

MID-GRID 2035 2.0 Quarterly Meeting – Kansas City Speaker Biographies

Chair Kayla Hahn, Missouri Public Service Commission

Chair Kayla Hahn was appointed to the Missouri Public Service Commission by Governor Michael Parson on June 1, 2023. Chair Hahn was appointed to a new six-year term on January 2, 2024. On February 6, 2024, she was named Chair of the Public Service Commission.

Prior to her appointment, Chair Hahn was on the Governor's senior staff team as Policy Director and had served as Senior Advisor and Policy Director for Governor Parson since August 2018.

As Policy Director, Chair Hahn helped lead the Governor's legislative agenda, prepare the Governor's annual budget recommendations to the General Assembly, implement the Governor's policy priorities across all 17 Executive Branch agencies, and spearhead the state's response to COVID-19. As a member of the senior staff, Chair Hahn also represented the State of Missouri on the Southern States Energy Board and the Midwestern Higher Education Commission.

Prior to her tenure in the Governor's office, Chair Hahn served as Assistant Director and Research Analyst for the Missouri Senate Division of Research from 2013 until 2018.

Chair Hahn received a Bachelor of Science in political science from Missouri State University and a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Chair Hahn and her family reside in Jefferson City, Missouri.

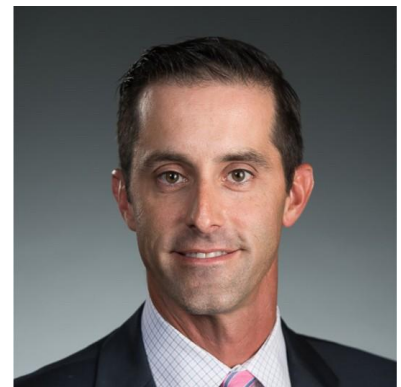


Zachary Gladhill, Evergy

As vice president, strategy and long-term planning, Zachary Gladhill partners with the executive team to develop and advance our corporate and business strategy and leads the development of the company's integrated resource plan, transmission and distribution planning and key cross-functional strategic initiatives.

Mr. Gladhill brings unique insights given his extensive experience in the utility industry. Prior to joining Evergy, Mr. Gladhill was the Director of Grid Innovation and Integration at OG&E (an investor-owned utility in Oklahoma). He began his career in the Generation area of the business as a Process and Maintenance Engineer. Over his 20-year tenure at OG&E he held several operational and project management leadership roles, including Plant Manager and Director, before transitioning to Distributed Energy Resource Director, and ultimately his most recent role leading large customer major projects, strategy, and innovation function.

Mr. Gladhill holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma Christian University, an MBA from Arizona State University and completed the Utility Executive Course at the University of Idaho.



Mr. Gladhill is dedicated to advancing the energy sector through strategic innovation and risk management, ensuring reliable and affordable energy solutions for all customers.

Tyler Huebner, Google

Tyler Huebner leads Google's Energy Market Development efforts in the Upper Midwest, helping the company grow data center and AI operations while pursuing Google's ambitious 24x7 carbon-free energy goals. Previously, Tyler spent four years as a Governor-appointed Commissioner at the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin where he regulated the state's electricity, natural gas, and water utilities, and supported an ambitious broadband expansion initiative. Tyler has also worked at ICF International, the U.S. Department of Energy, and spent seven years as Executive Director at RENEW Wisconsin.



Joshua Jefferson, Kansas Department of Commerce

Joshua Jefferson serves as the Deputy Secretary of Business Development for the Kansas Department of Commerce, where he oversees business attraction, retention, expansion, and strategic economic initiatives across the state. Jefferson leads a high-performing division focused on driving private sector capital investment, job creation, and fostering a business-friendly environment. His leadership spans diverse sectors, including aviation, advanced manufacturing, technology, and logistics and distribution, positioning Kansas as a hub for innovation and growth. With over 17 years of experience in economic development, commercial real estate, aviation management, and workforce development, Jefferson has established himself as a transformative leader. Notably, he played a pivotal role in attracting major aerospace projects to the Greater Phoenix Metro area, including Gulfstream Aerospace's West Coast Service Center and Virgin Galactic's Delta Class Spacecraft manufacturing facility in Mesa, Arizona. These projects significantly contributed to the region's economic vitality and reinforced its status as an aerospace industry leader.



