

Energy **Talk**

Your Monthly Energy News Digest

February 2023

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America's Electric
Companies
Delivering Resilient
Clean Energy Across
the Economy

TOP STORY

EEI's Annual State of the Energy Industry Outlook

Each February, EEI highlights our achievements and new policy priorities, and those of our member companies, during an industry outlook presentation to Wall Street. This year's state-of-the-industry event, held on February 21, was delivered to an audience of Wall Street investors, analysts, bankers, reporters, and other industry stakeholders by EEI President Tom Kuhn and members of EEI's executive leadership team.

"EEI and our member companies—America's investor-owned electric companies—are at a global inflection point," said Kuhn. "We remain focused on ensuring that customers have the energy they need when and where they need it, affordably and reliably, as we work to get this energy as clean as we can as fast as we can. And, we have fully embraced a strategy that will deliver secure and resilient clean energy across our economy."

Following passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the \$272-billion clean energy tax package in the Inflation Reduction Act—laws which EEI strongly supported —there are more tools available than ever to help address climate change by facilitating investments in smarter, more resilient energy infrastructure and the deployment of more clean energy. Importantly, the critical cost-savings benefits of the tax provisions flow directly through to our customers.

During the presentation, EEI also highlighted the need for siting and permitting reform to facilitate investment in much-needed critical energy infrastructure, including transmission, renewable energy facilities, and natural gas pipelines and facilities.

"Over the past 90 years, EEI and our member companies have demonstrated a strong record of progress in serving customers," said Kuhn. "Together, we have delivered Power by Association and have created powerful momentum to carry forward our vision for a resilient clean energy future."

Visit EEI's website to find prepared remarks and our presentation.



David Campbell, president and CEO of Evergy, speaks to an audience at the Wabaunsee USD 329 School District in Alma, Kan., to celebrate the delivery of the state's first all-electric school buses utilizing the EPA's Clean School Bus Program funds.

IN THE NEWS

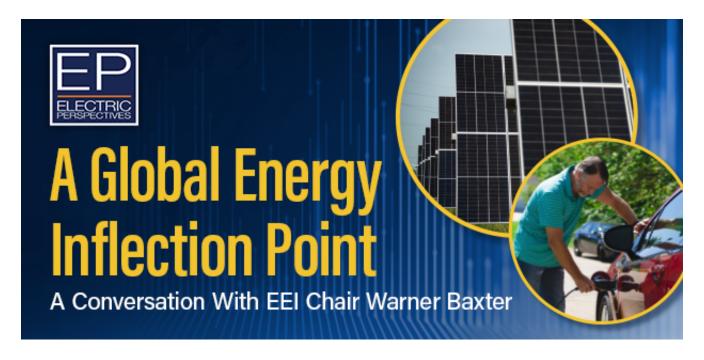
EEI Pledges Support for EPA's Clean School Bus Program

EEI has partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Beneficial Electrification League (BEL), a nonprofit organization that works closely with electric cooperatives and public power providers on electrification initiatives, to pledge our support for electric school bus deployment and the implementation of EPA's Clean School Bus Program.

The Clean School Bus Program is an effort by EPA to replace diesel school buses with cleaner electric and lower-emissions models, supported by a \$5 billion investment from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The first round of rebates, announced last October, made \$965 million available to fund more than 2,400 clean school buses—95 percent of which will be electric.

EEI's member companies will provide assistance to school districts throughout the electrification process, including technical support and guidance.

Read more on The Electric Generation website.

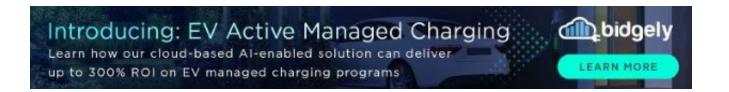


IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

EEI Chair Warner Baxter: A Global Energy Inflection Point

EEI Chair Warner Baxter, executive chairman of Ameren Corporation, spoke with *Electric Perspectives* about this "unprecedented time" in the electric power industry and his hopes for the future. He outlined the strategy EEI and our member companies are taking to deliver a clean energy future, stating: "This isn't just a concept that we talk about. We are backing up our words with actions."

Read more in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*.





FOCUS ON WILDFIRES

Mitigating Wildfire Risk by Investing in Resilience

EEI hosted a Wildfire Technology Summit in Phoenix in February with member company executives, technology companies, industry stakeholders, and government partners. The two-day summit explored the development and implementation opportunities for technology solutions that enable the prevention, detection, and mitigation of wildfire risk.

