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Elliot Mainzer

Administrator

Elliot Mainzer was named Administrator in January 2014 but had served as Acting Administrator since July 2013. In that role, he is responsible for managing the nonprofit federal agency that markets carbon-free power from Columbia River hydroelectric dams and the region's one nuclear plant. BPA also operates most of the high-voltage power grid across the Pacific Northwest, distributing wind and other energy to the region and beyond.

From February to July of 2013, Mainzer served as BPA's acting deputy administrator, responsible for Finance, Strategy, Legal, Public Affairs, Risk Management, Compliance, Governance and Internal Audit functions. He also served as the principal policy and strategy adviser to the BPA administrator.

Mainzer, who joined BPA in 2002, has held a variety of management positions within the agency's Power, Transmission and Corporate organizations, including trading floor manager and manager of Transmission Policy and Strategy. Most recently, as executive vice president of Corporate Strategy, he led the agency's strategic planning process and provided policy leadership and cross-agency coordination on renewables integration, market design, climate change and integrated planning.

He has provided leadership and coordination of significant regional initiatives, including the Northwest Wind Integration Action Plan in 2007 and the Northwest Power Pool Members' Market Assessment and Coordination Initiative. Prior to joining BPA, Mainzer established and managed Enron's Renewable Power Desk out of its offices in Portland, Ore.

Mainzer earned his bachelor's degree in geography from the University of California, Berkeley. He has an MBA and Master of Environmental Studies degree from Yale University.

An avid hiker and amateur jazz saxophonist, he lives in Portland with his wife and twin sons.

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