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## MGA MID-GRID & MGA-OMS Transmission Summit

April 29, 30 and May 1 (Tour), 2024  
Treasure Island Resort | 5734 Sturgeon Lake Rd, Welch, MN 55089

### Day 1, Monday, April 29

**12:00 pm** Assemble for trip to **Tour Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

**12:10 pm** Arrive at **Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

**12:20 pm** **Tour Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**  
\*Limited capacity – priority will be given to state participants\*

*Tour Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station for a tour and discussion session with plant operators and representatives from the Prairie Island Native American on the reinvestments recently made into the plant and surrounding community.*

**2:50 pm** **Depart from Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

**3:00 pm** **Formal Meeting Welcome**  
\*Treasure Island Resort Wacouta Room

- [Jesse Heier](#), Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association
- Grant Johnson, President, Prairie Island Tribal Council

**3:10 pm** **Keynote Address: Xcel Energy**  
*Xcel Energy speaker will present on the role of nuclear energy in reliability, resource adequacy, and carbon constraints.*

- [Ryan Long](#), President, Xcel Energy Minnesota, North Dakota & South Dakota

**3:50 pm** **Panel Discussion: State Perspectives on Grid Reliability Attributes**

- *As the generation fleet changes, the physical characteristics and risks to the grid change. A growing topic of discussion in the industry is the potential needs and solutions to address evolving grid risk including the ability to meet electric demand in all conditions, ramp up or down production when needed, and maintain voltage and frequency when faced with disturbances. Experts will discuss how states are working with their RTOs to address these needs.*
- Justin Grady, Deputy Director, Utilities Division, Kansas Corporation Commission
- Commissioner [John Tuma](#), Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- [Claire Vigesaa](#), Executive Director, North Dakota Transmission Authority

**5:10 pm Day 1 Wrap-Up**

**5:30 pm Evening Reception**

**Day 2, Tuesday, April 30**

**8:00 am Continental Breakfast**  
\*Served in Chief Wabasha Room

**8:40 am Day 2 Welcome**

**8:50 am Panel Discussion:**  
*Grid reliability, resource adequacy, accreditation, and evolving reliability needs – What’s happening around the region and the country? The electric power industry is experiencing a changing generation resource mix, increased impacts from severe weather, and increasing demand for electricity. Experts will discuss industry trends and how resource accreditation, risk assessment, and other planning processes are being reformed to address these challenges.*

- [Jordan Bakke](#), Director – Strategic Insights and Assessments, MISO
- Jeff Eddy, Director of Planning, ITC Holdings
- [James Okullo](#), Director of System Planning, ESIG
- *Moderator:* [Conor McKenzie](#), Energy Systems Policy Associate, Great Plains Institute

**10:10 am Break**

**10:25 am Panel Discussion: Solutions in the Short-Term: Deploying Grid Technologies to Boost System Capacity**

*As Midwestern states seek to tackle reliability challenges, policymakers, grid operators, and utilities should consider the near-term cost savings and other benefits grid-enhancing technologies (GETs) and high-performance conductors (HPCs) can deliver across the region. A recent study from RMI found that deploying GETs in five PJM states could save more than \$1 billion annually by 2030 through enabled low-cost, clean generation. Experts will discuss that study's results, Midwestern case studies focused on reforms that will increase the use of GETs and HPCs, federal funding opportunities, and state policies to incentivize deployment of these technologies.*

- [Brad Pope](#), Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Organization of MISO States
- [Temujin Roach](#), Senior Director - Transmission Policy, EDF Renewables
- [Julia Selker](#), Executive Director, WATT Coalition
- [Zach Zimmerman](#), Research and Policy Manager, Grid Strategies

**11:45 am Lunch**  
\*Served in Chief Wabasha Room

- 12:45 pm**      **Keynote Address: Grid United HVDC Capacity Value Analysis**
- [Will Harrop](#), Director of Commercial Analytics, Grid United
- 1:25 pm**      **Improving Transmission Siting Processes and Outcomes**
- Most forward-looking studies of electric transmission needs in the US point out the considerable benefits of increased regional and interregional transmission. However, as the region's RTOs are planning and constructing these projects, the demands of state siting authorities are going to increase rapidly. State panelists will discuss how their agencies are gearing up, including process improvements, innovative siting solutions, and federal funding support.*
- **Nate Burnand**, Analyst: Strategic Operations Division, Michigan Public Service Commission
  - Vice-Chair [Joe Sullivan](#), Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- 2:45 pm**      **Break**
- 3:00 pm**      **Panel Discussion: Transmission Planning Outside the MGA Footprint**
- The need for transmission and the processes through which it is planned are different across the country. Yet, they all rely on effective state collaboration. Participants will share perspectives on transmission planning, coordination with RTOs, cost allocation, and needed support for state energy offices and regulators.*
- [Lisa Barrett](#), Director, Advanced Energy United
  - Chair [Philip Bartlett](#), Maine Public Utilities Commission
  - *Moderator:* Commissioner [Marcus Hawkins](#), Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
- 4:20 pm**      **Panel Discussion: Nuclear Power as Part of the Energy Transition**
- Nuclear Energy is part of our current generation mix and likely will be so long into the future. Members of this panel will discuss the current state of nuclear energy and nuclear waste in the Midwest including the status of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act which requires the removal of spent fuel from all the commercial power plants.*
- [Ron Johnson](#), Tribal Council Vice-President, Prairie Island Indian Community
  - [Katrina McMurrian](#), Executive Director, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition
  - [Pam Gorman Prochaska](#), General Manager, Nuclear Fleet Operations Policy, Planning & Partnerships, Xcel Energy
  - *Moderator:* **Heather Westra**, Consultant, Prairie Island Indian Community
- 5:40 pm**      **Day Wrap-Up**
- 6:00 pm**      **Evening Reception**

**Wednesday, May 1 – Possible Second Tour Based on Need**

**9:10 am Assemble for trip to Tour Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

**9:20 am Arrive at Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

**9:30 am Tour Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant**

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