

NAWEA 2013 Symposium, Boulder, CO

4A: Grid Integration and Management Session Summary and Highlights

Chairs: Mark O'Malley, Tom Acker, Charlton Clark

Speakers: John Zack, Michael Brower and Bruce Bailey, of AWS Truepower; Jacob Aho, University of Colorado; Michael Milligan and Debbie Lew of NREL

The Grid Integration and Management Session consisted of a brief overview of grid integration issues followed by a series of presentations that highlighted some of the current research to address grid integration challenges.

The presentations covered:

- public/private cooperation to improve forecasting to reduce integration impacts,
- ancillary services provided by wind power plants,
- issues surrounding wind's interactions with electricity markets, and
- how wind/solar impact the cycling of thermal generation.

The importance of liquid markets with frequent scheduling intervals was emphasized, along with large balancing areas. Key study results demonstrating the impacts of integrating large amounts of renewables on thermal generating unit cycling and emissions were presented. This session emphasized that while much work is underway to meet the challenges of integrating wind into the grid; there is still a considerable amount of work to be done to fully overcome them.