



WIRES Spring Meeting

April 2-3, 2025 – Colorado Springs, CO at The Broadmoor

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

6:00 - 9:00 pm MST **Cocktail Reception**
Dinner

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

8:00 - 9:00 am MST **Breakfast**

9:00 - 10:00 am **Keynote Address**
Lanny Nickell, President and CEO, Southwest Power Pool

10:00 - 11:15 am **Panel 1 – AI & Data Center Demand: What Does It Mean For Transmission?**

Panelists

Patrick Arness, Federal Affairs, Dominion Energy

Cy McNeill, Director, Federal Energy Policy, Data Center Coalition

Aubrey Johnson, VP of System & Resource Planning, Competitive Transmission, MISO Energy

Moderator

Michael Tierney, Account Director, Continuum Industries

11:15 - 11:30 am **Coffee Break**

11:30 - 12:30 pm **Panel 2 – Energy Decision-making in the New Administration and the Roles of FERC, DOE & the National Energy Dominance Council**

Panelists

Craig Glazer, VP of Federal Government Policy, PJM Interconnection

Maria Robinson, Former Director of DOE Grid Deployment Office

Norman Bay, Head of Energy Regulatory & Enforcement Group, Willkie Farr & Gallagher

Moderator

Zack Hale, Federal Energy Policy Reporter, S&P Global Commodity Insights

12:30 - 2:00 pm **Lunch**



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PRESENTERS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Lanny Nickell

**President and CEO,
Southwest Power Pool**

Lanny Nickell is President and Chief Executive Officer for Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a

Regional Transmission Organization whose member utilities operate primarily in the Central United States. Under his leadership, SPP ensures affordable wholesale electric power is continuously delivered to 18 million people, today and in the future. Lanny joined SPP in 1997 and previously served as Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Engineering, and Vice President of Operations.

Lanny received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tulsa and is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program.

PANEL 1 – AI & DATA CENTER DEMAND: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR TRANSMISSION?



Panelist

Patrick Arness

**Federal Affairs,
Dominion Energy**

Patrick Arness currently serves as a Federal Affairs Policy Advisor for Dominion Energy where

he focuses on transmission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), load growth and resource adequacy, and siting and permitting issues. Prior to joining Dominion, he worked in government relations for the Edison Electric

Institute. He also spent more than 10 years working on Capitol Hill covering a range of issues, including energy and the environment.



Panelist

Cy McNeill

**Director, Federal Energy
Policy, Data Center
Coalition**

Cy McNeill is director of federal energy policy for the Data Center Coalition

(DCC), the membership association serving as the voice of the U.S. data center industry.

Before joining DCC, Cy worked in the regulated energy sector and in public service, most recently with Alliant Energy in Washington, DC. Cy managed the company's federal regulatory strategy and advocated before Congress and the executive branch on issues such as electric transmission, siting and permitting reform, energy market design, and foreign trade. Cy also led engagement efforts for the company with trade association regulatory and policy committees, as well as coalition building among consumer groups, state regulators, and clean energy developers to advance key policy priorities.

Prior to Alliant Energy, Cy spent time serving in the federal government working for the Department of Commerce and FERC. While at FERC, Cy advised the commission on issues such as tax reform implementation and wholesale gas market policy. Additionally, he provided testimony on litigated cases before the agency.

Cy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Salisbury University.



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Panelist

Aubrey Johnson

VP of System & Resource Planning, Competitive Transmission, MISO Energy

Aubrey Johnson is VP of System & Resource Planning, Competitive Transmission at MISO. He oversees all aspects of transmission planning, resource planning, and SEAMS Strategy to meet MISO's future system needs. Aubrey is responsible for the planning process that yields the annual MISO Transmission Expansion Plan, including reliability, economic and interregional planning, transmission cost allocation, resource adequacy, resource utilization, and the competitive transmission developer selection and monitoring process.

Aubrey's background spans more than 30 years in the energy industry. He served as Vice President of New Mexico Operations at the Public Service Company of New Mexico. Prior to that he held various positions at GE Energy Services and Southern Company.

Aubrey holds a Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering from Tuskegee University.



