



# AEIC NEWSLETTER | Monthly Edition February 2026



*AEIC brings utility leaders together in a trusted, non-competitive forum to solve real operational challenges and modernize the grid. Through shared field experience and practical collaboration, strategy becomes execution.*

*To better reflect the pace of that work, our newsletter is now **monthly** rather than quarterly. Each month, we'll deliver timely updates on the meetings, initiatives, and industry collaboration moving AEIC's mission forward.*

## Upcoming Events

Download our events calendars to stay up to date on upcoming workshops and committee meetings. For meeting access or committee support, contact [aeic@aeic.org](mailto:aeic@aeic.org).

FEBRUARY 2026		MARCH 2026	
	<b>Vegetation Management</b> February 9, 2026 Virtual Meeting		<b>Project Management</b> March 23 - 25, 2026 New York, NY
	<b>Load Forecasting Workshop</b> February 11 - 12, 2026 Austin, TX		<b>Distribution System Operations</b> March 25 - 26, 2026 Washington, DC
	<b>Member Spotlight Webinar</b> February 20, 2026 Philip Madnick, O&R		<b>Safety Benchmarking</b> March 25 - 26, 2026 Fort Worth, TX
	<b>Power Generation</b> February 25 - 26, 2026 Scottsdale, AZ		<b>Strategy Summit / BOD Meeting</b> March 29 - 31, 2026 Boulder, CO
	<b>Cost Optimization</b> February 26, 2026 Virtual Meeting		<b>Grid as a Platform</b> March 31 - April 1, 2026 Tampa, FL

[Download February](#)

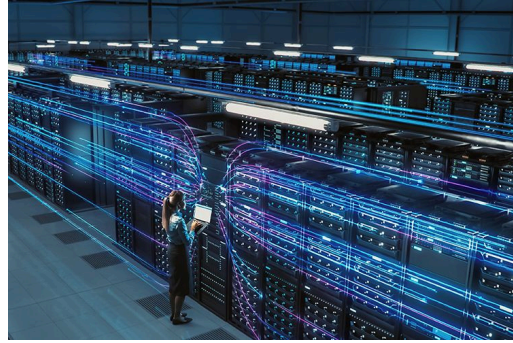
[Download March](#)

This is utility industry's one-stop shop for authoritative information. Our repository of industry resources will help you overcome operational challenges and drive more holistic decisions.



## Thank You To Our Donors

Emerson, Siemens Energy, Stellar Energy, and Quanta have each made a three-year funding commitment to support the Center for Operational Excellence. Their investment plays a critical role in advancing our operations and strategic initiatives, and we appreciate their partnership in strengthening the industry's future.



## Data Framework Working Group

Currently developing the Data Framework Toolkit, a comprehensive resource of best practices, this group meets virtually every month. If you're interested in participating, please contact Elizabeth Cook at [ecook@aeic.org](mailto:ecook@aeic.org).

Learn More



## AEIC Grid Advancement Collaborative Program

Launching in partnership with InnovationForce, this 12-month, cohort-based initiative brings utilities together to tackle the top 10 operational challenges outlined in AEIC's Grid Modernization Report.

*Stay tuned for more details!*



## 2026 Critical Issue Forums

Part of the 2026 Load Forecasting Workshop Series, these forums bring utility teams together to explore modern load forecasting across the full workflow and share practical approaches for meeting evolving operational demands. The series continues **April 15–16 in Pittsburgh, PA**. Registration details to come.

[Learn More](#)

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## The Grid Mod Pod

AEIC's podcast series highlights the 2025 Achievement Award recipients.



In the latest episode, **Robert Wargo of NextEra Energy** discusses how his team developed the NERC Information Command Center. This project was selected for the 2025 President's Achievement Award.

[Watch Now](#)

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## Member Spotlight Webinar

Inside O&R's Building Energy Usage Portal (BE-UP)

Friday, February 20th | 2:00–3:00 PM Eastern  
Phil Madnick, Orange & Rockland Utilities

Phil will discuss the strategy, infrastructure, and cross-functional collaboration behind O&R's Building Energy Usage Portal (BE-UP), and how data visibility is becoming a foundation for smarter grid planning, customer empowerment, and decarbonization efforts.



[Register Now](#)

 **Orange & Rockland**

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We appreciate your continued engagement with AEIC and look forward to your participation in our upcoming events.



**Steve Hauser**  
AEIC  
*Chief Executive Officer*



**Dr. Elizabeth Cook**  
AEIC  
*VP of Technical Strategy*



**Jim Heilbron**  
Southern Company  
*2026 AEIC President*



**Jacob Tetlow**  
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