



# 2021 Regional Transmission Organization Study: Background Materials

The Oregon Department of Energy published its **Regional Transmission Organization Study** in December 2021. The agency provided background information for stakeholders during the development of the report, outlined below.

## RTO 101

What is a Regional Transmission Organization or RTO? What does an RTO do? How would formation of an RTO impact how the electricity system in Oregon currently works? These are all foundational questions that we recognize might not be well understood by all of the stakeholders interested in the Department's implementation of SB 589.

To help facilitate these discussions, we have identified the following materials that might be of interest to those interested in learning more about this topic:

### ***Power Markets Overview:***

- 2020 Biennial Energy Report – Policy Brief: Evolving Wholesale Electricity Markets, by ODOE ([link](#))
- An Introductory Whitepaper to RTOs, by Energy Strategies ([link](#))
- Energy Markets Primer – Chapter 3: Wholesale Electricity Markets, by FERC ([link](#))
- Power Market Primers, by NETL ([link](#))
- Governance Structure and Practices in the FERC Jurisdictional ISOs/RTOs, by Exeter Associates ([link](#))

### ***Deep Decarbonization Analysis:***

- Oregon 100% Clean Pathways Study ([link](#))
- Northwest Deep Decarbonization Pathways ([link](#))
- Washington State Energy Strategy ([link](#))
- Pacific Northwest Pathways to 2050 ([link](#))

### ***Recent Technical Studies and Reports Evaluating RTO Formation:***

- State-led Market Options Study, by Energy Strategies ([link](#))
- Western Energy Imbalance Service and SPP Western RTO Participation Benefits, by the Brattle Group ([link](#))
- Western Flexibility Assessment Investigating the West's Changing Resource Mix and Implications for System Flexibility, by Energy Strategies ([link](#))