November 16, 2012
10-11:30 a.m.

1. Welcome and Self-Introductions

2. Brief: LADWP and Owens Lake

Ron Nichols, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Nichols will provide an overview of the LADWP’s dust mitigation efforts at Owens Lake in accordance with a 1997 agreement, the lawsuit recently filed by LADWP to prevent regulators from imposing further requirements on the LADWP, and the impact the lawsuit will have on water supplies and costs for LADWP customers.

3. Action Item: Proposed Restart of San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station (SONGS)

Veronica Gutierrez, Vice President, Local Public Affairs, Southern California Edison

Gutierrez will provide background information regarding the closure of SONGS, the regulatory processes Southern California Edison is engaged in to partially restart it, and how the how the outcome of those processes will impact future electricity reliability in the region.

4. Update: Air Quality Management District’s 2012 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)

Tom McHenry, Partner, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

The South Coast Air Quality Management District is in the final stages of completing its 2012 AQMP. McHenry—the Chamber’s representative in this process—will provide an update on the plan and process.


Next Meeting:
January 2013 TBD
Ron Nichols is the General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Mr. Nichols provides leadership for the utility in supplying reliable and competitively priced water and electricity while continuing to maintain and implement environmentally conscious policies and priorities. He was confirmed as General Manager by the Los Angeles City Council on January 18, 2011.

Nichols has 35 years of experience in the electric and water utility industry, with particular depth in California and adjoining states. He has been a strategic and operational advisor to public power and investor-owned utilities, state and local government, and the financial community on complex energy and water supply and utility matters throughout the U.S.

Prior to his position as General Manager at the LADWP, Nichols was a managing director at the energy practice of Navigant Consulting, an international consulting organization with over 2,000 employees. From 1980 to 1997, before his position at Navigant, he was a co-founder and Senior Vice President of the energy and water utility consulting firm, Resource Management International, which was headquartered in Sacramento. Prior to starting his energy and water utility consulting career in 1980, he held positions with the California Department of Water Resources and the California Energy Commission.
Veronica Gutierrez
Vice President, Local Public Affairs
Southern California Edison

Veronica Gutierrez is vice president of Local Public Affairs for Southern California Edison (SCE), responsible for community and government relations at the municipal and county levels, and also for licensing for SCE’s major transmission projects. Prior to her current role, Gutierrez was vice president of Corporate Communications responsible for all SCE communications and the community involvement functions in the department. She was director of Public Affairs for Edison International (EIX), responsible for advancing initiatives and outreach efforts on the company’s behalf and focused on company efforts to positively influence global warming issues and advance new infrastructure development.

Gutierrez also served as director of Regulatory Compliance for SCE where her responsibilities included company efforts to comply with regulatory decisions, as well as compliance with affiliate transaction rules. She worked as a manager and lobbyist for SCE in San Francisco focusing on issues related to low-income customers, safety, customer service, and the environment, and in Washington, D.C. on matters related to California’s electricity crisis and EIX low-income housing and infrastructure investments.

Before joining SCE, Gutierrez worked on the staffs of Los Angeles City Councilmember Jackie Goldberg and Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina. She practiced law as a civil rights attorney with Litt and Associates, where she focused on cases involving police abuse, housing discrimination, and employment discrimination. Gutierrez earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Princeton University and a law degree from University of California at Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law.