

# Transmission Agency of Northern California

*invites your interest in the position of*

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a calm body of water in the foreground, with a sandy bank and tall grasses on the right. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky.

# General Manager



Recruitment Services Provided by  
Ralph Andersen & Associates

# Unique Opportunity for an Encore Career



A statewide recruitment is underway to identify top candidates (or private firms) to serve as the General Manager (via contract agreement) of a Joint Powers Authority that provides electric transmission to its Member Agencies. This is a unique opportunity to have an encore career working with a significant amount of autonomy yet contributing in a full-time capacity. This highly experienced individual (or firm) will draw both technical knowledge and experience from an accomplished career in the public or private sector as a utility manager or as an executive in city/county management with keen understanding of transmission delivery. This General Manager will also have outstanding facilitation and collaboration skills, be impartial and apolitical in the day-to-day dealings of services. This position requires the GM to be extremely hands-on in running the JPA in support of the Commission, oversight of contracts and agenda management. The provision of all benefits or staffing augmentation will fall under the contractual agreement. Interested parties should be aware that TANC is a non-CalPERS agency. The selected candidate (or firm) will work remotely. Commission and Committee meetings will be held in Northern California.





## TANC Background and Governing Structure

The Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC) is a joint powers agency established by a group of California publicly owned utilities in 1984. TANC's initial purpose was to plan, design and construct the California-Oregon Transmission Project (COTP), a 340-mile long, 500-kilovolt (kV) alternating current (AC) transmission line between the California-Oregon border and Central California. The COTP was completed and energized in 1993. For more details on COTP, click [here](#).

The Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC) is governed by a Commission consisting of one representative from each of its Member Agencies. The TANC Commission annually elects a Chair and a Vice Chair that serves as Secretary, from among its Commissioners.

TANC's General Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of TANC. This responsibility extends to all TANC's activities including management and oversight of contracts. The General Manager reports directly to the TANC Commission and receives policy guidance from the Commission. Annual budget is in excess of \$33 million.

## TANC *continued*

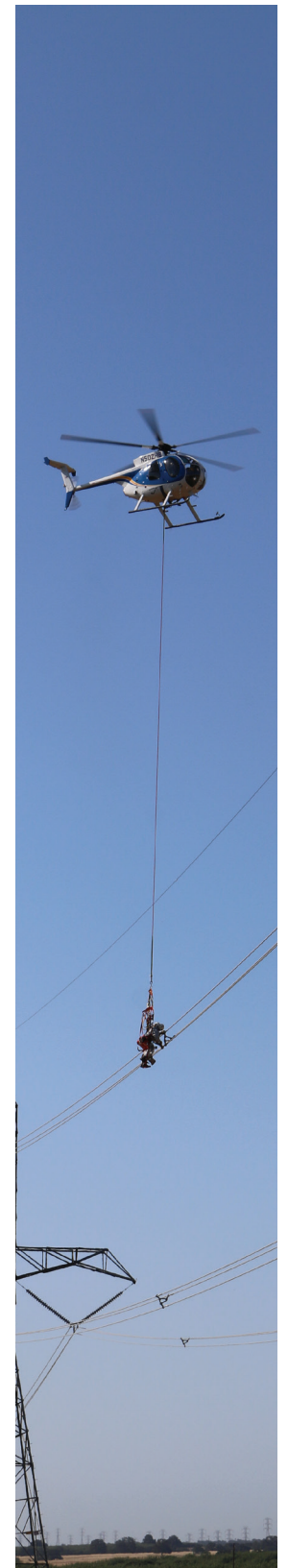
Today, TANC's primary purpose is to provide electric transmission to its Member Agencies through transmission line ownership or contractual arrangements. As the project manager for the COTP, TANC is responsible for its day-to-day operation and maintenance, and any potential upgrades to the line.

TANC's current Membership includes 15 publicly owned utilities. The cities of Alameda, Biggs, Gridley, Healdsburg, Lodi, Lompoc, Palo Alto, Redding, Roseville, Santa Clara, and Ukiah, as well as the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the Modesto Irrigation District and the Turlock Irrigation District are full members. The Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative is an Associate Member.

