

2025 MIDWEST ENERGY SOLUTIONS CONFERENCE

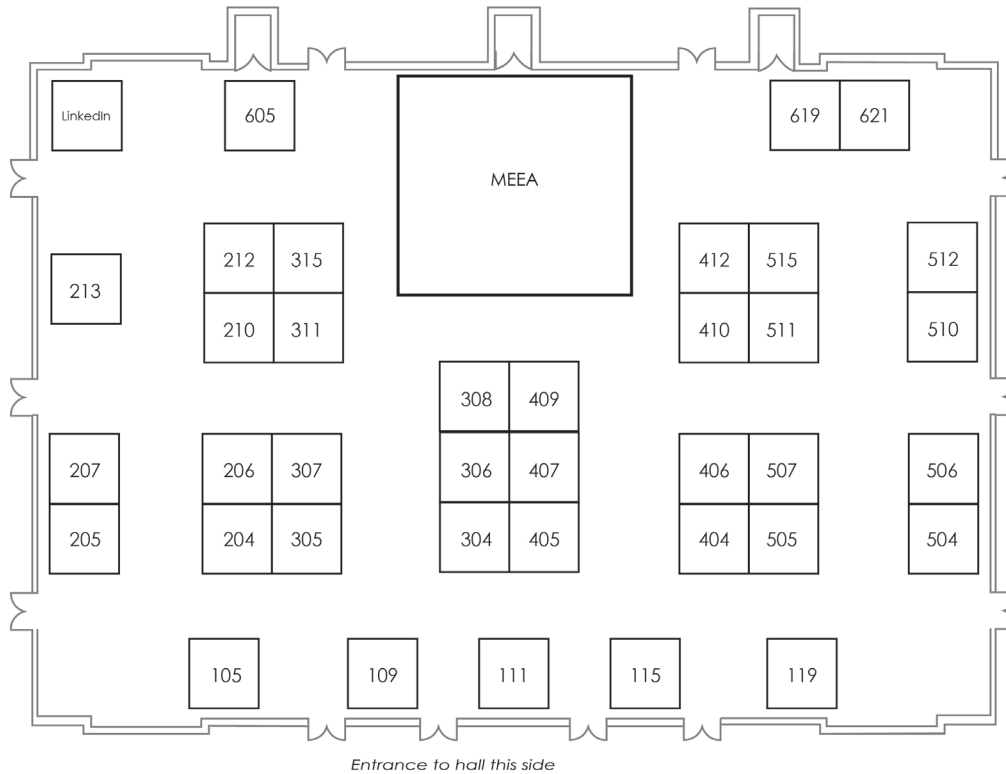
#2025MES

Chicago Marriott
Downtown Magnificent Mile
Chicago, IL
January 28 - 30, 2025

Presented by



2025 EXHIBIT HALL FLOOR PLAN



COMPANY

Booth

Center for Energy and Environment	212	Guidehouse	510	Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas Energy Efficiency Programs	511
CLEAResult	306	HData	213	Resource Innovations	505
Clarke Energy	605	HVAC U	621	Rheem Manufacturing	407
CMC Energy Services	404	ICF	307	SEEL, LLC	111
Copeland	305	i3 Energy	308	Slipstream	311
Daikin	210	Leidos	406	Trane Technologies	512
DNV	412	LG Electronics	204	TRC	409
Energy Resources Center at UIC	619	Michaels Energy	105	TrickleStar	205
E Source	315	Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US	207	Walker-Miller Energy Services	405
ESPLabs	304	MyHEAT	506	Willdan	119
Franklin Energy	304	National Energy Foundation	504		
Greenlite	410	NTC	109		
	115	Onbe	507		

WELCOME TO 2025 MES!

On behalf of the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, our staff and our Board of Directors, I am thrilled to welcome you to the 23rd annual Midwest Energy Solutions Conference.

Last year's conference marked MEEA's largest to date and my first as Executive Director. We brought almost 900 attendees from 35 states and four countries to Chicago, showcasing why MES is the Midwest's can't-miss conference on energy efficiency.



paige knutsen

Paige Knutsen
Executive Director
MEEA

Our team is excited to present another agenda of interactive workshops, discussions, panels and plenaries with topics that include virtual powerplants, distributed energy resources, equitable outreach, industrial energy efficiency and so much more.

I encourage you to download the conference app to plan which sessions you'll attend and to connect with fellow attendees. Let's spend the next three days learning alongside one another on best practices and innovative solutions to equitably drive energy efficiency throughout the country.