Jefferson's expertise in workforce development, site selection, and strategic planning has made him a trusted advisor to businesses, government leaders, and community organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree in Urban Real Estate Planning from Arizona State University and has been recognized for his contributions to economic development through numerous awards and accolades. His dedication to cultivating long-term economic prosperity continues to make a lasting impact on Kansas and beyond.

Jason Klindt, Evergy

Jason Klindt is the Sr. Director of External Affairs for Evergy. In this role, Klindt has the primary responsibility for Evergy's policy and legislative agenda at the federal, state and local levels. He also oversees Evergy's economic development team working to attract and retain businesses in the Kansas and Missouri footprint. Klindt also manages the customer relationship with the utilities' largest 500 customers who bring in \$1.5 billion in revenue annually.

At Evergy, he has guided multiple pieces of legislation in Missouri and Kansas to the Governor's desk. Evergy has also been named a Top Utility



for Economic Development in 2023 and 2024 by Site Selection Magazine. Klindt is a member of the Board of Directors for the Missouri Chamber.

Prior to coming to Evergy in 2014, Klindt worked for Axiom Strategies, the largest campaign consulting firm in the nation. Klindt has consulted on Governor, Senate and House campaigns throughout the country. Previously, he served as U.S. Congressman Sam Graves (MO-6) Communications Director for a decade.

In addition to his duties at Evergy, Klindt is a member of the Northwest Missouri State University Board of Regents. He was appointed by the Governor and confirmed unanimously by the State Senate in 2018. In 2025, he was elected to the Kearney R-1 School Board. Klindt lives in Kearney, MO with his wife (Nichole) and their two children (Jacoby and Josephine).

Tom Lewis, BlueGreen Alliance

Tom Lewis is a Federal Policy Manager for Manufacturing and Industrial Policy at the BlueGreen Alliance, where he works with the industrial and federal teams, focusing on new investments in clean manufacturing and industrial transformation.

Tom joins BGA from Advanced Energy Economy (AEE). While at AEE, he worked with the federal policy team, clean energy businesses, and allies to advocate for passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, increased funding for the Defense Production Act, and robust implementation of clean manufacturing programs.



Prior to AEE, Tom worked at the Rural Health Network of South Central New York, where he led food system, rural development, and anti-hunger efforts. Tom was also the first intern for the Sierra Club's Labor and Economic Justice Program, where he explored the intersection of economic, racial, and environmental injustices and worked with labor movement partners to push for an equitable transition to a clean economy that supports good union jobs.

Tom graduated from Binghamton University, where he earned a Master of Public Administration and undergrad degrees in Political Science and Economics.

George Damian, Clean Energy Economy MN

George graduated from William Mitchell College of Law (now Mitchell Hamline School of Law) with his J.D. after earning his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. After graduating, he worked on various Minnesota statewide, congressional, and local political campaigns before spending five years serving in the communications department in the Minnesota House.

He has worked as the Director of Government Affairs for Clean Energy Economy MN since January 2022. During that time, CEEM has been a key figure in passing Minnesota's Carbon Free by 2040 law, facilitating permitting reform for clean energy and transmission projects, and establishing Minnesota Energy Alley – an initiative aimed at realizing Minnesota's potential as a hub for clean energy business innovation.



George lives in the South Metro with his wife and two daughters. When not working, from April to October, you are equally likely to see him at Target Field, hacking his way around a golf course, taking his daughters to Valleyfair, or picking up sticks in his yard.

