

Energy **Talk**

Your Monthly Energy News Digest

March 2024







Left to right: EEI Executive Vice President, Business Operations Group and Regulatory Affairs Phil Moeller; EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette; EEI Executive Vice President, Clean Energy, and General Counsel and Corporate Secretary Emily Sanford Fisher; EEI Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President, Public Policy and External Affairs Brian Wolff; EEI Senior Vice President, Energy Supply and Finance, and Chief ESG Officer Richard McMahon.

TOP STORY

EEI's Annual State of the Energy Industry Outlook

EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette and other members of EEI's executive leadership team briefed Wall Street analysts, bankers, and investors on February 20, highlighting the industry's 2024 priorities and the ongoing commitment of EEI member companies to deliver reliable, affordable, and resilient clean energy to the customers and communities they serve.

"This is an exciting industry, and there has never been a more exciting time to be part of it," said Brouillette as he opened the discussion. "The electric power industry is key to the U.S. economy. ... The U.S. economy and the world economy depend on the provision of electricity for so much of our lives."

During the presentation, EEI emphasized the substantial investments electric companies are making in the energy grid to ensure reliability and resilience in the face of increased electrification and demand growth. Other key industry priorities that were discussed include the ongoing clean energy transition; the commitment to customer affordability; policy and regulatory implementation; grid resilience and security; storm response and wildfire mitigation; and workforce development.

Find a recording of the presentation and related materials on EEI's website.



IN THE NEWS

Update on EPA's Proposed 111 Rules

In late February, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael Regan announced that existing natural gas generation no longer will be part of the proposed Clean Air Act Section 111 package that the agency is working to finalize. EPA aims to revisit and repropose the rule for existing gas at a later time. EEI Executive Vice President of Clean Energy and General Counsel Emily Sanford Fisher issued the following statement on the announcement:

"EEI and our member electric companies identified significant challenges for existing natural gas generation in EPA's proposed 111 rules. As we outlined in our comments, natural gas is an essential partner for energy grid reliability and affordability and for meeting increasing customer demands for electricity. We understand that the role of natural gas continues to evolve, and it is important that regulations for existing natural gas protect customer reliability and affordability and support our industry's ongoing clean energy transition.

"While EEI has not seen the final rules, we appreciate that EPA has acknowledged our concerns with the proposed regulations for existing natural gas. We know that the agency likely will repropose regulations for these units once this rule is finalized, and we look forward to continuing to work constructively with Administrator Regan and his team as they gather data and conduct additional stakeholder engagement."



HAPPENING NOW

EEI Statement on the SEC's Final Climate-Related Disclosures Rules

On March 6, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) approved final rules for climate-related disclosures. EEI Senior Vice President, Energy Supply and Finance, and Chief ESG Officer Richard McMahon issued the following statement on the rules:

"EEI and our member electric companies support enhanced climate-related disclosures. Our members have been utilizing EEI's voluntary reporting template for greenhouse gas emissions and other ESG-related information for years to meet the needs of the investor community.

"While we still are reviewing the final rule, we appreciate that the SEC appears to have prioritized Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions reporting, which are most relevant for investors, over Scope 3 emissions due to inherent accuracy and reporting challenges for these emissions. EEI and our members will work with the investor community and financial reporting experts to implement this important rule and to ask for clarifications from the SEC where necessary."



RESILIENCE PLANNING

EEI, Air Force Sign MOU to Collaborate on Resilience

EEI and the Department of the Air Force (DAF) announced the signing of a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) to facilitate exploration of best practices for joint energy resilience planning between DAF installations and EEI member companies.

The MOU, signed by Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Energy, Installations, and Environment) Dr. Ravi Chaudhary and EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette, establishes a framework for the two organizations to identify opportunities to align the common energy goals of the DAF, its servicing electric companies, and nearby communities.

"The U.S. military is one of the largest electricity customers in the nation. Our partnership with the Department of the Air Force is vital to strengthening energy security and grid resilience and lays the foundation for joint energy resilience planning," said Brouillette.

Read more in EEI's press release.



