

## **Your Monthly Energy News Digest**

December 2023

bidgely WATCH ON DEMAND WEBINAR: AI, GPT and the Utility of the Future



EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, GE Vernova CEO Scott Strazik, and NextEra Energy Resources President and CEO Rebecca Kujawa spoke on a panel at the U.S. Department of State's U.S. Center Pavilion at COP28. The Business Council for Sustainable Energy President Lisa Jacobson moderated the discussion.

## **TOP STORY**

## **COP28: Demonstrating Global Clean Energy**

## Leadership

Earlier this month, leaders from around the world gathered in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, for the UN Climate Change Conference, or COP28. EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff led a delegation that included EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, Avangrid CEO Pedro Azagra, AES Corporation President and CEO Andrés Gluski, NextEra Energy Resources President and CEO Rebecca Kujawa, and several other member company executives.

EEI's delegation participated in six official side events highlighting our clean energy leadership and our efforts to partner with key stakeholders. Among our activities at COP28, EEI was proud to join with the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions and the Business Council for Sustainable Energy to host one of the few private-sector events in the U.S. Department of State's U.S. Center Pavilion.

Read on for highlights from EEI's official COP28 side events. Find more information, including recordings of each event, on EEI's COP28 webpage.

- Technology Triumphs: How U.S. Policy Is Accelerating Business Development EEI member company CEOs and executives joined industry and government
- partners at the U.S. Center to discuss how the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act are catalyzing new and additional investments in manufacturing, infrastructure, operations, and next-generation technologies. Senior Advisor to the President for Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation John Podesta delivered opening remarks for the event. Charging Ahead: How Electric Companies Are Powering a Net-Zero Future
- Global electric company CEOs and executives joined a panel discussion to highlight the next-generation technologies on which they are focused and the opportunities and challenges facing the global electric power sector as it works to reach net zero. Turning Promise Into Reality: Ensuring a Clean Energy Transition for All
- EEI member company CEOs joined a discussion on near- and long-term opportunities and challenges regarding the clean energy transition, including how to scale up clean technology development and ensure that all customers in all communities are benefitting from the investments being made to accelerate the clean energy transition.
- Building a Resilient Future: How Public and Private Efforts Are Making a This event explored what has changed in the resilience landscape since COP27, including the impact that the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law are having on private sector resilience efforts, especially those
- related to the energy grid. Charging Ahead: The Latest Developments in Electric Transportation EEI member company CEOs joined with leaders from Amazon, General Motors, and the U.S. Department of Energy to discuss exciting developments in electric transportation, including the National Electric Highway Coalition and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. Panelists also discussed the growing role of fleet electrification and how electric companies are partnering with customers and with automakers to ensure that sufficient energy grid capacity is available to meet anticipated vehicle charging needs.
- Public-Private Partnerships: Working Together to Advance Long-Duration **Energy Storage** This event highlighted a new initiative to advance the commercial deployment of long-duration energy storage (LDES) technologies. Participants included officials from the U.S. Department of Energy, EEI, EPRI, and the LDES Council, which all signed a memorandum of understanding earlier this year to advance LDES.
- Stay tuned for more from COP28 in the Winter 2024 issue of *Electric Perspectives*.



**Powering Progress With Resilient Clean Energy** Ralph LaRossa, chair, president, and CEO of New Jersey-based Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG), has worked for decades to help make PSEG's and EEI's shared vision for a resilient clean energy future a reality. LaRossa joined PSEG subsidiary Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) in 1985 as an associate engineer. He was named president and COO of PSE&G in 2006, became president and CEO of PSEG in September 2022, and he was named PSEG board chair in early 2023.

helm of New Jersey's oldest and largest investor-owned electric company—and the lessons he has learned during his career. **Read the interview** in the latest issue of *Electric Perspectives*.

LaRossa recently sat down with Electric Perspectives to reflect on his first year at the



## **REGISTER NOW**

# Take Advantage of Lower Rates for EEI 2024

Registration is now open for EEI 2024, the premier annual gathering of electric industry executives, policymakers, and thought leaders. It will be held from June 18-20 at the brand-new Fontainebleau Las Vegas.

EEI 2024 will showcase how America's electric companies are delivering resilient clean energy across our economy and will address topics that are defining and shaping the energy landscape of today and tomorrow. Register now to take advantage of 2023 rates. We look forward to seeing you in Las

Vegas!



## Bidgely has been named a Leader in the IDC MarketScape Worldwide Digital Customer Engagement Solutions for Utilities 2023-2024 Vendor Assessment. The report noted smart distributed energy resources management and electric vehicle charging management as Bidgely's distinctive capabilities. Read the **press release** to

learn more and to access an excerpt of the IDC MarketScape report.