David Mindham, EDP Renewables

David Mindham brings several years of experience in transmission and energy markets. David is presently the Director of Regulatory & Market Affairs EDP Renewables. In that role, he oversees a team covering RTO and regulatory strategy for North America. He also coordinates with FERC, DOE, NARUC, and various trade associations. Before his current role, he has held positions in RTO strategy, FERC strategy, and transmission planning at ITC Holdings Corp. He has successfully negotiated interconnection agreements that have brought more than 3 GW of resources online throughout North America. He has broad experience in engineering, policy, and economics.



David's areas of interest include renewable generation interconnection, transmission expansion, energy markets, new power-related research and development, and energy policy.

Adam McKinnie, Missouri Public Service Commission

Adam McKinnie has worked for the Missouri Public Service Commission since April 2002. He has worked in fields including telecommunications, demand side programs, and resource planning. Since 2008 he has served the Commission working on federal electric issues, including working with Southwest Power Pool and MISO. Adam serves as Missouri's representative on the SPP Cost Allocation Working Group, is the SPP RSC Liaison to the Seams Advisory Group, and serves as the co-chair on the Organization of MISO States Seams Working Group. Adam has a bachelor's degree in English and Economics from Truman State University and a Masters in Economics from the University of Illinois. When not trying to address seams issues, Adam travels to compete in pinball tournaments and greatly enjoys the company of his partner, Sunshine, and their two cats.

Clint Savoy, Southwest Power Pool

Clint Savoy is the Manager of Interregional Strategy and Engagement at Southwest Power Pool (SPP), and is responsible for building, developing, and maintaining SPP's relationships with neighboring organizations and managing peer-to-peer coordination efforts in SPP's planning, operations, and markets functions. With 19 years of experience in the industry, all of which have been on various teams within SPP, he approaches each interaction with a spirit of cooperation as an acknowledgement that the issues facing those involved in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity today will not be solved unless we – the local and regional utilities, RTO/ISOs, state and federal governments and utility regulators, and the ratepayers – all work together.



Benjamin Stafford, Great Plains Institute (GPI)

Benjamin Stafford joined the Great Plains Institute in 2024 as senior policy manager for the Energy Systems program. Benjamin leads work on utility regulatory innovation and transmission deployment.

Benjamin brings over 20 years of experience in the energy industry to GPI. Most recently, he provided strategy consulting to address regulatory and business model challenges to a clean energy transition. Benjamin's past clients include investor-owned electric and gas utilities, environmental interest groups, and federal and state agencies. Benjamin also has worked extensively in government affairs, advocating for legislative and regulatory policy changes. Benjamin also brings experience in state regulation of public utilities.



Tim Burdis, PJM Interconnection

As director of state policy solutions, Burdis manages a team of professionals who endeavor to harmonize emerging state electricity policies with wholesale market design and transmission system planning policies. His organization specifically focuses on: offshore wind development; clean energy development; resource adequacy evolution; grid modernization; and, grid security maintenance.

Before his current post, Burdis served as the business operations manager to PJM's General Counsel / Senior Vice President of Law, Compliance and External Relations. Here he managed a portfolio on matters relating to corporate governance, regulatory filings, development of policy and messaging, long-term corporate strategy and the day-to-day management of the executive office.

Prior, Burdis served as manager of policy analysis & strategy, managing a team of economists focused on the outreach and strategy development for state government engagement; focusing on policy assessment, market design and transmission planning. Additionally, he managed PJM's engagement with the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI) and its interaction with the company's Executive Team and Board of Managers.

Burdis started his career as an engineer working in PJM's markets and operations divisions. He is a graduate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and holds a Master of Science in Engineering from West Virginia University.



