



THE CURRENT

Fall 2024



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AEIC Leadership

CEO Corner

The devastation we've experienced from the recent hurricanes reminds us how fragile our built infrastructure is when faced with the forces of extreme weather. Our thoughts and prayers are with the hundreds of rescue workers helping in the recovery efforts. We especially applaud the heroic efforts of the hundreds of our utility workers that continue to work around the clock to restore power to homes and businesses.

Many of our member companies were severely impacted and had crews working around the clock to restore power and rebuild damaged infrastructure while focusing intently on keeping both customers and crew members safe. Many more of our member companies, from unaffected regions, sent personnel and equipment to assist in the mutual aid response.



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Our efforts behind the scenes to provide electricity 24/7/365 to millions of people—no matter where and when they need it—is often taken for granted. When a storm or wildfire hits, customers expect utility crews to restore power in a few hours to a grid that has taken decades to build.

At our recent 140th Annual Meeting, several of the speakers challenged us to do a better job of defending our reputation and explaining the value of having a nearly perfect electricity delivery system. Our grid is extremely reliable and resilient and we should not allow it to be so easily discounted or taken for granted.

This year's theme for the Annual Meeting was "Champions for Change" and each one of our speakers and panelists did a great job of reinforcing that theme and how it applies to our industry; challenging us to embrace the changes and create the solutions we need for the future. Unprecedented growth in customer demands, the emphasis on cleaner and more diverse power generation, and the increasing wrath of "Mother Nature" due to extreme climate change were just a few of the leading topics on our agenda.

We were all inspired by this year's ten AEIC Annual Achievement Award winners. We heard from project leaders who are using technology and artificial intelligence to better inspect and repair faulty or aging equipment on the grid, predict environmental impacts, identify and prevent potential future outages, analyze and improve outage response, and more.

These innovative, award-winning projects are enabling safer and more optimized operations that not only address today's critical challenges but also allow us to focus our attention ahead to a next generation grid. You can read about them on [our website](#) and in the [October issue of Public Utilities Fortnightly](#).

As you will see from the articles and information in this newsletter, there is a lot happening at AEIC. I encourage you to explore the work of our committees and to participate in one or more upcoming meetings. Please take a few minutes to check out AEIC's new [Center for Operational Excellence](#) and the Large Fleet Electrification Workshop coming up in January, and to think ahead about registering for our 141st Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC on November 4-6, 2025.

Steve

Our 2025 Executive Committee



PRESIDENT
Robert Sanchez
President of Shared Services
Con Edison



1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Jim Heilbron
SVP, Technical Shared Services
Southern Company



2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Ben Felton
EVP and COO
Portland General Electric



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Steve Hauser
AEIC



PAST PRESIDENT
Heather Rivard
SVP, Transmission & Distribution
Southern California Edison Co.

Our New Board Members



Dave Ball
SVP, Energy Delivery
American Electric Power



Scott Batson
SVP and Chief Power Grid Officer
Duke Energy



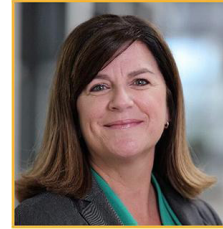
Paul Chodak
COO
Eversource



Orville Cocking
SVP, Electric Operations
NIPSCO



Bill Hetherington
CEO and GM
Bandera Electric Cooperative



Stephanie Raymond
President & CEO
Central Hudson
Gas & Electric

To learn more about AEIC's leadership, go to aeic.org/aeic-leadership.

Annual Meeting Recap



Thank you for attending AEIC's 140th Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs!

We had a great turnout with over 250 attendees from 48 member companies. Your participation helped make it a great success. If you have not done so already, please give us your feedback so we can make next year's meeting even better.

TAKE OUR BRIEF SURVEY



2024 Achievement Award Winners



President's Awards



EDISON
AWARE
(Advanced Waveform
Anomaly REcognition)



EVERSOURCE
ENERGY
Digital Transformation
for T&D Inspections

Achievement Awards

Avangrid

Sparky - the Avangrid Robot



Dominion Energy

Automatic Misgrid Corrections



Eversource

Revolutionizing Reliability through
AI-Driven Outage Predictions



Exelon Corporation

Integrating AI Models and Synthetic Image Data for
Enhanced Asset Inspection and Defect Identification

Virtual Instructor for CSR Training and
Optimized Responses (VICTOR)



Oncor Electric Delivery

Grid Echo



San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Climate Intelligence Platform
Wildfire Next Generation System (WiNGS)





Committee Updates

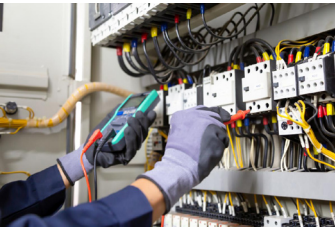
Highlighting Past Committee Meetings

AEIC committees bring together leadership across the member utilities to address key challenges and opportunities in generation, transmission, distribution, storage, safety, and customer service. Our focus is on operational excellence—sharing best practices, technical advances, and collaborative solutions that create a secure energy future for all.



Electric Power Apparatus Committee (EPAC)

Siemens Energy hosted EPAC's meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. The committee engaged in conversations promoting communication between utilities and manufacturers to ensure quality power apparatus aligns with utility needs. In addition to the engaging presentations and discussions during the day, EPAC members toured the NASCAR Hall of Fame and enjoyed a dinner and reception.



Load Research & Analytics Committee

The LR&A committee members attended the AEIC & WLRA's 2024 Annual Load Research & Analytics Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Members discussed topics of interest such as load customer energy usage, utility regulation, and electric vehicles.



Power Delivery Committee

Arizona Public Services hosted the Power Delivery Committee's meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Members explored improvements to electric power delivery, assessing technological, economic, and operational impacts.



