TULSA, OK – Scott Carpenter was named the new Administrator of the Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on November 19, 2015.

Mr. Carpenter has over 20 years of utility and architectural engineering consulting experience, including utility load and fuel price forecasting, transmission and generation planning, transmission congestion forecasting, and providing due diligence services for financial institutions related to overseas utility asset transactions.

Carpenter’s prior experiences have provided him with a broad knowledge of the utility industry. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University in 1992, he spent approximately seven years as a consultant at Black & Veatch, an architectural engineering firm in Kansas City, Kansas.

His work there, which involved both generation and transmission utility planning and providing utility asset due diligence services for banking institutions, took him to various places around the world, including Turkey, Botswana, and Australia.

In 2000, Carpenter moved with his family to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he worked for Williams Energy Marketing and Trading, providing analytical support for both structured transactions and the general power trading business. After leaving Williams, he joined Entergy Services, Inc., in Houston, Texas, where he assisted operations staff in transmission congestion forecasting, general operations planning, and evaluating long-term and short-term purchase power opportunities.

Carpenter began his career at Southwestern in 2005 as a Public Utilities Specialist, where his duties included interacting with Southwestern customers to provide for the sale of Federal power and other services, and with other utilities regarding transmission and operational issues.

In 2007, he was named Director of the Division of Customer Service (now Electric Power Marketing), where he supervised Public Utilities Specialists, directed Southwestern’s power marketing program, and supported Southwestern's program to fund capital replacements at the hydropower generation plants. After approximately two years in this role, Carpenter took on the challenge of running Southwestern's maintenance, engineering, and information technology groups when he was named Vice President of Corporate Facilities.
One of Carpenter's first challenges was leading the effort to restore power to nearly one third of Southwestern's interconnected customers following an ice storm in early 2009. He also mobilized Southwestern’s crews in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in late 2012, helping to restore power to thousands of New Jersey residents. He says he learned a lot from both experiences, and the teamwork that Southwestern staff displayed is one of the reasons that he's looking forward to being Administrator. "There are a lot of great people who work at Southwestern. We've got some of the best and brightest. I know I will get plenty of support."

When asked what his main direction will be, he says, "I plan to work closely with the Department, Southwestern's customers, and other stakeholders in the region to ensure that Federal power continues to provide economic and environmental benefits to the over eight million end users served by our customers."

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Southwestern Power Administration is an agency of the U.S. Department of Energy. Its mission is to market and reliably deliver Federal hydroelectric power with preference to public bodies and cooperatives. This is accomplished by maximizing the use of Federal assets to repay the Federal investment and participating with other water resource users in an effort to balance their diverse interests with power needs within broad parameters set by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and implementing public policy. Web site: http://www.swpa.gov.