Left to right: Chris Arends, Meteorology Program Manager, San Diego Gas & Electric; Aditya Ranade, Director of the Energy, Sustainability, and Infrastructure Division, Guidehouse; Nic Wilson, Director of Product Management, Weather and Climate Intelligence, DTN; Chris Eisenbrey, Senior Director of Preparedness Recovery Policy, EEI.

EEI Hosts Annual Wildfire Technology Summit

In late February, EEI convened member company executives, thought leaders, industry stakeholders, and government partners for the annual Wildfire Technology Summit, held this year in San Diego. The two-day summit allowed attendees to discuss best practices and opportunities for collaboration, while panelists showcased the latest cutting-edge technologies that are being used to mitigate wildfire risk.

"Getting to net zero requires deploying more efficient technologies that will make the grid stronger and more reliable. And wildfire technologies are a big piece of that," said Eric Holdsworth, EEI managing director of clean energy and environmental policy and executive director of the Institute for the Energy Transition.

Topics discussed included risk assessment strategies, the importance of weather-driven decision-making, vegetation management, grid hardening investments, the integration of advanced grid sensing and detection technologies, and the development and implementation of public safety power shutoff (PSPS) programs, among others. EEI member company representatives later convened to review scalable technology solutions for wildfire risk mitigation and to continue the PSPS discussion.

"Wildfire risk is an issue that increasingly is resonating with regulators, stakeholders, and people in this space across the country," said Riaz Mohammed, EEI senior director of resiliency and environmental policy. "We are getting questions about this from people who are not in traditionally high-risk areas, and we want to highlight how proactive this industry is and has been."

Representatives from EPRI and the U.S. Department of Energy's National Labs also were in attendance to discuss public-private partnerships and opportunities for industry-government collaboration to mitigate wildfire risk.

A full summary of the Wildfire Technology Summit will appear in the Q2 issue of *Electric Perspectives* magazine. Learn how EEI's member companies are investing in resilience—and undertaking year-round power restoration and business continuity planning to prepare for all types of emergencies on eei.org.



WHAT WE'RE READING

The Clean Energy Future: Urgency Is Key

In the winter issue of *Electric Perspectives* magazine, EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, shares his perspective on policy priorities, security and resilience initiatives, and the path toward a clean energy future.

"The clean energy future is a marathon, not a sprint, and runners know when it's time to pick up the pace," Pizarro said. "Legislation that will accelerate our clean energy future is a priority."

Read his full conversation.



TUNE IN

Electric Perspectives: The Podcast

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

Recently, EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette joined the podcast to discuss policy priorities for EEI in 2024, how the industry will balance the growing demand for clean energy with reliability expectations, and more.

Plus, EEI Senior Director of Electric Transportation Kellen Schefter joined co-authors from Exelon, CALSTART, and the World Resources Institute to discuss a new white paper on electric school buses, including their grid impacts and the policy solutions to expanding access.

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



REGISTER NOW

Registration is open for EEI 2024, the premier annual gathering of electric industry and technology company executives, policymakers, and thought leaders. It will be held from June 18-20 at the brand-new Fontainebleau in 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. We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas!



LOOKING AHEAD

EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro Outlines EEI's 2024 Priorities on the CERAWeek Podcast



Spring 2024 Transmission, Distribution, Metering, & Mutual Assistance Conference

EEI's Transmission, Distribution, Metering & Mutual Assistance Conference (TDM&MA) is the premier conference that focuses on the transmission, distribution, metering, mutual assistance, and emergency preparedness topics that are strategically important to electric power industry stakeholders.

The Spring TDM&MA Conference will be held April 14-17 at the Hyatt Regency Houston.

Register now.

GET SOCIAL

Highlights From EEI



It was great to discuss the current state of macroeconomics with Jamie Dimon at our board meeting this week. He's without question one of America's foremost thinkers on capital investment, and always willing to "tell like it is...". Thanks for joining us, Jamie.





I relish speaking with a great leader and friend, @GovWesMoore, about driving policies that support clean energy goals and leading an equitable energy transformation in our great state of Maryland. Thank you, @Edison_Electric for providing this critical space.



Governor Wes Moore



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