EEI member company executives presented their technology priorities on wildfire threats and showcased promising technologies their companies are funding, testing, or installing. Representatives from EPRI also joined to share the status of their wildfire technology initiatives, and attendees from the U.S. Department of Energy provided an update on the active projects funded by the National Laboratories to accelerate wildfire prevention and mitigation technology.

The industry-government collaboration on display during the Wildfire Technology Summit underscored U.S. Forest Service Chief Randy Moore's belief that the best approach to wildfire risk mitigation is a unified one. As he wrote in *Electric Perspectives*, "the partnership between the federal government and the electric power sector to prevent and to mitigate wildfires is increasingly crucial and has grown stronger than ever." Read more from Chief Moore in the recent issue of *Electric Perspectives*.



SETTING RECORDS

U.S. Electricity Use Sets Record in 2022

The U.S. electric power industry made available for distribution a record 4,142,901 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of electricity in the continental United States in 2022, according to data compiled by EEI for the Weekly Electric Output (WEO) report. This was an increase of 2.8 percent from the 2021 total, and an increase of 0.7 percent above the previous record year of 2018, when demand was 4,113,726 GWh.

Last year also saw U.S. electric output set an all-time record for a single week: 99,445 GWh in the week ended July 23. The previous single-week record had stood for almost 16 years.

The WEO, which has published for more than 90 years, is the only comprehensive report of its kind in the United States, measuring electricity demand on a weekly basis. It reflects demand for all investor-owned electric companies, electric cooperatives, and public power utilities in the contiguous 48 states. Find more information about the WEO and other EEI industry data reports at www.eei.org/data.



TUNE IN

Reinvesting in Clean Energy Infrastructure With Jigar Shaw

The *Electric Perspectives* podcast discusses the latest trends and issues shaping the electric power industry. Recently, the Director of the Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office Jigar Shaw joined EEI's Emily Fisher, executive vice president of clean energy and general counsel, to discuss the Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment Program developed under the Inflation Reduction Act and how it will help accelerate the deployment of new clean energy resources while making the energy transition more affordable for customers.

Listen to the episode here or wherever you get your podcasts.



WHAT WE'RE READING

"I Race With Gratitude": Heather Grahame on Respect, Credibility, Trust, and Triathlons

In the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*, Heather Grahame, who retired as NorthWestern Energy's general counsel and vice president of regulatory and federal government affairs on January 1, reflects on lessons of leadership developed during her career and her success as a triathlete.

"Credibility is everything. No matter what a person's position is, personal trust, respect, credibility, honesty at all times, are essential characteristics," said Grahame. Read more.



The EV Revolution: A Future We Can Manage

<u>Bidgely's industry-leading Al technology</u> is trusted by electric companies worldwide to bring the customer engagement and grid intelligence required to turn today's unique challenges into meaningful opportunities. Supercharge your meter data for:

- EV analytics, including active managed charging
- Grid planning, TOU, flexible demand

Bidgely provides behind-the-meter intelligence and improved customer experience for optimized electrification.



REGISTER TODAY

EEI 2023

Registration is open for EEI 2023, the premier annual gathering of electric industry executives and thought leaders. It will be held from June 11-13 at the JW Marriott Austin in Austin, Texas.

EEI 2023 promises to be a fitting celebration for EEI's 90th anniversary. Join industry and government leaders, technology innovators and partners, regulators, and other stakeholders as we showcase the actions and leadership of America's electric

companies to deliver resilient clean energy across our economy.

Register now at eei.org/2023.



HAPPENING NOW

Celebrating Black History Month

Each February, EEI celebrates Black History Month, which commemorates the achievements of Black Americans and highlights their central role in history. This year, EEI is recognizing Lewis H. Latimer, one of the first "pioneers" of the electric power industry.

In 1881, Latimer began working on improving Thomas Edison's light bulb while employed by the United States Electric Lighting Company in Bridgeport, Conn. Latimer devised a way of encasing the filament within a cardboard envelope to prevent it from breaking, prolonging the life of the bulb. The new long-life bulb was more economical and more energy-efficient than previous bulbs.

On January 24, 1918, Latimer was named one of the 28 charter members—and the only Black member—of the "Edison Pioneers," a distinguished group of people who worked to keep the ideals of Thomas Edison alive. The "Edison Pioneers" are deemed responsible for creating the nation's electric power industry.

Learn more about Latimer's life and legacy on the EEI website. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History provides more information about Black History Month.

EPA Announces Clean School Bus Program



Making EV school buses the American standard requires having everyone at the table. I'm proud EPA is working alongside @Edison_Electric's members and @BeneficialElec1's rural electric cooperative partners to support school districts as they transition to electric buses.



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EEI 2023 JUNE 11-13 JW Marriott Austin





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