected and they will be delivering a presentation at the National Conference.
  - iii. Planning an in-person meeting at the conference. Details will be shared as they are updated.
  - iv. Kelli will be teaching several LaBlast dance fitness classes at the National Conference—fitting right in with our wellness discussion.
  - v.
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## 8. Open floor for questions and suggestions.

- a. Why SGE classes continue to be canceled?
  - i. The hosting sites not being able to social distance as they would like.
  - ii. OSHA has been asked to not do things outside of their office.
  - iii. Question about Virtual SGE Class – Alex to follow up.
- b. Thanks to everyone that attended the meeting.



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9. Next Meeting — August 19<sup>th</sup>

a. Group Discussion Topic Suggestions

b. VOLUNTEERS:

i. Safety Moment - Hud Griffith, Valencia Power

ii. VPP Element – Alex and Kelli

iii. Note Taker - Pat Chmielewski, Kendall Power Plant

## 2021 Meeting Schedule

~~February 18<sup>th</sup>~~

~~May 20<sup>th</sup>~~

August 19<sup>th</sup>

November 18<sup>th</sup>

*Minutes recorded by Dennis D. Isom, CSP*