Thank you for joining us at 2025 MES!



Brian Doyle

Brian Doyle
Xcel Energy
MEEA Board Chair

On behalf of the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance Board, it is my pleasure to welcome you to 2025 MES. We're delighted to have you join us for this opportunity to connect, collaborate and advance energy efficiency in our region and beyond.

As MEEA's Board Chair, I hope to see you over the next few days joining the conversation in new discussion groups on a variety of pressing EE topics or at the MEEA Connect booth to meet the staff behind MES.

While you're there, I encourage you to learn more about member benefits and, if you're not a member already, consider joining! Also, don't miss the receptions in the exhibit hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, and return after dinner on Wednesday for the hit event, the MEEA Nightcap.

I'm looking forward to meeting you all and working together on solutions for a clean energy future. Thank you for being part of this year's conference. Your insights and expertise are invaluable in shaping our industry.

2025 INSPIRING EFFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS



Learn more about this year's winners and nominees!

CHAIR'S AWARD

Brandon Renaud

CHAMPION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Building Energy Exchange St. Louis

CHAMPION OF ENERGY EQUITY

Quinn Parker

EDUCATION

Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program

IMPACT

Michigan Farm Energy Program
SEEL Grant Writing Program

INNOVATION

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

MARKETING

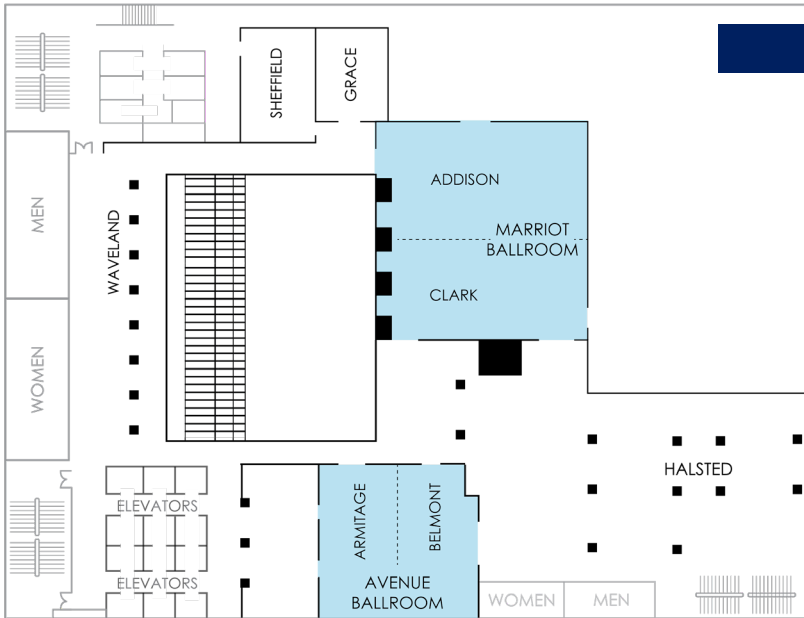
Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas
Energy Efficiency Programs

Celebrate the winners of the 2025 Inspiring Efficiency Awards during opening remarks on Tuesday, and learn more during a panel on Wednesday, January 29 at 3:15 p.m. in the 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2.

HOTEL FLOOR PLANS

4TH FLOOR

- DISCUSSION GROUPS
- LUNCH
- MEEA NIGHTCAP



5TH FLOOR

- EXHIBIT HALL
- RECEPTIONS
- BREAKFASTS



7TH FLOOR

- WORKSHOPS
- BREAKOUTS
- PLENARIES



AGENDA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

9am-12pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom | **Becoming A More Inclusive Leader**

Leaders of all levels will learn the basics, best practices and practical examples of leading inclusively. Attendees will be taught how to create and implement their own inclusive leadership plans. By the end of the workshop, you will be prepared to develop, maintain and track metrics related to inclusive leadership.

- Facilitated by Scott Alan Davis, SEEL, LLC

9am-5:30pm | 7th Floor | **Registration Open**

12-6:30pm | 5th Floor - Chicago Ballroom | **Exhibit Hall Open**

1:20-2pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom | **Welcome, Opening Remarks & Award Presentation**

The MEEA Board Chair will preview 2025 MES and present the Chair's and Champion Inspiring Efficiency Awards.

- Brian Doyle, Xcel Energy & MEEA Board Chair

Sponsored by:



2-3:15pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom | **Plenary 1: Reliability, Affordability and Sustainability: How Regional Transmission Operators are Planning for the Grid of the Future**

Representatives from regional transmission operators will share insights on managing exponential load growth, incorporating demand side resources and coordinating across the region to ensure a resilient and efficient energy system for the future.

