

**Paul Suskie**  
Chairman  
(501) 682-1451

**Colette D. Honorable**  
Commissioner  
(501) 682-1455

**Olan W. Reeves**  
Commissioner  
(501) 682-1453

**ARKANSAS**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
1000 Center  
P.O. Box 400  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0400  
<http://www.Arkansas.gov/psc>



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## **National and Regional Wind Experts to Speak at August 25 Workshop as part of Arkansas Sustainable Energy Resources Collaborative**

(Little Rock) – As the next event of its continuing series of workshops in the Sustainable Energy Resources Collaborative, the Arkansas Public Service Commission is sponsoring two prominent experts to present lectures and respond to questions on the subject of wind energy. **The Workshop on Wind Energy will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, August 25, 2009 at the board room of the Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, 1 Cooperative Way, in Little Rock.**

**The opening speaker for this event will be Mr. Larry Flowers, National Technical Director of Wind Powering America at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.** Mr. Flowers has been a team leader and is principal project manager at NREL's National Wind Technology Center in Boulder, Colorado. The WPA is a U.S. Department of Energy program launched in 1999 to dramatically increase the deployment of wind in the United States; it focuses on states and institutions that have dramatically underutilized their wind resources. Mr. Flowers has an MBA from the University of Denver and a BS in metallurgical engineering and materials sciences from Lehigh University.

Also speaking during the morning session will be **Mr. Jay Caspary, Director of Transmission Development at the Southwest Power Pool, whose offices are in Little Rock.** In his position at SPP, Mr. Caspary currently serves on the Technical Review Committee for the Eastern Wind Integration and Transmission Study being sponsored by DOE/NREL, as well as on the board of the Utility Wind Integration Group. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois-Urbana with a B.S. in electrical engineering and has completed course requirements for a Masters of Engineering degree from Iowa State University.

Mssrs. Flowers and Caspary will speak during the morning session of the workshop. Lunch will be provided. The afternoon session will be devoted to hearing presentations from utility companies and wind developers concerning projects in which they are involved. There will be ample time for Q&A and discussions during both sessions.

The Commission expects that major natural gas and electric utilities and electric cooperatives will be represented at the Collaborative forum, as well as representatives of the Attorney General's office, the Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization, commercial and industrial customers, environmental organizations, low-income advocates, and others who are part of the Commission's SER Collaborative.

Upcoming events of the SER Collaborative will include a Workshop on the Smart Grid, Automated Metering Infrastructure, and Demand Response to be held at the courtroom of the University of Arkansas William H. Bowen School of Law in Little Rock on Wednesday, September 30, and a non-wind Renewable Resources Workshop to be held later at a time and place to be announced.

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Contact: Paul Suskie at 501-682-5809

E-mail: [MRobbins@psc.state.ar.us](mailto:MRobbins@psc.state.ar.us)