



# Development of the Office of Pacific Energy Regulators' Alliance

Presentation at PPA Conference to Board  
Members Workshop  
Nov 22, 2022



Pacific  
Community  
Communauté  
du Pacifique



## **Mr. Abraham Simpson**

### **Consultant/Project Implementation Officer**

Over 18 years with the FEA with experience ranging from Electrical Engineer to Executive Management – Planning & Design, operations, System Planning, performance management, Corporate Change Management.

Four years lecturing in Electrical Engineering @ Fiji Institute of Technology

Three years CEO of Land Transport Authority, Fiji

Four years CEO of Bligh Water Shipping Limited

Seven and a half years as CEO of Nauru Utilities Corporation

Consultant for 7 years in the energy, performance management and corporate change management.

#### **Presentation Topic:**

Regulatory Reform in the Pacific Islands: Update on Work of Office of Pacific Regional Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA)



# OPERA Membership

**OPERA is a regional organization for the Energy Regulators of the Pacific Islands housed within SPC. The membership comprises:**

- 1. Fiji Competition and Commerce Commission**
- 2. National Energy Authority of PNG**
- 3. Palau Energy & Water Administration**
- 4. Electricity Commission of Tonga**
- 5. Office of the Regulator of Samoa**
- 6. Utilities Regulatory Authority of Vanuatu**
- 7. Cook Islands represented by Infrastructure Cook Islands**
- 8. Kiribati represented by DOE, MISE**
- 9. Solomon Islands represented by DOE and Solomon power**

### Slide 3

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**d0** Team, let's fill this in together on Sunday. Easy enough -- we just pull from the business plan, but I'll want Abe's feedback on what really matters.

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## **OPERA Objectives**

- **OPERA will strengthen and enhance regional capacity in utility regulation in member countries**
- **OPERA will promote the independence, professionalism, accountability and visibility of national utility and energy regulators**
- **OPERA will develop its regional and international outreach and visibility with a communication strategy and action plan.**

# The Consulting Team



**Lorraine H. Akiba (Team Leader/Institutional Expert)** is a recognized thought leader with technical expertise and knowledge in renewable and clean energy policy and regulatory frameworks. Ms. Akiba was a commissioner on the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission which presides over all regulated public utility matters. She previously served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the Advisory Council to the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute.



**Paul Finn (PPP Expert)** is a banker, investor and consultant with 30 years' years of experience in energy and infrastructure finance. He has worked on energy projects across Asia-Pacific, South-East Asia, Middle East, North America, and Europe. Since 2019 he has advised the Solomon Island Government on financial and commercial matters relating to the Tina River Hydropower project.



**Denzel Hankinson (Tariff and Regulatory Expert)** is an economist with more than 20 years of experience advising multilateral lending banks, bilateral donors, regulatory entities, and private companies on matters related to energy infrastructure. He has led more than a dozen utility tariff studies and power sector financial analysis projects. Denzel is the founder of DHInfrastructure and directs the company's international work in the energy sector.



**Abraham Simpson (Power Expert)** is an electrical engineer with experience in the power utility operations in Fiji and Nauru, experience as Chief Executive in energy intensive industries such as Power generation, land transportation and shipping and training and capacity building lecturing experience at Fiji Institute of Technology

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**d0**      Everybody ok with their bios? Thanks to Paul for truncating!  
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## **Key Relationship**

**The relationship between the Power Utilities and the Regulators is going to be critical for the development of the Energy sectors going forward.**

**To ensure a beneficial relationship it is important that both parties understand that they have the same goal to provide an affordable, reliable and efficient service that benefits the country.**

**Any differences can be resolved by adopting this understanding as the basis for resolution. This reduces disputes to demonstrating greater benefits for the investments made and planned.**





## Key Challenges

- **The Countries SDG 7 targets**
  - Displacement of fossil fuels with Renewable energy
  - E-mobility
- **Service levels – reliability and affordability**
- **Image**



**Vinaka Vakalevu !!**