Power Generation Committee

AEIC's Power Generation Committee met in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Members discussed safety and technological advances in power generation, covering fossil, renewable, and large-scale distributed resources.



Cable Engineering Committee

AEIC's Cable Engineering Committee hosted its 2024 Fall Meeting in Bonita Springs, Florida. Members discussed technical specifications, quality, and new developments in underground cables.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

If you're interested in contributing to industry-leading discussions and projects, our committees are always eager to welcome fresh perspectives from engaged members. To get involved, reach out to us at aeic@aeic.org, and we'll connect you with the committee leadership.



Distributed Energy Resources Subcommittee (DER)

November 12th-13th

Hosted by Luma
San Juan, Puerto Rico
La Concha Renaissance San Juan Resort



Safety Subcommittee

November 20th-21st

Hosted by Ameren
Ameren Illinois HQ



AEIC's Center for Operational Excellence



AEIC's Center for Operational Excellence Receives Three-Year DOE Grant Award

AEIC's recently launched Center for Operational Excellence has received a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in partnership with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to improve electric distribution system planning Practices.

The objective of this work is to provide AEIC's members and the larger industry with streamlined, engaging, and practical methods for accessing, understanding, and implementing key information and industry best practices. This initiative aims to enhance decision-making, ensure more effective operational coordination, and drive actionable results in utility management.

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AEIC will host a series of six Critical Action Forum workshops over a three-year period dedicated to developing overarching strategic goals around integrated system planning and operations. These Forums will aim to drive open discussion and collaboration between utilities and industry to identify solutions and share 1) Lessons Learned, 2) Gaps & Challenges, 3) Improvement Opportunities, 4) Concerns and other topics of Interest.

From these workshops, the Ops Center will produce summary workshop reports and findings, develop peer-reviewed white papers with member engagement, and facilitate further working sessions with the industry to close identified gaps.

To learn more about the Ops Center, visit <https://aeicopscenter.org/>.

Upcoming Workshops

Data Center Connections Workshop

January 22nd-23rd, 2025

Powering the Data Revolution: Connecting Data Centers to the Grid

It's no secret that data centers put an immense strain on the grid. As they grow in size, importance, and complexity, ensuring their seamless connection to the grid requires careful planning. This workshop will explore the best practices for integrating data centers with electrical infrastructure.

As part of this workshop, you'll also learn how the Integrated System Planning framework helps balance the unique challenges of data center connections with overall grid stability. Sign up now to learn how to optimize data center connections while ensuring grid resilience and supporting future growth.

Workshop Focus Areas

- Challenges in connecting data centers to the grid efficiently.
 - Ensuring reliability and resilience in data center connections.
 - Future-proofing data center integration with system modernization efforts.
-

Fleet Electrification Workshop

Date/Location TBD

Electrifying Fleets for a Sustainable Future

With transportation moving towards a zero-emissions future, fleet electrification is a key priority for utilities and organizations. It's a critical component of integrated system planning, ensuring that utilities are equipped to handle the demands of a growing fleet of electric vehicles while maintaining grid reliability and performance.

This workshop will focus on the strategic planning needed to support fleet electrification efforts. Join us to explore the roadmap for fleet electrification and how your organization can lead in this critical transition.

Workshop Focus Areas

- Understanding infrastructure needs for large-scale fleet electrification.
 - Aligning fleet electrification projects with grid modernization goals.
 - Challenges and solutions for accelerating fleet electrification timelines.
-

Data and Communication Strategy Workshop

February 25th-26th, 2025

Enhancing Grid Performance Through Data & Communication Strategies

Want to discover how innovative data and communication strategies can empower your utility to drive better outcomes? Join us for our data and communication strategy workshop.

Effective data and communication strategies are not only the backbone of modern grid systems, but essential to optimizing grid operations. This workshop will focus on how utilities can leverage data and communication to improve decision-making, system efficiency, and customer satisfaction. You'll also learn how these strategies support integrated system planning, ensuring that utilities can respond to operational challenges swiftly and effectively.

Workshop Focus Areas

- Building robust data strategies for grid management.
 - Integrating communication technologies for real-time grid operations.
 - Leveraging data analytics to enhance system reliability and performance.
-

Asset Health & Substation Modernization Workshop

April 22nd-23rd, 2025

Modernizing Substations for the Future Grid

Want to be a utility that stays ahead of the curve? Sign up for our next workshop to learn how to modernize your substations and ensure asset health.

With the aging grid infrastructure, modernizing substations and ensuring asset health is critical for future-proofing the electrical system. This workshop will not only delve into the best practices for asset management and substation upgrades, but will also show how these efforts tie back to integrated system planning, ensuring resilience and long-term sustainability.

Workshop Focus Areas

- Modernization techniques for substations.
 - Predictive maintenance strategies for asset health.
 - Aligning substation upgrades with grid modernization goals.
-

Work Prioritization & Performance Processes Workshop

September 16th-17th, 2025

Optimizing Workflows: Prioritization and Performance in Grid Operations

Efficient work prioritization and performance monitoring are not only key to managing the growing complexity of modern grid operations, but an integral part of the integrated system planning framework. Please join us to learn how to optimize your work processes and enhance performance to meet the demands of the future grid.

This workshop will focus on strategies for optimizing workflows, maximizing operational efficiency, and tracking performance to achieve grid modernization goals.

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Workshop Focus Areas

- Prioritization methods for grid modernization projects.
 - Measuring performance and setting KPIs for grid operations.
 - Tools and processes to streamline workflows in utility organizations.
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AEIC 141st Annual Meeting

Save the Date for 2025

November 4-6, 2025

The Charleston Place • Charleston, SC

