

## PLATTE RIVER POWER AUTHORITY CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER



Founded in 1975, Platte River Power Authority (Platte River) is a not-for-profit, community-owned public power utility that generates and delivers safe, reliable, environmentally responsible, and financially sustainable energy and services to its owner communities of Estes Park, Fort Collins, Longmont and Loveland, Colorado for delivery to their utility customers.

The Chief Technology Officer (CTO) serves as a member of the Senior Leadership Team and is a critical partner to help Platte River achieve its Resource Diversification Policy goal of a 100% noncarbon resource mix by 2030. The CTO will lead the successful transition and integration of needed information and operational technologies to accommodate resource diversification and technology advancement goals. In addition, the CTO manages all the organization's technology needs and will interface regularly with Platte River Power Authority's four community members as it relates to system integration and technology support.

The CTO reports directly to the GM/CEO and will have regular interface with the Board of Directors. He or she will manage a department budget over \$20 million and a team of approximately 60 individuals responsible for information technology, operational technology, integration of distributed energy resources, data governance, compliance with NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection, cybersecurity, data science, and fiber/telecommunications. In addition, the CTO will help the organization to establish a Project Management Office (PMO). Direct reports to the CTO include Director of Information Technology, Director of Operational Technology (a newly created and vacant position), and a Director of PMO (a newly created and vacant position).

### ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- The CTO partners with others on the Senior Leadership Team and members to define and execute the digital business strategy. He/she participates in and contributes to the assessment of external digital opportunities and cyber threats, and internal technology capabilities required to support business needs.
- The CTO leads the planning development and execution of enterprise-wide IT and OT strategy, plans, programs, and ensures its integration with the overall strategic business strategy, priorities, mission, and goals. He/she provides strategic oversight of enterprise architecture, application management, cybersecurity, project/program management, infrastructure, and analytics.
- The CTO supports the delivery, management, and deployment of all technology architecture, projects, cyber security, and capabilities required to support and improve operations, business performance and automation, and digital business transformation.

## ESSENTIAL DUTIES (continued)

- Drives innovation and strategic advantage. The CTO is pivotal in helping accomplish PRPA's mission, strategic priorities, operational objectives, and innovation based on integration of IT and OT to every part of the organization.
- Supports change initiatives providing structure, leadership, strategy, and oversight of Continuous Improvement programs to enhance organizational effectiveness and efficiency.
- Establishes active, transparent, and collaborative relationships with the Senior Leadership Team, business unit leaders, and other team members. Acts as a trusted advisor to ensure all leaders can make confident decisions about the application of information and technology within their units and across the organization.
- Partners with Human Resources to look for leading-edge and innovative solutions to the recruitment, development, and retention of the IT, OT and PMO workforce.
- Engages with utility peers and strategic vendors regarding IT/OT and system integration strategy, direction, and plans to align with best practices.
- Communicates risk management as it relates to technology direction, architecture, plans, and resources.
- Establishes a new PMO and oversees large O&M and Capital technology budgets supporting the organization.

## THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE

Qualified candidates must understand utility software and operational technologies at a detailed level. She or he should be able to identify market trends and understand how current and emerging applications are applied to meet changing utility business needs. Expertise and knowledge of PMO best practices is ideal, as is a proven ability to deliver technology projects in an efficient, effective, and timely manner.

Platte River requires a seasoned and accomplished leader and manager with a combination of technical knowledge, insight into technology trends and innovation, related integration of distributed energy resources (DER's), and most importantly, an ability to obtain desired results while empowering, coaching, and developing employees.

The CTO's cultural fit with Platte River's GM/CEO, Senior Leadership Team, employees, and owner communities is critical. He or she must be a proactive and transparent communicator who understands and embraces the need to work collaboratively across departments and functions.

Platte River requires a minimum of ten years of applicable and progressive leadership experience. In addition, qualified candidates must possess a bachelor's degree in business, information technology, engineering, or a related field. A master's degree in business, technology, engineering, or related fields is considered ideal.

Other required knowledge, skills and abilities include:

- Ability to provide vision and leadership and serve as a key contributor towards enabling PRPA's clean energy future. Ability to monitor development of emerging technologies in the utility industry, define requirements for technology implementations, and communicate them to key business stakeholders ensuring alignment of technology vision with corporate strategy.
- Ability to lead all information technology and operational technology functions, including vendor and system selection, software development and integration, enterprise-wide information technology program and project management, computer system operations and applications, end user service functions such as the help desk, desktop services, and user support, data center, technical standards and architecture design and development, business intelligence technology, and voice and data communication networks.

### THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE (continued)

- A collaborative and transparent interpersonal approach with his/her team, peers, the CEO/GM, the Board, and owner communities. The ability to promote, develop, and maintain a work environment which fosters individual and group accountability and responsibility for work issues, conflicts, and problems. Build and support an effective management team in his/her division and foster cooperative relationships with peer departments/divisions to ensure successful alignment on implementation of strategic initiatives.
- Executive experience that includes management of a professional and educated staff, as well as presentations and interface with a governing body such as a Board of Directors.
- Ability to develop, administer, and deliver on a division budget and ensure expenditures are within budgeted limits.
- Ability to evaluate staffing needs of the department and recommend increases and/or decreases to ensure an appropriate level of support for business initiatives. Conduct interviews and make staff selections that meet the organization's strategic plans and critical goals.
- Ability to develop a PMO and lead a governance model, in close cooperation with the Senior Leadership Team, to assure investments in IT/OT generate business value and mitigate the risks. Ensure key stakeholders have the necessary input into the decision-making process involved in application selection and deployment. Define and adjust IT/OT standards and technologies as needed to support the organization's objectives.
- Ability to establish strategic partnerships with key vendors and service providers and manage vendor and service provider relationships to ensure optimal outcomes for the organization. Optimize information service delivery via an appropriate mix of internal and external resources.

- Ability to define and implement metrics for the division based on overall organizational objectives.
- Ability to align divisional risk management with organization-wide risk management and provide leadership in development, monitoring and compliance with NERC CIP, cyber security, and other critical risk mitigation strategies.
- Ideal candidates will possess Project Management Professional, Governance of Enterprise IT, six sigma, or related certifications.

### PLATTE RIVER POWER AUTHORITY

As a not-for-profit, joint action agency (and political subdivision) of the state of Colorado, Platte River Power Authority is governed by an eight-person Board of Directors that brings unique and relevant expertise to the decision-making process. The Board includes the mayor (or a designee of the mayor) of each owner community. The other four Directors are appointed to four-year staggered terms by the governing bodies of the owner communities. The four appointed Directors are selected for judgment, experience and expertise that make them particularly qualified to serve as a director of an electric utility. Typically, these four directors are the utility managers of the owner communities.

Platte River employs 296 people and operates under the direction of a General Manager and CEO who serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The GM/CEO is the principal executive officer with full responsibility for planning, operations, and the administrative affairs of Platte River.





## PLATTE RIVER POWER AUTHORITY (continued)

Platte River's vision is to be a respected leader and responsible power provider improving the region's quality of life through a more efficient and sustainable energy future. Its mission is to safely provide reliable, environmentally responsible, and financially sustainable energy and services to the owner communities of Estes Park, Fort Collins, Longmont, and Loveland. It operates under the values of safety, integrity, service, respect, operational excellence, sustainability, and innovation.

Platte River's wholesale power rates are among the lowest in Colorado. Its peak load is 707 MW. Resources include coal and natural gas-fired generation, battery storage, allocations of federal hydropower, and solar and wind power purchase agreements for total nameplate capacity of 1,274 MW. Transmission assets include 27 substations and 806 miles of high-voltage lines. Platte River also owns and operates a 144-fiber ring that surrounds three of Platte River's owner communities: Longmont, Loveland, and Fort Collins, and a 72-fiber ring in Estes Park.

In 2022, Platte River's operating revenues reached \$257.25 million. Long-term debt is approximately \$122.7 million. Standard & Poor's and Fitch rate Platte River "AA" and Moody's rating is "Aa2." Platte River completed construction on its new headquarters building in 2020. More on Platte River can be found at: <http://www.prpa.org/>

**Platte River Power Authority is an Equal  
Employment Opportunity Employer**

## FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

Platte River's headquarters is in Fort Collins, the largest city in Northern Colorado with approximately 170,500 residents and host to Colorado State University. Fort Collins is approximately 60 miles north of Denver, nestled alongside the Cache La Poudre River at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The city ranks among the top cities by national magazines and organizations for its great schools, low crime, good jobs in the high-tech field, and fantastic outdoor recreational opportunities. At approximately 5,000 feet in elevation, Fort Collins has a semi-arid climate with approximately 300 annual days of sunshine. The estimated cost-of-living in Fort Collins is 115.7% of the national average with a median home value of \$544,900. For more information, please visit: <http://www.visitfortcollins.com/>.

## COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND RELOCATION

Platte River will negotiate a competitive base salary and relocation package, and will provide a full complement of fringe benefits that includes a 401(a) defined contribution plan, optional 457 deferred compensation plan, low-cost medical, dental and vision insurance options, generous leave programs including paid time off, sick leave, family leave, and a comp time program.

## TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter, no later than October 18, 2024, to: [jgallo@mfp LLC.us](mailto:jgallo@mfp LLC.us)

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