TULSA, OK – Marshall Stefan Boyken has been named Vice President of Southwestern’s Office of Corporate Operations and Chief Operating Officer (COO), effective April 19, 2015. As Southwestern's new COO, Boyken succeeds Jim McDonald, who retired last year after 30 years with the agency.

Boyken began his Federal career in 1999 at the Tulsa District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he worked in the Reservoir Control Section and was actively involved in the day-to-day regulation of the District’s reservoirs. After two years, he transferred to the Military Design section as a Project Engineer, where he was involved with the engineering management of multiple vertical construction military projects.

In 2004, Boyken transferred to Southwestern as a Hydraulic Engineer in what is now the Division of Resources and Rates. His duties included analysis of hydropower operations and coordination of customer-funded maintenance projects at the Corps’ hydropower plants within Southwestern’s marketing area.

Following his promotion to Director of the Division of Electric Power Marketing in 2009, Boyken was instrumental in developing the Southwestern Customer Funding Initiative or SCFI, a long-term plan to keep Southwestern's generation assets available by systematically replacing major equipment at the power plants.

As the agency's COO, Boyken will have responsibility for day-to-day scheduling and dispatch, resource management, rate design and development, power marketing contracts, and implementation of transmission policy. He will oversee the Division of Scheduling and Operations, the Division of Resources and Rates, and the Division of Electric Power Marketing.

Boyken sees a tremendous amount of opportunity ahead. "The electricity industry is changing at a rapid pace," he says. "Our customers are adapting to those changes, and one huge aspect of my job will be to support them in doing that while working to keep the Federal hydropower resource valuable in the long-term."

When asked about some of the challenges Southwestern faces, Boyken cites several key areas. "We must maintain a sound transmission policy by promoting the Federal power mission while supporting regional transmission efforts; we must keep the generation and transmission assets available and reliable; and we must continue to watch our expenses to keep downward pressure on rates."
He says that, when it all comes down to it, it's really just about carrying out Southwestern's mission. "We market and deliver the Federal hydropower resource at the lowest possible cost according to sound business principles. If I can help Southwestern do that, then I've done my job."

Boyken holds both a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Oklahoma, and resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with his wife and two children.

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.