# Nick Akins on the Pursuit of a Resilient Clean

#### **Energy Future** Nick Akins, former executive chair of American Electric Power's board of directors, recently spoke with *Electric Perspectives* magazine to share his lessons of leadership from his decades of service to the electric power industry.

"When I started [in this industry], you had never even heard of some of the challenges and opportunities we have in front of us today. This industry has so many opportunities for young people to make a dramatic impact on their communities, on technologies, on

future policies, and on issues that have a national and even international scale." Read the full interview in Electric Perspectives.



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

approach to address these increasing risks.

In the latest episode, EEI President and CEO Tom Kuhn reflects on his more than 30 years of service in the electric power industry. On December 31, Kuhn will step down from his current role as president and CEO. Kuhn has effectively worked with America's electric companies to navigate major policy issues in Congress, throughout the federal

agencies, and at the state and local levels. He also has led the development of strongindustry government partnerships, and has been extremely engaged in international dialogues that aim to advance the shared vision for an affordable and resilient clean energy future for all customers. On this episode, Kuhn discusses his decades of service, his sources of pride and inspiration, and his expectations for EEI's member companies and the industry moving forward. We also released an episode recently recapping the House Energy & Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations September hearing on the role of electric infrastructure in the Maui wildfire on August 8. Hawaiian Electric President and CEO Shelee Kimura was among the witnesses.

This hearing was a significant step in initiating a broader, national conversation about what needs to be done to make electric companies, and the communities they serve, more resilient against increasing climate risk and extreme weather events. The growing threat created by wildfires is a problem that challenges not only Maui, but the nation and the world. The hearing raised questions about how electric companies, regulators, private property owners, and other stakeholders can take a holistic, collaborative

The entire hearing lasted nearly two hours, but **this episode** features key autio segments, including Shelee Kimura's responses about Hawaiian Electric's application for a grid hardening project that had been pending with the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission since last year, Hawaiian Electric's wildfire protocols, and the obstacles to undergrounding power lines. You can watch the entire hearing on the **House** Committee on Energy and Commerce's YouTube page.

<u>Listen to the episodes here</u> or wherever you get your podcasts. bidgely WATCH ON DEMAND WEBINAR:

AI, GPT and the Utility of the Future



#### Throughout 2023, Energy Talk, *Electric Perspectives* magazine, and the *Electric* Perspectives podcast documented examples of how EEI's member companies are leading efforts to deliver America's resilient clean energy future. Following are just a few highlights from our 2023 coverage:

**Celebrating 90 Years of Power by Association** (Electric Perspectives, May/June 2023) "Since EEI proudly assumed the mantle of representing America's investor-owned electric companies 90 years ago, we have showcased the game-changing, lifeenhancing work of our member companies to build the foundation for America's

reflection—as well as to look ahead. The history of EEI and our member companies is as inspiring as our future is exciting." Read more. 17 EEI Member Companies Involved With Announced Hydrogen Hubs (Energy Talk, October 2023)

resilient clean energy future. Celebrating an anniversary like this is an opportunity for

# "The Biden administration and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced more than \$7 billion in federal funding for the development of seven

regional clean hydrogen hubs—called H2Hubs—across the United States. Seventeen EEI member companies are involved with the seven teams selected for award negotiations, which range from \$750 million to \$1.2 billion in funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law." Read more. **EEI 2023: Highlights from EEI's Annual Meeting** (Electric Perspectives, July/August 2023) "EEI's member companies are committed to delivering reliable, resilient clean energy to

the customers and communities they serve, working collaboratively with partners in government, technology, academia, and the investment community to lead the global

### clean energy transition. In June at EEI 2023, 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." Read more.

**Collaborating to Combat Wildfires** (Electric Perspectives podcast, May 2023) "America's electric companies are working together to identify opportunities to enhance mitigation, detection, and response capabilities as part of our wildfire mitigation strategy. The electric power industry has built trusted relationships with partners across the federal government who have key roles to play in our collective wildfire mitigation efforts. U.S. Forest Service Chief Randy Moore and EEI Vice Chair Maria Pope, who is president and CEO of Portland General Electric (PGE) in Oregon and co-chair of EEI's

#### Wildfire CEO Taskforce and the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council's Wildfire Working Group, joined the Electric Perspectives podcast to discuss the industrygovernment partnership to combat wildfires and how PGE and the U.S. Forest Service prepare for the peak of wildfire season." Listen now.

**GET SOCIAL** #Committed2Clean at COP28 At COP28, EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff moderated a panel discussion about public and private

### grid resilience efforts in the United States. Participants included EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, and EPRI President and CEO Arshad Monsoor.

EEI @ @Edison\_Electric · Dec 5

the importance of industry-government partnerships for ensuring that affordability and reliability remain front and center during the clean energy transition. #COP28 @ #Committed2Clean

EEI Chair and @EdisonIntl President and CEO Pedro J. Pizarro emphasized





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