TANC is a member of West Connect, westTrans, and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). In addition, TANC is registered with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) as a Transmission Owner, Transmission Planner and Transmission Service Provider.

Commission meetings are currently held at 2377 Gold Meadow Way, Suite 280, Gold River, California 95670. In addition to monthly Commission meetings, TANC has an active committee structure including:

- **Audit/Budget Committee** – Reviews monthly reports highlighting the financial performance of the Agency. In addition, the Committee reviews the annual budget and assists in an annual audit.
- **Contracts Committee** – Reviews and provides recommendations to the TANC General Manager on contractual and regulatory matters impacting TANC, TANC Members, and TANC Assets.
- **Engineering & Operations (E&O) Committee** – Representatives of this Committee review the operations and maintenance activities on TANC-owned high-voltage electrical facilities including the California-Oregon Transmission Project.
- **Finance Committee** – Reviews and provides recommendations to the TANC General Manager regarding TANC's financial program. The Finance Committee works closely with TANC's Treasurer and financial advisors.
- **Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) Committee** – Reviews and provides recommendations to the TANC General Manager regarding the implementation of TANC's OATT and Open Access Same Time Information System (OASIS) activities.



# Members of TANC

TANC's current Membership includes 15 publicly-owned utilities.

## *Full Members*

The cities of

- Alameda
- Biggs
- Gridley
- Healdsburg
- Lodi
- Lompoc
- Palo Alto
- Redding
- Roseville
- Santa Clara
- Ukiah
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- Modesto Irrigation District, and
- the Turlock Irrigation District

## *Associate Member*

- The Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative



## Mission

*The mission of the TANC is to assist its publicly owned Member Agencies in providing cost-effective energy supplies to their customers, through long-term ownership or contracts for service over high-voltage transmission lines within California and the western United States.*



## History of TANC

In the 1980s, as California utilities looked to access abundant hydro-electric energy in the Pacific Northwest, TANC led a diverse group of public and private utilities and federal agencies in the planning, permitting and ultimately the construction of the COTP, a 340-mile long, 500-kV AC transmission line between Southern Oregon and Central California. TANC successfully obtained Congressional approval for federal participation in the COTP.

Following a decade-long development cycle, the COTP was energized and began commercial operations in March 1993, dramatically increasing the reliability of the Northern California electric grid and the amount of clean hydroelectric energy that can be imported into California. Since the start of commercial operation of the COTP, TANC has served as the Project Manager of the COTP, ensuring that this critical piece of California's energy infrastructure is well maintained and available for energy transfers between California and the Pacific Northwest.

In addition, TANC has made improvements to the COTP to assist TANC Members and neighboring utilities improve the load serving capability in Northern California. TANC is continually working with utilities throughout the Western United States to address electric reliability issues.

# The Ideal Candidate

The Ideal Candidate for this position will be an unbiased and collaborative leader with the ability to manage the service delivery of a transmission service provider. Importantly the GM will need to have a professional history that demonstrates the following key attributes and qualities in carrying out the responsibilities of this key role:

- ◆ Technical expertise in public utilities (preferably public power, alternative energy sources or other utility related areas);
- ◆ Solid business-minded management skills, embracing best business practices for a public utility;
- ◆ Knowledge of the laws, rules, and legislative processes controlling TANC's functions, programs, and operations;
- ◆ Ability to provide strong leadership to the policymakers in a fair and equitable fashion yet understanding the varying needs of the Member Agencies and how this impacts their decision-making and desired participation in short-term and long-term service delivery contracts;
- ◆ Provide oversight of agreements, contracts, cost-benefit analysis, and invoice processing that ensures appropriate controls are in place and monitored regularly;



## The Ideal Candidate *continued*

- Hands-on style that is comfortable with providing administrative support due to limited resources;
- Outstanding writing skills with the ability to draft, amend, and propose policy changes to the documents and amendments;
- Agenda management including meeting preparation and follow-up for Commission Meetings and Committee Meetings;
- Knowledge of when to seek legal advice and outside representation;
- Excellent public speaking skills with a clear and concise communication style; and
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with all Commission members.

