

September 2023



TOP STORY

EEI Showcases Industry Leadership During Climate Week NYC, National Clean Energy Week

EEI's member companies are leading a profound clean energy transformation. We are committed to getting the energy we provide as clean as we can as fast as we can, without compromising customer affordability and reliability. Today, carbon emissions from the U.S. electric power sector are as low as they were almost 40 years ago, while electricity use has climbed 73 percent since then.

Our clean energy leadership is front and center, particularly this month, as EEI sponsors and participates in numerous events related to Climate Week NYC, National Clean Energy Week (NCEW) in Washington, D.C., and National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) across the country.



L to R: Brian Wolff, chief strategy officer and executive vice president of public policy and external affairs; EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International; Vicki Holub, president and CEO, Occidental; and William Pazos, founder and CEO, ACX.

Last week during IETA's North America Climate Summit at Climate Week NYC, EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff moderated a CEO roundtable titled, "The Energy Sector and Carbon Markets: Leading the Way to Net Zero." During the discussion, EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, discussed the clean energy transition and how federal funding will help accelerate our efforts. Pizarro and Wolff were joined by Vicki Holub, president and CEO, Occidental, and William Pazos, founder and CEO, ACX.



EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff gives opening remarks at the EEI-ACX Fall ESG/Sustainability Forum at Morgan Stanley.

Additionally, EEI and the American Gas Association hosted their Fall Environmental, Social, and Governance/Sustainability Forum for EEI member companies at Morgan Stanley in New York City last week. Wolff opened the programming by highlighting our member companies' commitment to ensuring the clean energy transition remains equitable for all customers.

This week, EEI Chair Pizarro will provide opening remarks for the second day of NCEW programming, and Wolff will join a discussion on the importance of siting and permitting reform for expanding clean energy infrastructure. Wolff will be joined by other industry leaders from the American Clean Power Association, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the National Hydropower Association, the CRES Forum, and more.

During NDEW, held September 22 to October 1, EEI member companies across the United States will be holding in-person and virtual events to educate customers about the benefits of owning an electric vehicle (EV) and to showcase their work to expand access to EVs and EV infrastructure.

Stay tuned for more in-depth highlights from Climate Week NYC, NCEW, and NDEW in an upcoming issue of *Electric Perspectives*.



L to R: EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO, Edison International; Warner Baxter, executive chairman, Ameren Corporation; Tom Kuhn, president and CEO, EEI.

RECOGNIZING LEADERSHIP

EEI Presents Warner Baxter With Distinguished Leadership Award

During EEI's fall Board of Directors and Chief Executives Meeting, Warner Baxter, executive chairman of Ameren Corporation, was presented with EEI's Distinguished Leadership Award. The award recognizes the commitments, contributions, and individual achievements of investor-owned electric company leaders.

"Throughout his distinguished career, Warner has been a remarkable and dedicated leader for our industry. His sustained engagement and clear commitment to clean energy were instrumental as we worked with leaders in Congress and the Administration to ensure that industry priorities were included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and in the robust clean energy tax package included in the Inflation Reduction Act," said EEI President and CEO Tom Kuhn. "Taken together, these historic laws are helping electric companies deliver the resilient clean energy that customers want and need, affordably and reliably."

Baxter served as EEI chair from June 2022 to June 2023. He continues to serve as executive chairman of Ameren Corporation and recently announced that he will retire on November 2.

[Read more in EEI's press release.](#)



L to R: EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO, Edison International; Nick Akins, executive chair of the board of directors, American Electric Power; Tom Kuhn, president and CEO, EEI.



L to R: EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO, Edison International; Tom Fanning, executive chairman, Southern Company; Tom Kuhn, president and CEO, EEI.

AWARD WINNING

EEI Board of Directors Presents Nicholas K. Akins and Thomas A. Fanning With Thomas A. Edison Legacy Awards

During EEI's fall Board of Directors and Chief Executives meeting, the EEI board also presented Nick Akins and Tom Fanning with Thomas A. Edison Legacy Awards.

Akins' award recognizes his outstanding leadership in the electric power industry and his work to enhance the industry's mutual assistance networks. Among his many accomplishments, Akins led the industry's efforts to develop and implement the National Response Event Framework, which was designed to ensure that EEI member companies can allocate crews and equipment efficiently when multiple regions of the country are facing major disasters that impact the energy grid. As EEI chair from June 2015 to June 2016, Akins also created an enduring strategic vision for the industry that is focused on the transition to clean energy, energy grid modernization, and customer solutions.

"Nick has been a remarkable leader in our industry's ongoing efforts to improve and enhance our effective mutual assistance program," said EEI President and CEO Tom Kuhn. "He played a pivotal role in developing the National Response Event Framework to meet the challenge of supporting members' restoration resource needs during major outages that have a national impact. Nick's tremendous leadership has shaped the way electric companies partner together to respond safely and as quickly as possible when incidents occur."

Fanning's award recognizes his decades of service to the electric power industry and his leadership in enhancing industry-government coordination to help ensure security and preparedness for all hazards. Among his many accomplishments, Fanning helped to establish and co-chaired the CEO-led Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) from 2013 to 2022. The ESCC is the principal liaison between the federal government and the electric power industry to protect the energy grid from threats that could impact national security, including cyber and physical terrorism as well as extreme weather events and natural disasters.