- Asim Haque, PJM
- Todd Hillman, MISO
- Bruce Rew, SPP
- Doug Scott, ICC

3:15-3:45pm | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | **Break**

Sponsored by:



3:45-5pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 1 | **Workshop A1: Contractor Perspectives: HVAC Workforce Development**

Join this interactive workshop to step into the shoes of HVAC contractors and tackle workforce development challenges from a unique point of view. Participants will form small groups, each representing a unique contractor archetype. Together, you'll explore the diverse challenges these contractors face, including recruitment, installation, training and customer engagement.

3:45-5pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 | **Break Out A2: Cracking the Code: Unlocking the Secret Powers of Building Energy Codes**

Modern, efficient building energy codes are critical to the health and resilience of all communities and help improve the quality of the general building stock. However, many communities face barriers to adopting and enforcing energy codes or upgrading the efficiency of existing homes, with particular challenges faced by rural, tribal and manufactured home communities – communities that can often benefit the most from greater building efficiency. This panel will offer different perspectives & lessons learned on how to effectively address energy code adoption and compliance, as well as best practices for energy upgrades to a critical sector of existing housing stock.

- Nate Baer, i3 Energy
- Matthew Beaudet, Ádisóke Solutions, LLC
- Alison Lindburg, MEEA
- Cornelia Wu, NEEP

3:45-5pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 3 | **Break Out A3: Valuing Energy Efficiency**

The marginal value of a saved kilowatt-hour is inevitably going down. Market transformation and appliance standards have changed the baseline and there are less incremental energy savings per measure. Increased use of DERs lowers the avoided cost of generation and transmission. We need a cost-of-carbon-saved in our EE calculations to drive additional savings now, but as the grid gets greener that value will go down too. How do we change the value proposition for EE to drive long-term savings even in a post-carbon world?

- Graeme Miller, Energy Resources Center at UIC
- Fernando Morales, Ameren Illinois
- Mike Specian, ACEEE
- Angela Ziech-Malek, DNV

3:45-4:45pm | 4th Floor - Avenue Ballroom | **Discussion: Enhancing Residential Energy Efficiency: Exploring Non-Energy Impacts and Equitable Design Strategies**

Beyond saving energy, residential energy efficiency programs produce an array of non-energy benefits for residents that include improved health, financial security and productivity. This open-format discussion will explore innovative program design options and equity considerations for maximizing the non-energy impacts of EE.

3:45-4:45pm | 4th Floor - Addison Ballroom |

Discussion: Program Innovation Moving Past Lighting

With lighting projects dwindling, implementors and utilities will need to find innovative approaches to marketing and outreach to help advertise and find success in non-lighting projects. Join the conversation while we tackle the complexity of these goals, with participants discussing what is necessary to fulfill the goals of a given program in today's EE program environment.

3:45-4:45pm | 4th Floor - Clark Ballroom |

Discussion: Market Transformation in the Age of IRA

Utilities are looking to market transformation for greater energy savings opportunities while State Energy Offices are planning IRA Home Energy Rebate market transformation strategies to ensure demand for energy efficiency sustains after rebate funds run out. Add your thoughts on how both goals can be accomplished through enhanced collaboration.

5-6:30pm | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | Opening Reception

Sponsored by:



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

8am-5pm | 7th Floor | Registration Open

8:15am-6pm | 5th Floor - Chicago Ballroom |

Exhibit Hall Open

8:15-9:15am | 5th Floor- Exhibit Hall | Breakfast

Sponsored by:



Energy for what matters most.

9:15-9:45am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom | Opening Remarks

Sponsored by:



9:45-10:45am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom | Plenary 2: Leave No State Behind - Getting Everyone Off the EE Plateau

The late 2000s-2010s saw rapid utility EE portfolio growth in the Midwest, with newly adopted EE Resource Standards driving gains. Currently, regionwide efficiency growth has plateaued as EERS ramp-ups have leveled off and politics have limited new adoptions. Numerous challenges facing our energy systems today - such as reliability, resource adequacy, infrastructure constraints and unprecedented load growth - can be addressed from the demand side, but policymakers, regulators, utilities and advocates need

to work together across the region to make EE a consistent priority. Without the possibility of adopting new EERS, what are the next policies that will address these grid challenges and put EE back into a regional growth phase?