## Qualifications of Interested Parties / Firms

The individual selected to be the GM through either self-employment or in a contracted capacity (LLC or private firm) will need to have the following experience and education to be considered:

**Experience:** This position requires progressively responsible executive-level management and administrative experience dealing with electric transmission and ideally more specific to addressing the needs of a transmission service provider. Current or prior California experience working directly with a public utility is strongly preferred including extensive knowledge of reliability compliance, California ISO, California Public Utility Commission, and other federal-level regulatory agencies (FERC, etc.). Experience overseeing work products and timely deliverables from consultants is expected including the ability to incorporate best business practices, judicious financial management and identify operational inefficiencies. Understanding the relationship with OASIS service provider will be very beneficial experience.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree is required. Advanced degree is a plus.



# Details of Contractual Arrangement

The TANC Commission will provide a contractual agreement with the selected individual (requires residency in Northern California) that will be structured in one of three ways:

- Directly contracting as a self-employed consultant (#1099)
- Creation of a new entity by the GM to provide the services (i.e., Limited Liability Corporation)
- Employment through a Third-Party entity (i.e., TANC member Agency or affiliated agency)

Important to note, TANC is not designated to have any direct employees or provide benefits. Interested parties should be aware that the JPA is not a CalPERS agency. Additionally, based on recent rulings in California, it is no longer advised for partner agencies (including JPAs) to rely on inter-agency MOUs and agreements due to retirement plan issues. For this reason, this contractual structure for engaging the TANC's General Manager is being sought.

This contractual arrangement for services will incorporate the following considerations:

- **Compensation:** An agreed upon hourly rate or annual amount will be paid to the selected individual ("Consultant") or independent entity as a consulting agreement. This hourly rate of pay or annual amount will be established upon final selection of the General Manager and will be dependent on qualifications (DOQ), career history, education, and other factors.
- **Benefits:** Entitled benefits due this position will be the responsibility of the "Consultant" either directly or through the Third-Party Contractor.
- **Annual Estimated Hours:** Estimated hours for the TANC engagement as General Manager are anticipated to be full-time (+/- 2,080 hours annually).
- **Term of the Contract Agreement:** The Commission is prepared to enter into an annual agreement to provide these services with a 60-day notification and termination clause for services rendered.
- **Employer/Employee Relationship:** The selected candidate will not be directly employed by TANC. Instead, the General Manager will be (1) a self-employed individual; (2) work through its Limited Liability Company (LLC) or other entity; or (3) work through a Third-Party Contractor (i.e. - Ralph Andersen & Associates or other designated private firm).



## Details *continued*

Interested candidates or firms should submit credentials for consideration by **Monday, January 6, 2025**. Electronic submittals should be sent to Ralph Andersen & Associates at: [apply@ralphandersen.com](mailto:apply@ralphandersen.com), and should include compelling cover letter and comprehensive resume. Submittals by a private firm need to designate the individual designated to be the lead consultant. No dual or co-sharing of the role will be considered. Private firms are advised to submit hourly billing rate and other considerations at the onset of interest.

Ralph Andersen & Associates will conduct the initial evaluation of submitted materials to determine the best overall match with the established criteria as outlined in this recruitment profile. Interviews with an Ad Hoc “Search Committee” will be scheduled in late January. Interviews with the full Commission (top 2-3 finalists) will be done in late February or early March. Ideally, the selected candidate will begin providing the contracted services at a mutually agreeable date.

The Commission of TANC is committed to an orderly transition of leadership for the newly selected General Manager and the Interim GM, Mr. John Roukema, will assist in a smooth transition.

Ralph Andersen & Associates will conduct an extensive background check including references of the individual or firm (LLC or private consulting firm) prior to the contract agreement being prepared. Confidential inquiries welcomed to Ms. Heather Renschler at (916) 630-4900. Or request an appointment time to discuss this opportunity further by sending an email to [scheduling@ralphandersen.com](mailto:scheduling@ralphandersen.com).

[www.tanc.us](http://www.tanc.us)