"We applaud Tom's leadership and his tireless efforts to work with our government partners to prepare for and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters and to protect the energy grid from both cyber and physical security threats," said Kuhn. "Tom continues to be a vital player in coordinating effective responses, and we are grateful for his partnership and counsel on many of the key issues facing our industry today."

[Read more about Akins' and Fanning's legacies in EEI's press releases.](#)



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Highlights from EEI's Annual Meeting

The perspectives of innovators and thought leaders were front and center throughout EEI 2023, the annual thought leadership conference held this year in Austin, Texas. More than 1,200 attendees gathered for the 2.5-day program, which featured a dynamic lineup of panels and keynote speakers. Among them: Breakthrough Energy Founder Bill Gates, renowned technologist Elon Musk, U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm, Senior Advisor to the President for Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation John Podesta, and football coach and Pro Football Hall of Famer Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders.

"There is so much going on in this industry," EEI President and CEO Tom Kuhn said as he opened the conference's first keynote session. "We are thrilled to showcase how our member companies and their partners are working to deliver resilient clean energy across our economy, without compromising affordability."

[Read highlights from EEI 2023 in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*.](#) For recordings of keynote sessions, visit [the EEI YouTube channel](#).



SPONSORED CONTENT

Dive Into EV Detection Data Science

Learn how [Bidgely's UtilityAI](#) leverages artificial intelligence to identify electric vehicle (EV) charging signatures from the "noise" of household energy use, enabling energy companies to detect EVs at the premises level with a benchmarked accuracy of 90 percent, including charge types, charger amplitude, typical EV charging hours and schedules, and monthly EV consumption.



Electric Perspectives: The Podcast

The *Electric Perspectives* podcast discusses the latest trends and issues shaping the electric power industry.

On a recent episode, EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, joins EEI Vice President, Chief Diversity Officer, and Chief Human Resources Officer Courtney Peterson to recognize and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Pizarro discusses what it means to be EEI's first Hispanic board chair, how he stays connected to his culture, his lessons of leadership, and more.

Plus, hear Jigar Shah, director of the Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office (LPO), and Alex Bond, EEI deputy general counsel of climate and clean energy, discuss the latest guidance on the LPO's Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment Program, which finances certain clean energy and carbon reduction projects to replace or convert old or existing energy infrastructure.

[Listen to the episodes here](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.



LESSONS OF LEADERSHIP

David K. Owens Reflects on Decades of Service to the Electric Power Industry

In the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*, David K. Owens shared his expertise and advice from his multiple decades in the electric power industry. Owens is an industry-leading leader who retired from EEI in 2017 as executive vice president after 36 years of distinguished and exemplary service to EEI and its member companies. He remains actively engaged in the electric power industry and recently spent several years as an independent director on the board of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority.

"My advice to young people: Go with your passion. [Gathering knowledge] was my passion. I knew there were things that I wanted to know. I fell in love with the electric power industry and its challenges."

[Read his full interview.](#)

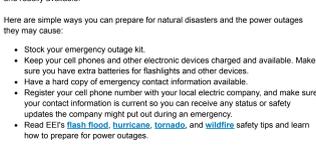


INTERCONNECTIONS

Financing the Future Energy Grid

"For decades, EEI's member companies have led the way in the development and deployment of transmission technologies that optimize the grid's performance and lower the cost of delivering energy to customers," writes Phil Kloster, EEI's executive vice president of the business operations group and regulatory affairs, in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*. "As our membership delivers on our shared vision for a reliable, resilient clean energy future, we know that interregional transmission will be more important than ever."

[Read more.](#)



BE AWARE

EEI Observes National Preparedness Month

During National Preparedness Month in September and throughout the year, EEI and our member companies remind you to be prepared for natural disasters and other emergencies. With hurricane and wildfire season in full swing, now is the perfect time to assess your emergency plans and to make sure your emergency outage kit is stocked and readily available.

Here are simple ways you can prepare for natural disasters and the power outages they may cause:

- Stock your emergency outage kit.
- Keep your cell phones and other electronic devices charged and available. Make sure you have extra batteries for flashlights and other devices.
- Have a hard copy of emergency contact information available.
- Register your cell phone number with your local electric company, and make sure your contact information is current so you can receive any status or safety updates the company might be providing during an emergency.
- Read EEI's [flash flood, hurricane, tornado, and wildfire](#) safety tips and learn how to prepare for power outages.

Find more tips on [EEI's website](#).

GET SOCIAL

Looking Climate Forward

Thank you to [The New York Times](#) for inviting me to participate in the "Greening the Grid" bedside chat with industry leader and longtime collaborator of Exelon, President and CEO of Edison International Pedro Pizarro. It was an honor to join the #ClimateForward lineup of international thought leaders having critical conversations about what we need to do in our own areas of influence and collectively to combat climate change. The energy was palpable at #ClimateWeekNYC alongside the United Nations General Assembly 78th session.

