

**WESTERN LOAD RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**  
**Spring 2018 Meeting and Conference**  
**San Diego, California**  
**April 18-20, 2018**

**CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

Our friends at San Diego Gas and Electric Co. (SDG&E) are proud to host the Spring 2018 Western Load Research Association (WLRA) meeting and conference in San Diego, California, April 18-20, 2018.

**Location**

The Spring 2018 WLRA meeting and conference will be at the **Hotel Indigo in the San Diego Gaslamp Quarter:**

Hotel Indigo  
509 9<sup>th</sup> Ave  
San Diego CA 92101  
(619) 727-4000

**Conference Registration**

Please register by **Friday, March 30**. Conference registration is \$600. Conference registration and payment can be completed online at <http://loadresearch.com/event/wlra-spring-2018-meeting-and-conference/>, or by sending the attached registration form and check (payable to San Diego Gas and Electric Co.) to:

San Diego Gas and Electric Co.  
Attn: Leslie Willoughby  
8306 Century Park Ct CP42F  
San Diego CA 92123-1530

**Hotel Reservations**

You must make your hotel reservations by **Sunday, March 18** to guarantee room availability and to secure the conference rate of \$209 (plus taxes) per night for a Standard Room.

Reservations can be made online or by telephone:

**Booking Instructions:**

- 1) Book online by clicking [here](#)
- OR -
- 2) Book by telephone at (866) 384-3015 and refer to **Group Code WLR**

**Wi-fi**

Hotel Indigo provides complimentary wi-fi to conference attendees in guest rooms and in our conference meeting rooms.

**Transportation**

The [distance](#) from San Diego International Airport to the Hotel Indigo is 4 miles. Hotel Indigo offers day-use parking at \$20 per day and overnight valet parking for \$47 per day.

**Tour of SDG&E's 120 MWh Battery Storage Facility and Dinner**

SDG&E is pleased to announce that the conference will include a tour of SDG&E 120 MWh lithium-ion battery storage in Escondido, one of the largest in the world. Following the tour, conference attendees and their guests will enjoy dinner at the **Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens**. The tour and dinner will be on **Thursday, April 19**. The cost of dinner is included in the conference registration fee; guests of attendees can pay \$75 to cover the meal and transportation to and from Escondido.

## SDG&E's Escondido Battery Energy Storage Facility



Photo courtesy of San Diego Gas and Electric Co.

### Call for Papers

Presentations at the conference will continue to demonstrate that load research and load forecasting are great tools for dealing with the newer challenges of the modern electric utility industry. This includes smart grid implementations, distributed energy resources, demand response, renewable energy, dynamic pricing programs, time-of-use rates, as well as traditional regulatory needs. Papers and discussions can focus on innovative new technologies and methodologies or the traditional principles of statistical analysis.

WLRA will accept papers on any subject related to load research or load forecasting, including but not limited to, least-cost sampling, end-use research, integrated resource planning, program evaluation, load profiling, innovative rate design, energy efficiency measures, and peak-demand forecasts.

WLRA is continuing to emphasize utility involvement, and special priority consideration will be given to utilities wishing to make presentations. The continued success of the WLRA conferences depends on participation from utility members. It is for this reason that utility presentations are particularly encouraged, but utility-vendor partnership presentations are also welcomed and vendor presentations will be considered.

Presentations don't need to be extravagant and can be as short as fifteen minutes in duration.

If you would like to make a presentation, please fill out the "Call for Papers" form and e-mail it to Candice Potter, WLRA Co-chair (see contact details below). Please submit your form by **Friday, March 30**.

### Roundtable Discussions

The Spring Conference will continue to feature roundtable discussions. If there are topics you would like to discuss during the roundtables, please make sure to note them on your Conference Registration Form or contact Joel Clark directly.

### Vendor Reception

As with previous WLRA conferences, the San Diego conference will have a vendor reception hosted by our attending industry vendors. The reception will be held in the evening on **Wednesday, April 18**. As always, this is a great opportunity for attendees to catch up with colleagues from across the west, network with new providers and experts, and enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

### Contact Information

#### Conference Host:

Leslie Willoughby

(858) 654-1262

[LWilloughby@semprautilities.com](mailto:LWilloughby@semprautilities.com)

#### WLRA Co-chairs:

Joel Clark

(208) 388-5431

[jclark@idahopower.com](mailto:jclark@idahopower.com)

Candice Potter

(415) 369-1194

[cpotter@nexant.com](mailto:cpotter@nexant.com)