Moderator

Michael Tierney

Account Director, Continuum Industries

Mike Tierney, Account Director at Continuum Industries, specializes in energy infrastructure development and project management. With a background in engineering at ConEd and experience managing large capital projects for Google X, Mike understands the challenges facing the utility sector as it attempts to stay ahead of accelerating load growth. As a leader

at Continuum Industries, Mike helps utilities leverage AI to proactively address the increasing demand from the broader AI and Data Center industry.

Mike received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University.

PANEL 2 – ENERGY DECISION-MAKING IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AND THE ROLES OF FERC, DOE & THE NATIONAL ENERGY DOMINANCE COUNCIL



Panelist

Craig Glazer

VP of Federal Government Policy, PJM Interconnection

Craig Glazer serves as the Vice President-Federal Government Policy for PJM Interconnection. In this capacity, Craig coordinates all of PJM's regulatory and legislative policies before Congress, FERC, the U.S. Department of Energy and other federal agencies. PJM operates the largest competitive wholesale electricity market in the world and serves over 9% of the U.S. population. Craig heads PJM's Washington, D.C. office.

Prior to coming to PJM, Craig served as Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. As one of the longest-serving Chairs of the Ohio Commission in its history, he oversaw Ohio's move toward deregulation of its telephone, natural gas, transportation and electric industries. Craig served as CEO of the agency which operated with over 300 employees and a budget of \$25 million. He also chaired the state's Siting Board and served as a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

Craig remains extremely active on national electricity issues. He frequently testified before Congress and FERC on development of RTOs



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and the needs of the marketplace. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, Chairman of its International Relations Committee and a member of its Electricity and Energy Resources Committees. He also chaired the National Council on Competition in the Electric Industry, an interagency collaborative which brought together FERC, the state PUCs, the U.S. DOE, the U.S. EPA and the National Council of State Legislatures.

Craig is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Vanderbilt University School of Law.



Panelist

Maria Robinson

Former Director of DOE Grid Deployment Office

Maria Duaine Robinson was the Former Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office. Maria was the first Korean-American elected to the Massachusetts General Court, where she served in the House of Representatives from 2019-2022. While in office, she led the bicameral Clean Energy Caucus, was the Massachusetts state lead for the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators where she also served on the board, and was the only state legislator on the U.S. EPA Clean Air Act Advisory Committee. She also served on faculty at Tufts University's School of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy, bringing her expertise in energy policy to graduate students. Prior to her election in 2018, Maria led Advanced Energy Economy's Wholesale Markets Program, including engagement at FERC and the regional transmission organizations.

Previously, Maria focused on regulatory issues relating to energy and air, including a 27-state campaign with Governors' offices, legislatures, and energy and environmental regulators. She also managed AEE's report

development and data-driven analysis at both the state and national level. She worked for Navigant Consulting in the renewable energy practice, supporting the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in analyzing and procuring contractors for statewide renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

Maria is a proud lifetime Girl Scout. She holds an S.B. in Chemical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Masters of Jurisprudence in Energy Law from the University of Tulsa.



Panelist

Norman Bay

Head of Energy Regulatory & Enforcement Group, Willkie Farr & Gallagher

Norman C. Bay is a partner in the Corporate and Financial Services Department, Chair of the Energy Regulatory & Enforcement Practice Group, and Co-Chair of the Energy & Commodities Practice Group at Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Norman advises clients on a range of energy market issues, including enforcement and compliance, policy and ratemaking, mergers and acquisitions, and infrastructure development.

Norman was Director of the Office of Enforcement at FERC from 2009 to 2014, before becoming a Commissioner and Chairman of the Commission. He has extensive litigation experience, as earlier in his career he spent more than a decade at the U.S. Department of Justice, where he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney and then the U.S. Attorney for the District of New Mexico.

Norman is recognized as a thought leader on the energy transition and on electricity and natural gas markets. Chambers USA (2024) ranks him among the leading practitioners nationwide in the area of Energy: Electricity (Regulatory & Litigation).



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Moderator

Zack Hale

**Federal Energy Policy
Reporter, S&P Global
Commodity Insights**

Zack Hale is a federal energy policy reporter with Platts, part of S&P Global Commodity Insights. Since joining the company in 2018, Zack has covered wholesale power markets, electric transmission policy, environmental regulations, and related legislative action in Congress. Before that, Zack was a reporter for The Daily News in southwest Washington state.

Zack graduated from Western Washington University with a Bachelor's degree in journalism and holds a Master's degree in energy policy and climate from Johns Hopkins University.