



**2024 Region 9 Meeting Agenda  
September 4-6, 2024 – Event Dates  
September 5 – Exhibit Date  
Historic Davenport Hotel  
Spokane, WA**

**Preliminary Agenda**

**Wednesday, September 4th**

5:00 – 8:00 pm      **Networking Reception at the [Steam Plant Restaurant & Brew Pub](#) –  
Sponsored by GE Vernova**

**Thursday, September 5th**

7:00 – 8:00 am      **Registration & Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:15 am      **Welcome Remarks**

8:15 – 9:15 am      **Lessons Learned with BPA and 30 years of Fiber in an Electric Power  
Transmission Utility**

**Speaker:**              **Chris Witthaus, PE, Communications & Grid Modeling, TPM - Bonneville  
Power Administration**

Over the last three decades, BPA has deployed over 3500 route-miles of fiber cable along its transmission rights of way in Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho, and Western Montana that includes dispersion-shifted and single-mode glass in both OPGW and ADSS cables. Having operated and maintained its fiber system for over 28 years and partnered with over 20 utilities, municipalities, and commercial organizations, BPA has learned a lot about the ups and downs of fiber in an electric power transmission utility and would like to share these learnings with you.

9:15 – 10:15 am      **RF Engineering Training Refresher with Tait & AdComm**

10:15 – 10:45 am      **Networking Break**

10:45 – 11:45 am      **UTC President & CEO Address**

**Speaker:**              **Rusty Williams, President & CEO, UTC**

11:45 – 2:00 pm      **Networking Lunch with Exhibitors**

2:00 – 2:30 pm      **Region 9 Member Meeting: Core Members Only**



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2:30 – 3:30 pm **Round Table Hot Topics: Six Tables of Hot Topics for Members to Q&A, Network, Share Experiences & Lessons Learned:**

- Table 1: pLTE as part of a robust FAN
- Table 2: Drop Repeaters
- Table 3: Infrastructure Leasing Opportunities
- Table 4: Network & Security
- Table 5: All things TDM to IP
- Table 6: Anything Goes

3:30 – 4:30 pm **Network Performance Situational Awareness Training with Idaho Power**

4:30 – 6:30 pm **Networking Reception with Exhibitors**

**Friday, September 6th**

8:00 – 9:00 am **Registration & Breakfast**

9:00 – 10:15 am **GCPUD & Avista Utilities Panel: Why We're Choosing to Leverage the SEL ICON Now and for Our Future**

10:15 – 10:30 am **Wrap-Up and Adjournment**