

**MGA Quarterly MID-GRID 20235 In-Person Meeting  
October 2-3, 2024 | Chicago, IL**

16 E. Pearson St. | Schreiber Center  
Water Tower Campus | Loyola University Chicago

**[Registration Link](#)**

**Day 1, Wednesday, October 2**

*Optional Tour:*

**9:00 am**      **Meet for optional tour of ComEd's Bronzeville Community Microgrid**  
*Bus transportation provided from TBD (hotel) location*

**9:20 am**      **Tour of Bronzeville Community Microgrid**

- Solar Generation Site at Dearborn Homes
- Bronzeville Renaissance Mural and Battery Storage
- Enchanted Rock Generation Site
- Illinois Institute of Technology, Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation

**11:30 am**      **Return to Meeting Location**

*Plenary Sessions Begin:*

**1:00 pm**      **Welcome and Introductions**

- [Jesse Heier](#), Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association (MGA)

**1:10 pm**      **Keynote Speaker – Community Engagement in Infrastructure Siting**

- [Cici Vu](#), Associate Director, Energy & Climate Equity, DNV Energy Insights USA Inc.

**1:50 pm**      **Panel Discussion – Community Voices in Energy**  
*Participants will hear from a variety of community and locally focused voices on how energy infrastructure affects people lives and communities. The panel will discuss their experiences with utilities and developers, the benefits infrastructure investment can bring to their communities, and the barriers to realizing that potential.*

- [Bradley Pischea](#), National Director, Land and Liberty Coalition
- [Jared Policicchio](#), Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer, City of Chicago

**3:15 pm**      **Break**

**3:30 pm**      **Panel Discussion – Lessons in infrastructure siting**  
*Siting infrastructure of any type is a complex undertaking that can often be met with push back from the public and the communities and individuals asked to host it. Different industries have*

*different tools and approaches to get projects built. This panel will explore similarities and differences between siting transmission lines, energy generation, and other energy-related infrastructure. Panelists will explore opportunities to improve transmission siting both from a regulatory process perspective and a public input and community benefits perspective.*

- [Dan Leshner](#), Transmission Permitting and Land Rights, Great River Energy

**4:50 pm**      **Guest Speaker**

**5:30 pm**      **Day 1 Wrap-up**

**5:45 pm**      **Reception**  
*Location TBD*

## **Day 2, Wednesday, October 2**

**8:15 am**      **Continental Breakfast Available**

**8:50 am**      **Day 2 Welcome**

**9:00 am**      **Panel Discussion – When Load Grows: Lessons in Minimizing Growing Pains**  
*For the first time in decades, electric demand is rapidly rising across nearly every corner of the country. Whether driven by increasing peak loads during extreme cold or heat, new data centers and manufacturing, or end use electrification, load is no longer a simple, consistent input into grid planning. Utilities and grid operators will discuss the reliability, resource adequacy, and cost implications of bringing new load onto the grid across the Midwest.*

- [Tricia DeBleekere](#), Executive Director, Organization of MISO States (OMS)
- Commissioner [Dennis Deters](#), Ohio Public Service Commission

**10:30 am**      **Break**

**10:45 am**      **Panel Discussion – Benefits and Tradeoffs of New Load Growth**  
*The dramatic uptick in electrical demand is a relatively new input into grid planning and public policy conversations. As the region’s generation mix changes dramatically, the introduction of new demand adds complexity to delivering a reliable and affordable supply of electricity to businesses and homes across the Midwest. The panel will explore questions of cost to connect and serve new loads, access to supply resources, and economic development benefits.*

- Commissioner [Hwikwon Ham](#), Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- [Sarah Moskowitz](#), Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board (Illinois)
- **Moderator:** [Benjamin Stafford](#), Senior Policy Manager, Great Plains Institute

**12:15 pm**      **Wrap Up and Adjournment**