

## **Grid Security and Modernization: Hardening the Midwestern Grid**

**University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee | Conference Center | Room 7970  
161 West Wisconsin Avenue | Milwaukee, WI 53203**

**October 30-31, 2017  
DRAFT AGENDA**

### **October 30 – Day 1**

- 1:00 pm**      **Welcome and Introductions**  
Jesse Heier, Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association  
Mike Gregerson, Consultant, Midwestern Governors Association
- 1:15 pm**      **Transmission Companies and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) Planning for the Future**  
*There are many competing interests and stakeholders in determining how RTO's and transmission companies do their planning to determine projects and spending for a system that's expected to work all the time and support an evolving generation mix. This panel will help attendees understand the emerging challenges RTOs and transmission companies face to build a reliable and resilient grid in the face of changing risks and expectations for the system.*  
David Boyd, Vice President, Government & Regulatory Affairs, MISO  
Tom Finco, Vice President, External Affairs, American Transmission Company  
Tom Vitez, Vice President of Planning, ITC Holdings  
  
**Moderator:** Kyle Neidermire, Manager, Regional Transmission Initiatives, Xcel Energy
- 2:30 pm**      **State Utility Commissioner panel: Challenges for Regulators on determining proper response to grid hardening/ modernization/resiliency for electric utilities and customers.**  
*Determining technology and system needs for the distribution and transmission systems of the future that will incorporate customer needs, distributed energy resources and improved reliability while maintaining reasonable rates.*  
Commissioner Ellen Nowak, Chair, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin  
Commissioner John Tuma, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
Commissioner Nick Wagner, Iowa Utilities Board  
  
**Moderator:** Ann McCabe, Independent Consultant
- 3:45 pm**      **Break**
- 4:00pm**      **Panel Discussion: How Can We Balance Technological Advancements While also Meeting Customer Needs?**  
*Determining technology and system needs for the distribution and transmission systems of the future that will incorporate customer needs, distributed energy resources and improved reliability while maintaining reasonable rates.*  
Brian Amundson, Director, Grid Modernization, Xcel Energy  
Gordon Pietsch, Director, Transmission Planning and Operations, Great River Energy  
  
**Moderator:** Matt Prorok, Policy Associate, Electric Grid Project
- 5:00 pm**      **Discussion: Better Disaster Planning for Major Weather Events**  
*We will explore lessons learned and preparations being made to better withstand future weather events that can have terrible consequences for our electrical grid.*  
Greg Engle, Director, Bureau of Planning and Preparedness at Wisconsin Emergency Management
- 5:45 pm**      **Day 1 Wrap-Up/Adjourn**  
Mike Gregerson, Consultant, Midwestern Governors Association
- 6:15 pm**      **Evening Reception**

## **October 31 – Day 2**

- 7:30 am**      **Continental Breakfast Available**
- 8:00 am**      **Day Two Preview**  
Mike Gregerson, Consultant, Midwestern Governors Association
- 8:15 am**      **Guest Speaker: What Have We Learned to Help Us Improve the Most Incredible Technology Creation in Modern History: The Electricity Grid?**  
*From FERC Order 888 in 1996 to the Northeast Blackout in 2003 to the USDOE Grid Report in 2017*  
Alison Silverstein, Independent Consultant
- 9:15 am**      **Panel Discussion: What University Campuses are Doing with Grid Hardening, CHP, and Microgrids?**  
*This panel will discuss the use of technology and decision processes universities in the Midwest have used to keep their large campuses energy wise and always working. We'll explore how these universities can provide some lessons learned for other parts of our region.*  
Cliff Haekfe, Director, Energy Resources Center (ERC), University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) & Director, U.S. DOE Midwest CHP Technical Assistance Partnership  
Bob Lasseter, Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Jerome Malmquist, Director of Energy Management, U of Minnesota  
  
**Moderator:** Sacha Kathuria, Energy and Environmental Consultant
- 10:15 am**      **Break**
- 10:30 am**      **Guest Speaker: How Future Changes to the Generation Mix Will Affect Reliability and Resiliency of the Electricity Grid?**  
*The U.S. Department of Energy and our national labs are working hard to ensure the electric grid remains reliable and resilient. As the generation mix continues to change over time, how do these federal entities see this change affecting reliability?*  
Jeff Dagle, PE, Chief Electrical Engineer, Electricity Infrastructure Resilience, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- 11:15 am**      **Panel Discussion: Cybersecurity and the Electric Grid**  
*This panel will discuss the current state of cybersecurity for the grid and important issues that utilities and regulators should be paying attention to. It will help attendees understand the evolving nature of cybersecurity threats our industry faces, and how FERC and others are leading the way to meet this challenge head on.*  
Rhonda Dunfee, Security Group Manager, Division of Reliability Standards and Security, Federal Electric Regulatory Commission (FERC)  
Nate Evans, Lead, Cyber Operations, Analysis, & Research Global Security Sciences, Argonne National Laboratory  
  
**Moderator:** Michael McElfresh, Adjunct Professor of Electrical Engineering, Santa Clara University
- 12:15 pm**      **Discussion on Next Steps**  
Mike Gregerson, Consultant, Midwestern Governors Association
- 12:30 pm**      **Adjourn Meeting**

The Midwestern Governors Association thanks the meeting's co-hosts for their assistance:



For more information, please visit [www.midwesterngovernors.org/t7.htm](http://www.midwesterngovernors.org/t7.htm).