

Energy Talk In Depth

Focus on: Resilient Clean Energy

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Greater Resiliency by Mapping Customers to Grid Assets

2-MIN INSIGHTS >>



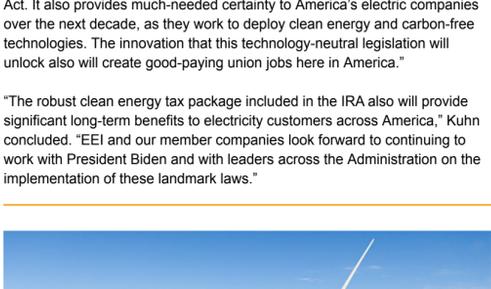
TOP STORY

We Are #Committed2Clean

EEI's member companies are leading a clean energy transformation. We are committed to affordability and reliability as we work to get the energy we provide to customers as clean as we can as fast as we can. Today, carbon emissions from the U.S. power sector are as low as they were in 1984, while electricity use is up 72 percent since then.

Together, we are delivering America's energy future.

Read on for just a few examples of our member companies' leadership on resilient clean energy—and a look at policy developments that are helping us to deliver on our vision.



NEWS FROM THE HILL

EEI Applauds the Historic Inflation Reduction Act

On August 16, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into law. This landmark legislation will provide \$369 billion in new spending—the largest climate investment in U.S. history—that will, among other priorities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and drive investment in clean energy technologies. Passage and enactment of the historic legislation followed more than a year of discussions among members of Congress, Administration officials, electric power industry leaders, and other key stakeholders.

EEI President Tom Kuhn applauded Congress and President Biden for enacting the legislation.

"EEI and America's investor-owned electric companies have been relentless in our efforts to drive innovation and to advance policies that will accelerate the deployment of new clean energy resources across the country, while also enabling us to continue prioritizing customer reliability and affordability," Kuhn said.

"The clean energy tax credits included in the IRA are the right policies. They will provide significant long-term benefits to electricity customers and will deliver a clean energy future and a carbon-free economy faster," Kuhn added. "This legislation firmly places the United States at the forefront of global efforts to drive down carbon emissions, especially when paired with the historic RDD&D funding included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. It also provides much-needed certainty to America's electric companies over the next decade, as they work to deploy clean energy and carbon-free technologies. The innovation that this technology-neutral legislation will unlock also will create good-paying union jobs here in America."

"The robust clean energy tax package included in the IRA also will provide significant long-term benefits to electricity customers across America," Kuhn concluded. "EEI and our member companies look forward to continuing to work with President Biden and with leaders across the Administration on the implementation of these landmark laws."

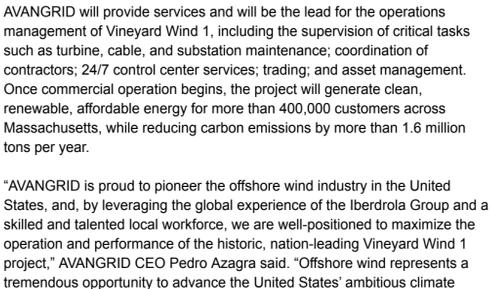


Photo: Dominion Energy.

IN THE NEWS

Harnessing Clean Energy for Customers

Leading on Offshore Wind

As part of their commitment to resilient clean energy, many EEI member companies are working to harness and exploit new offshore wind energy for their customers. Following are just two examples of recent announcements.

The Virginia State Corporation Commission recently approved Dominion Energy's plan to construct the 2.6-gigawatt Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project 27 miles off the coast of Virginia Beach. When CVOW is completed in 2026, it will be the largest offshore wind facility in the United States, generating enough electricity to power up to 660,000 homes.

CVOW, which represents an investment of \$9.8 billion, will avoid carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to removing up to 1 million gasoline-powered cars from the road each year. The project is expected to save Virginia customers more than \$3 billion during its first 10 years in operation—although the company states that if current commodity market pressure trends continue, customer cost savings could total nearly \$6 billion.

CVOW will serve as a critical resource toward meeting Virginia's objective of carbon-free energy by 2045, while protecting the environment and being sensitive to the needs of the communities that Dominion Energy serves. It also will be instrumental in supporting the company's goal of net-zero carbon and methane emissions by 2050 across its 16-state footprint.

Dominion Energy Chair, President, and CEO Robert M. Bluff commented: "Our customers expect reliable, affordable energy, and offshore wind is key for delivering on that mission. We are very pleased that the commission has approved this important project that will benefit our customers."

Another company investing in offshore wind is AVANGRID, part of the Iberdrola Group. AVANGRID has agreed to oversee the operation and management of Vineyard Wind 1, an 800-megawatt (MW) project currently under construction off the coast of Massachusetts that is the first commercial-scale offshore wind project in the United States. Vineyard Wind 1 is owned in a 50-50 joint venture between AVANGRID and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners.

AVANGRID will provide services and will be the lead for the operations management of Vineyard Wind 1, including the supervision of critical tasks such as turbine, cable, and substation maintenance; coordination of contractors; 24/7 control center services; trading; and asset management. Once commercial operation begins, the project will generate clean, renewable, affordable energy for more than 400,000 customers across Massachusetts, while reducing carbon emissions by more than 1.6 million tons per year.

"AVANGRID is proud to pioneer the offshore wind industry in the United States, and, by leveraging the global experience of the Iberdrola Group and skilled and talented local workforce, we are well-positioned to maximize the operation and performance of the historic, nation-leading Vineyard Wind 1 project," AVANGRID CEO Pedro Azagra said. "Offshore wind represents a tremendous opportunity to advance the United States' ambitious climate goals."

Wind Energy: A Home Run for Every Customers

Evergy announced earlier this month that it will purchase the 199-MW Persimmon Creek Wind Farm in western Oklahoma from Scout Clean Energy and Elawan Energy. The renewable energy from this wind farm will serve customers in Evergy's Missouri West service area.

"Evergy continues to tap into the Midwest's affordable renewable energy resources to serve our customers," said Evergy President and CEO David Campbell. "Expanding our portfolio of renewable generation positions us to ensure customers receive the long-term benefits of these assets."

Over the next 10 years, Evergy plans to add more than 3,500 MW of renewable energy and to retire more than 1,900 MW of coal-based generation. The company has set a goal of reducing carbon dioxide emissions 70 percent by 2030 (relative to 2005 levels), and a target to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2045.

The acquisition came just days after Evergy announced at the end of July that its wind generation had crossed a milestone: producing 100 million megawatt-hours of electricity—enough to power the Kansas City Royals' home field of Kauffman Stadium for more than 3,300 straight years of peak, game-time use.

NextEra Energy Strives for "Real Zero™"

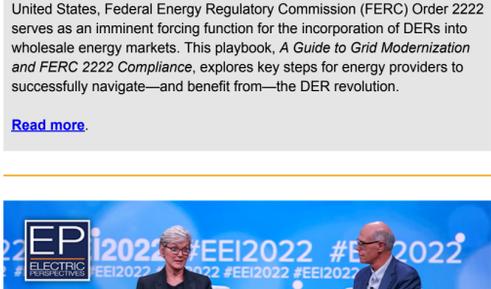
NextEra Energy has announced a goal to eliminate carbon emissions from its operations by no later than 2045, which the company calls Real Zero™. To achieve it, NextEra has developed a "Zero Carbon Blueprint™," a comprehensive carbon-reduction plan that outlines the steps it needs to take to achieve its goals and to track its progress:

1. Eliminating carbon emissions from its operations by 2045 without the need for carbon offsets.
2. Investing in solar, wind, battery storage, green hydrogen, and other renewable energy technologies to help decarbonize the U.S. power sector.
3. Helping to lead the decarbonization of the U.S. economy by helping customers reduce or eliminate carbon emissions.
4. The blueprint includes interim milestones every five years to transform NextEra's generation mix toward carbon-free resources, with a reduction rate goal of 70 percent by 2025.

"We believe we are uniquely qualified to deliver Real Zero, as we have the right team, the right platform, the right technology investments, and the right plan to be the first energy provider to truly eliminate carbon emissions from our operations," said NextEra Energy Chairman, President, and CEO John Ketchum. "We intend to leverage our playbook and our competitive advantage as a world leader in low-cost renewables and energy storage to drive the U.S. economy toward a cleaner, more sustainable future."

A significant portion of the Real Zero plan will take place at NextEra's subsidiary, Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), transforming the company's energy mix to eliminate carbon by 2045. FPL's Real Zero goal will be achieved through:

- Expanding the company's solar capacity from 4,000 MW to more than 90,000 MW.
- Adding more than 50,000 MW of battery storage to FPL's energy grid, increasing its capacity from 500 MW.
- Continuing to provide clean, reliable nuclear energy to customers.
- Converting 16,000 MW of existing natural gas units to use hydrogen produced with renewable energy.
- Generating up to 6,000 MW of carbon-neutral power with renewable natural gas as a capacity reserve for reliability.



CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS

Michigan Companies Sign Innovative Partnerships

Earlier this month, two Michigan-based EEI member companies announced historic partnerships with key customers.

Through a clean energy agreement with DTE Energy, Ford Motor Company soon will be able to attribute all its electricity usage to clean energy, a major step toward Ford's goal to reach carbon neutrality. DTE Energy will add 650 megawatts (MW) of new solar energy capacity in Michigan for Ford by 2025. The purchase is a strategic investment in Michigan through DTE Energy's MiGreenPower program and is the largest renewable energy purchase from an electric company ever made in the United States. Once installed, the arrays will increase the total amount of installed solar energy in Michigan by nearly 70 percent.

"This unprecedented agreement is all about a greener and brighter future for Ford and for Michigan," said Jim Farley, president and CEO, Ford Motor Company. "Today is an example of what it looks like to lead... to turn talk into action."

"We want to congratulate Ford Motor Company for its environmental leadership and commitment to clean energy," said DTE Energy Chairman, President, and CEO Jerry Norcia.

"Ford was the first large industrial customer to enroll in our MiGreenPower program in 2019, and we thank Ford for its continued commitment to using MiGreenPower to help decarbonize its operations and meet its sustainability goals."

DTE Energy's MiGreenPower program is among the largest voluntary renewable energy programs in the country, with more than 600 businesses and more than 62,000 residential customers enrolled. On an annual basis, MiGreenPower customers have enrolled 2.8 million megawatt-hours of clean energy in the program, which has the environmental benefit equivalent to avoiding 2.2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions. And, since 2009, DTE Energy's investments in renewable energy have created more than 4,000 Michigan jobs.

One day later, CMS Energy subsidiary Consumers Energy announced a 20-year agreement with the State of Michigan to power 1,274 publicly owned government buildings throughout the Lower Peninsula exclusively with clean energy. This commitment supports roughly 68 MW of carbon-free renewable energy in Michigan.

"Consumers Energy and the State of Michigan are working together to power Michigan's clean energy transformation," said Consumers Energy President and CEO Garreck Rochow. "This commitment will accelerate our already industry-leading Clean Energy Plan to develop carbon-free energy sources here in Michigan."

"As governor, I am proud that the State of Michigan is leading by example to reduce greenhouse gases, protect the planet, and lower energy costs," said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "Let's keep working together to fight climate change with common-sense steps that will lower taxpayer energy costs and ensure that state operations have the energy they need to succeed."

The state government's new commitment builds on Consumers Energy's Clean Energy plan to close all its coal-based power plants by 2025 and to become carbon-neutral by 2040.

Earlier this year, General Motors agreed to power three Michigan plants with 100-percent green energy supplied by Consumers Energy.

"Consumers Energy is able to deliver reliable and affordable energy while protecting the planet. This partnership will further support Michigan being a leader in clean energy," Rochow said.

Read the latest issue of **Electric Perspectives**

Delivering Resilient Clean Energy
Highlights: Grid Modernization, Cybersecurity, and Energy Storage

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WHAT WE'RE READING

Highlights From EEI 2022

EEI's member companies are proud to be leading the clean energy transformation. At EEI 2022, top leaders from industry and government joined thought leaders from business and academia to showcase EEI member companies' vision and commitment to resilient clean energy.

The latest issue of *Electric Perspectives* features highlights from EEI 2022, including panels that covered cutting-edge topics such as clean energy, cybersecurity, and electric transportation; engaging keynotes; and the Technology and Innovation Showcase in The Hub.

[Read more](#) in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*. Find additional highlights from EEI 2022 on our [website](#).

Navigating the Distributed Energy Resource Revolution

PLAYBOOK: A GUIDE TO GRID MODERNIZATION AND FERC 2222 COMPLIANCE

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Playbook: Grid Modernization and FERC 2222 Compliance

Amid the rapid proliferation of distributed energy resources (DERs) in the United States, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order 2222 serves as an imminent forcing function for the incorporation of DERs into wholesale energy markets. This playbook, *A Guide to Grid Modernization and FERC 2222 Compliance*, explores key steps for energy providers to successfully navigate—and benefit from—the DER revolution.

[Read more.](#)

TUNE IN

Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm on America's Resilient Clean Energy Future

During EEI 2022, EEI's annual thought leadership forum, EEI was honored to be joined by U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm. The latest episode of the *Electric Perspectives Podcast* features the full EEI 2022 keynote discussion between Secretary Granholm and EEI Chair Warner Baxter, executive chairman of Ameren Corporation, during which they covered the path to a clean energy future, the technologies needed to meet our goals, today's geopolitical and supply chain challenges, the importance of industry-government partnership, and more.

[Listen now.](#)

POLICY PERSPECTIVES

Bipartisan GRID Broadband Act Would Spur Fiber Investment

The Grant to Rapidly Invest and Deploy Broadband, or GRID Broadband Act, introduced this month by U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Chair of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, would provide a robust new federal cost-share to drive investment in a nationwide middle-mile backbone along the nation's existing energy grid.

Electric companies long have incorporated telecommunications equipment and fiber technology into their operations to support communications and to provide real-time monitoring and controls for generation and transmission operations. They also are leveraging existing and planned fiber optic networks along their rights-of-way to serve as an intermediary between major communications carriers and local internet service providers serving customers.

EEI member companies' involvement in middle-mile broadband infrastructure complements efforts at the state and federal levels to enable Americans who live in mostly rural areas to join the digital economy. It also supports EEI's commitment to advance racial and social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion. [\(Read more about these ongoing efforts in the May/June 2021 issue of *Electric Perspectives*.\)](#)

GET SOCIAL

Closing the Digital Divide

In an information age where Americans rely on technology for school and work, [@Edison_Electric](#) says the GRID Broadband Act will help close the digital divide and boost opportunities for jobs.

Supporter of the GRID BROADBAND ACT

Edison Electric Institute commends Senators Cantwell and Capito for prioritizing fiber investments that will help close the digital divide, ultimately benefiting all Americans. The Grid Broadband Act will provide resources to help accelerate the deployment of fiber that will provide additional flexibility to grid operators in the event of extreme weather. It will also improve cybersecurity and resilience, and will help with the further integration of renewable and energy storage technologies. Additionally, these fiber investments will significantly boost opportunities for electric companies to build out middle-mile broadband infrastructure, creating jobs and connecting underserved and unserved customers.

EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE
TOM KUHN, PRESIDENT

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Leverage DER Data to Boost Grid Reliability

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