Jake Dubbs, Southwest Power Pool (SPP)

Jake Dubbs leads SPP's Government Affairs outreach and engagement efforts for the expanding western footprint. With Government Affairs being part of the External Affairs and Communications team, Jake is highly knowledgeable on the complex make-up of stakeholders that encompass SPP's vast 14 state footprint across the central US. This number is poised to grow soon as SPP will be the first RTO to operate in both the eastern and western interconnection through SPP's RTO West. In addition to Government Affairs, Jake also serves as SPP's advisor on Tribal relations and Tribal energy engagement



As a senior external affairs liaison, Jake proactively works with government officials and stakeholders to brief them on the intricacies of integrated marketplace mechanics, balancing area authority responsibilities, emergency communication coordination, and key regulatory and legislative dynamics. Jake joined SPP after nearly 4 years in the power marketing division of WAPA (a Federal Power Marketing Administration that joined SPP in 2015) where he focused on hydropower allocation policy, stakeholder engagement, transmission and interconnection contracts, and Tribal affairs.

Jake earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law, where he specialized in Public Interest Law and Native American Affairs. He also earned his Bachelor of Arts at the University of Miami, making him a proud double Cane. He resides in Spokane, Washington with his wife Courtney and their many thriving plants.

Kari Valley, Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)

As Senior Director for State Policy and Strategy at MISO, Kari works closely with state and federal regulators and policymakers in the MISO footprint to align MISO's initiatives with state and federal policies. Kari manages a team of policy professionals that address issues related to markets, system planning and operations.

Prior to her current role, Kari served as Managing Assistant General Counsel for MISO where she represented the organization before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal on issues related to transmission system planning, generator interconnection, and resource adequacy. Before joining MISO, Kari served as Assistant General Counsel for Xcel Energy, representing the Company before multiple state and federal regulatory authorities and appellate courts. Kari began her legal career as an Assistant Attorney General for the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General representing the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.



Education: Hamline University (B.A.), University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs (M.A.) and University of Minnesota Law School (J.D.)

Chairperson Andrew French, Kansas Corporation Commission

Andrew French was appointed to the Kansas Corporation Commission by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly in 2020. In 2024, he was reappointed to a second four-year term. French is Kansas's representative to the Southwest Power Pool and regularly participates in SPP stakeholder groups, including the Regional State Committee. He served as President of SPP's RSC in 2023. French also served as a member of FERC's Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission for its full duration from 2021 to 2024. Before his appointment to the KCC, French practiced law with a focus on energy policy and the regulation of utility rates and services. He represented a broad spectrum of energy stakeholders, including large industrial energy customers, school districts, and a natural gas utility company. Prior to his work in private practice, French was a staff litigation attorney with the KCC. Commissioner French has a degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Kansas and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kansas School of Law.



Mike Hamlin, ITC Holdings

Mike Hamlin is the Manager of Generator Interconnections for ITC Holdings Corp. In this role, he is responsible for generator interconnections in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region. His responsibilities include generator interconnection agreements, policy expertise and advocacy, and customer relations.

During Mike's 19-year tenure at ITC, he has worked on various facets of planning the transmission grid as an SME in system modeling, data management, and load interconnections. He also has served as a project manager on ITC's capital projects team.



He holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Michigan Technological University.

Brad Pope, Organization of MISO States (OMS)

Brad Pope joined the Organization of MISO States in June of 2022 following six and a half years with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. At the IURC, Brad served as an Administrative Law Judge and, in an earlier role, as an Assistant General Counsel focused on regional and federal energy issues. Brad earned a law degree from the Indiana University McKinney School of Law with a Certificate in Energy & Environmental Law and a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Purdue University.



Beth Soholt, Clean Grid Alliance

As Executive Director of Clean Grid Alliance, Beth Soholt brings more than 20 years experience working with the electric industry in various capacities. At CGA she directs work in the areas of technical/transmission planning, state regulatory proceedings, legislative education and outreach. She holds a seat on the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) Advisory Committee representing the Environmental Sector. She was also selected as one of three NGO representatives on the Stakeholder Steering Committee of the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative.



Beth holds a law degree from Hamline University Law School, St. Paul, Minnesota, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa.