Energy Talk

Your Monthly Energy News Digest

September 2022

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DRIVING DECARBONIZATION THROUGH AI-POWERED CX
Using analytics to turn engaged customers into energy partners

2-MINUTE INSIGHTS
TOP STORY

Hurricane Ian: Powerful Storm, Powerful Response

Hurricane Ian made landfall on Wednesday along the Gulf Coast of Florida as a strong Category 4 hurricane. Ian continues to bring heavy rainfall, high winds, and storm surge as it moves into the Carolinas.

As of 10:00 a.m. EDT, approximately 1.9 million electricity customers* were without power in Florida, and more than 1.3 million customers who were impacted at some point during the storm have had their power restored. Our thoughts are with those who were or are being impacted by Ian and with those who are in the storm's path.

The significant investments made in hardening critical transmission and distribution infrastructure in Florida have enabled crews to accelerate customer restoration. Investments in smarter energy infrastructure also have greatly increased situational awareness, helping enable this efficient response.

Electric companies in the path of Ian strategically pre-positioned equipment, resources, and mutual assistance workers from other states to assist in their storm response as conditions allow. Nearly 44,000 workers from at least 33 states and the District of Columbia are mobilized to assist when and where they can, provided it is safe to do
so.

EEI’s **storm center** is a resource for real-time information and updates on storm response and essential safety tips that customers should follow. It also includes a map to company outage centers. Follow EEI on [Twitter](http://twitter.com) and [Facebook](http://facebook.com) for the latest updates.

*It is important to remember that outages measure customer meters impacted, not the number of individuals without power. Due to the nature of the storm, customers may have experienced more than one outage.*

*Photo: Courtesy Florida Power & Light.*
We Are #Committed2Clean®

EEI’s member companies are leading a profound 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.

Our clean energy commitment—and these advances—were front and center in late September, when EEI proudly sponsored and participated in numerous events related to the Global Clean Energy Action Forum (GCEAF) in Pittsburgh, the North America Climate Summit (NACS) in New York City, and National Clean Energy Week (NCEW) in Washington, DC.

- During GCEAF, EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff moderated a discussion of the challenges and opportunities for the energy grid of the future that included remarks from Exelon Corporation Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Calvin G. Butler and Duquesne Light Company President and CEO Kevin Walker. As well, EEI Executive Vice President of the Business Operations Group and Regulatory Affairs Phil Moeller led a conversation among industry leaders on expanding and enhancing electric transmission.
- At NACS, Public Service Enterprise Group President and CEO Ralph LaRossa explored how the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the clean energy tax package in the Inflation Reduction Act provide a historic level of funding to accelerate electric companies’ clean energy efforts.
- At NCEW, EEI Chair Warner Baxter, Ameren Corporation executive chair, and EEI Vice Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, Edison International president and CEO, provided keynote remarks about the role electric companies play in leading the clean energy transformation. EEI General Counsel, Corporate Secretary, and Senior Vice President of Clean Energy Emily Fisher also led a panel discussion of how energy infrastructure investments support efforts to deliver a resilient clean energy future for customers.

Stay tuned for more in-depth highlights from GCEAF, NCEW, and NACS in an upcoming issue of Electric Perspectives.
IN THE NEWS

EEI Presents Gerry Anderson With Distinguished Leadership Award

During EEI’s Fall Board and CEO Meeting, Gerard M. “Gerry” Anderson, who recently retired as executive chairman of DTE Energy, was presented with EEI’s Distinguished Leadership Award. The award recognizes the commitments, contributions, and individual achievements of investor-owned electric company leaders. Recipients are chosen by their peers.

“Throughout his distinguished career, Gerry has been a remarkable and steady leader for our industry, helping to guide the clean energy transformation that is underway all across America,” said EEI President Tom Kuhn. “Despite the many headwinds we have faced as a nation in recent years, Gerry’s leadership and advocacy in Washington were instrumental as we worked to advance the infrastructure bill and the robust clean energy tax package that was included in the Inflation Reduction Act. Taken together, these historic laws will make the clean energy transformation more affordable for the customers and communities EEI’s members proudly serve.”

Anderson served as EEI chair from June 2021 to June 2022 and retired from DTE Energy at the end of June, where he worked for nearly 30 years. He continues to serve as chairman of the Edison Foundation.

Read more.
SPONSORED CONTENT

Playbook: Electric Vehicle Adoption
Enhance your electric vehicle (EV) roadmap. The Bidgely Electric Vehicle Adoption Playbook guides energy providers through four data-driven phases, from finding EVs to engaging owners to turning EVs into grid assets.

WHAT WE'RE READING

“The Power of Team”: Ben Fowke on Turning Mistakes into Innovation

Electric Perspectives recently spoke with Ben Fowke, who retired as executive
chairman of Xcel Energy in 2021 after 24 years with the company.

“I’m proud of the culture at Xcel Energy. It’s a great team, and they got even stronger in the 10 years that I served as CEO,” Fowke said. “I believe the mark of a good CEO is the team that they leave behind, and I can’t be prouder of Bob Frenzel and the whole management team. They’re really going to take Xcel Energy to the next level.”

Read more.

Celebrating National Drive Electric Week

During National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) September 23-October 2, EEI is highlighting our member companies’ efforts to build a national electric vehicle (EV) charging network and to help accelerate the electrification of transportation.

EEI’s member companies are making significant investments in electric transportation and have spent nearly $3.7 billion to deploy EV charging infrastructure and on EV customer programs that help residential and commercial customers switch to EVs. EEI projects that there will be more than 26 million EVs on U.S. roads in 2030, and EEI’s member companies are collaborating across the industry and are working with key stakeholders to deploy public EV fast chargers and to help support the growth of EVs.
One of these collaborations is the National Electric Highway Coalition (NEHC), a nationwide effort that brings together more than 60 investor-owned and municipal electric companies and electric cooperatives. The NEHC is committed to providing EV public fast charging stations that will allow the public to drive EVs with confidence along major U.S. travel corridors by the end of 2023.

Additional resources:

- Visit EEI’s electric transportation webpage to learn more about the benefits of switching to EVs.
- The Electric Generation showcases NEHC members’ efforts to create a network of public EV fast charging stations and news about electric transportation legislation and investments.
- Read about “The Great American EV Road Trip” in the latest issue of Electric Perspectives.
- The latest episode of the Electric Perspectives Podcast features EEI Senior Director of Electric Transportation Kellen Schefter; Hawaiian Electric Director of Electrification of Transportation Aki Marceau; and Entergy Business Manager Scott Barrios discussing electric companies' EV programs.
- Follow EEI on Facebook and Twitter and follow the hashtag #NDEW2022 to see highlights of NDEW.
Resolving Supply Chain Constraints

“The Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC), which includes EEI and its member companies as well as representatives from public power utilities and electric cooperatives, has been exceptionally proactive in working to minimize the threats posed by supply chain challenges,” writes Ameren Corporation President and CEO Marty Lyons in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*.

“During an industry-government discussion in May, ESCC leadership and U.S. Department of Energy officials agreed to convene a Supply Chain Tiger Team (SCTT), similar to the response we organized in 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The SCTT meets nearly weekly and has expanded into highly focused sub-teams to cover stakeholders’ specific needs.”

[Read more.](#)
IN MEMORIAM

Remembering John Rowe

EEI mourns the passing of former EEI Chair John Rowe on September 24. In addition to serving as EEI Chair from 2000-2001, Rowe was Chairman and CEO of Exelon Corporation, which he led from its formation in 2000 through 2012. He also held chief executive positions at New England Electric System (now part of National Grid) and Central Maine Power (now part of AVANGRID).

Rowe was the first recipient of EEI’s Distinguished Leadership Award in 2009, and he won the United States Energy Award from the United States Energy Association in 2012. He also served as general counsel of Consolidated Rail Corporation, and was a partner in the law firm of Isham, Lincoln & Beale.

"Our industry has lost a true legend and champion," said EEI President Tom Kuhn. "John was a treasured friend of mine and of many others across the industry, and we all will miss his wise counsel and dry wit."

Learn more about John Rowe’s life and legacy here.

GET SOCIAL
Mutual Assistance Networks are activated and 33,000+ workers from more than 30 states have mobilized to help restore power after #Hurricanelan passes.

To those in Ian's path, please continue to follow orders from state and local officials for your safety.

Over 33,000 workers have been mobilized to support Ian's restoration efforts. Learn more from @Edison_Electric: twitter.com/Edison_Electric...