- Adam Cooper, Institute for Electric Innovation
- Carter Dedolph, CenterPoint Energy
- Sandra Henry, Slipstream
- John Taylor, Consortium for Energy Efficiency

10:45-11:45am | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | Break

Sponsored by:



11:15am-12:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 1 | Workshop B1: Ready for Liftoff: How VPPs Can Achieve Commercial Success

Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) present an opportunity to manage strain on the grid during times of high demand. In this workshop, participants will dive into the DOE's Pathways to Commercial Liftoff for VPPs, joining groups focused on each of the 5 Challenges to Liftoff identified in the report. Each group will identify paths to action to address the challenge and highlight opportunities for collaboration between relevant stakeholder groups.

11:15am-12:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 | Break Out B2: Achieving Affordability with Innovative Rate Design

What are some of the latest innovative ways to reimagine rate design to achieve affordability for more customers? This session will explore the use of discounted rates, designing a new rate category for heat pump users, and other tools along the customer journey to create affordability for low-income customers.

- Julia Friedman, Oracle
- Kari Ross, NRDC
- Jolene A. Sheil, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
- Randal Tudawe, Center for Energy & Environment

11:15am-12:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 3 | Break Out B3: This is Your Pilot Speaking: Utility RD&D Pilots Showdown

Get ready for a high-energy session where utilities compete and showcase their most groundbreaking research, development and demonstration (RD&D) pilots across sectors. Each utility will have a limited time to pitch their innovative project, highlighting its potential for transforming the energy landscape. After the presentations, the audience will vote to crown the most impactful and forward-thinking RD&D pilot as the winner.

AGENDA CONTINUED

- Nic Crowder, Ameren Illinois
- Adam Hammond, AES Indiana
- Carrie Harkness, Consumers Energy
- Thomas Manjarres, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
- Mark Szczygiel, Nicor Gas
- Rick Tonielli, ComEd
- Zian Trober, Evergy

12:30-1:45pm | 4th Floor | Lunch

Sponsored by:   

1:45-2:45pm | Throughout | Affinity Group Discussions

Please see the list of Affinity Groups and locations for each on page 9 or in the conference app.

2:45-3:15pm | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | Break

Sponsored by:



3:15-4:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 1 | Workshop C1: Modernizing Your Equitable Outreach Toolbox

This workshop will bring participants together to share success stories, strategies, tools and frameworks for ensuring customers are engaged in utility programs. Attendees will work through an exercise to practice implementing new strategies when developing a campaign for historically underserved audiences.

3:15-4:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 | Break Out C2: 2025 Inspiring Efficiency Awards: Best of the Midwest

Learn about this year's IEA award winners as well as all the new and innovative work applicants have been doing in the Midwest.

- Jean Gibson, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas
- Aluel Go, Michigan Farm Energy Program
- Alison Gregoire, Nicor Gas
- Scott Alan Davis, SEEL, LLC
- Kelly Klopp, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas
- Jen Rhodes, MEEA
- Katie Rohlik, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

3:15-4:30pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 3 | Break Out C3: Industrial Energy Efficiency In Action

Are you confused by the many acronyms for regional networks working to drive EE adoption in industrial facilities? Hear from representatives of various manufacturing partnerships and technical assistance networks from across the Midwest region. Dive into innovative case studies

highlighting each network's unique approach to assist manufacturers in saving energy, optimizing production, cutting costs and creating a healthier facility environment.

- Kristen Cetin, Michigan State University U.S. DOE Industrial Assessment Center
- Cliff Haefke, Energy Resources Center at UIC
- Brent Ribble, U.S. EPA Region 5
- Carl Samuelson, Michaels Energy

3:15-4:15pm | 4th Floor - Avenue Ballroom | Discussion: Checking in with MEEA's Workforce Committee

Join members of the MEEA workforce committee for an informal discussion of current initiatives and opportunities for collaboration, related to training and growing the clean energy workforce in the Midwest.

3:15-4:15pm | 4th Floor - Addison Ballroom | Discussion: Attribution of Energy Savings

IRA programs and incentives are coming and programs will work better with utility partners. However, there needs to be agreement on the attribution of savings to each program. Review best practices and work through challenges in this discussion.

3:15-4:15pm | 4th Floor - Clark Ballroom | Discussion: Assessing Gas and Cold Climate Heat Pumps for Midwest Applications

Evolving technologies of residential gas heat pumps and cold climate heat pumps can complement and/or compete in advancing sustainable heating solutions in energy efficiency, decarbonization and utility programs. Join the discussion on performance, cost and market viability of each technology specifically for cold climates.

4:30-6pm | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | MEEA Reception

Sponsored by:



8:30-11:30pm | 4th Floor | MEEA Nightcap

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

8-11am | 7th Floor | Registration Open

8-11am | 5th Floor - Chicago Ballroom | Exhibit Hall Open

8:30-9:15am | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | Breakfast

Sponsored by:



9:15-10:15am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 1 | Break Out D1: Debugging Datacenter Demand

Unprecedented customer demand for the data and digital services that drive modern life means massive datacenter growth is a new reality. With this growth comes the challenge of serving datacenter energy needs while meeting the needs of the distribution grid, keeping costs down for the rest of the customers, and serving political and climate goals. In this panel, our team of experts will show how demand-side and distributed energy resources provide a key solution to the computational conundrum.

- Lisa Keels, LG&E and KU Energy LLC
- Micah Sweeney, EPRI
- Sarah Smith, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- Aaron Tinjum, Datacenter Coalition

9:15-10:15am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 | Break Out D2: Looking into a Crystal Ball: What is the Future of Gas?

As many as 12 states, including Illinois and Minnesota, have open Future of Gas dockets exploring questions about decarbonization pathways and what they mean for the future of natural gas. This panel of experts will speak to the current FOG dockets pending around the country and provide varying viewpoints about the range of potential outcomes in these proceedings. Join us for a thoughtful discussion about decarbonization and the transition away from natural gas.

- Dan Aas, E3
- Ryan Kerr, GTI Energy
- Madeline Semanisin, NRDC
- Kit White, MEEA

9:15-10:15am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 3 | Break Out D3: Stories from IRA Home Energy Rebate Implementation

We've all heard a lot from State Energy Offices as they are developing their IRA programs, but how are utilities, implementers and other partners involved in the development and implementation of these programs? Hear about how states and utilities are working together to streamline program delivery and make the most of these historic investments.

- Erin Cosgrove, NEEP
- Dylan Crye, Focus on Energy
- Molly Graham, MEEA
- Nick Kessler, CenterPoint Energy

10:15-10:40am | 5th Floor - Exhibit Hall | Break

10:40-10:45am | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 & 3 | Closing Remarks

Sponsored by:



10:45am-12pm | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2 & 3 | Plenary 3: Energy Efficiency and Distributed Energy Resources in the New Administration

A new administration will mean shifting federal priorities in the energy sector. Regional and national leaders will discuss the legislative, economic and funding opportunities following the 2024 elections.

- Paula Glover, Alliance to Save Energy
- Charles Hua, PowerLines
- Paige Knutsen, MEEA
- Jennifer Schafer, Cascade

12pm | End of Conference

STAY CONNECTED

FREE WI-FI

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available for all attendees.

Network: MES2025

Password: Cadmus!!

Sponsored by: **CADMUS**



MES SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by:  **comed**[™]
AN EXELON COMPANY

MES CONFERENCE APP



Browse the agenda, connect with other attendees and get the latest updates with the 2025 MES Conference app from Whova.

How to Get the App

- Scan QR code or search your app store for Whova App
- Download the Whova app
- In the app, search for "2025 MES Conference"

App sponsored by:



MEEA CONNECT

MEEA's booth is the central hub of the exhibit hall. Visit MEEA Connect to learn more about our work, find information about the conference, or take a minute to recharge your devices and yourself.

Students from across the Midwest are encouraged to attend MES through our Scholarship Program. We are pleased to welcome these undergrad and graduate students to the conference. Please say hi and welcome them to the industry if you see them throughout the week. Thanks to ComEd for their support of the MES scholarship program.

Hamza Alnawafah | *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

Sofia Balashvili | *Indiana University*

Lucas Giese | *Indiana University*

Erick-Innocent Mollé | *Illinois Institute of Technology*

Nicholas Polk | *Loyola University Chicago*

Anna Sako | *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

Faustina Sakyiwaah Sekyere | *University of Wisconsin*

Munkhjin Tserennadmid | *Indiana University*

Jay Weekley | *Albion College*

Joylyn Bon Yu | *Loyola University Chicago*

Maha Ziadeh | *University of Wisconsin*

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Be sure to tag MEEA in your LinkedIn posts and use the conference hashtag **#2025MES**. We will be sharing your posts throughout the conference.



DISCUSSION GROUPS

New to MES this year, these discussion groups give attendees time to join the conversation and explore different topics in a more informal setting. Locations for each discussion are listed in the agenda.

Tuesday | 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

- Enhancing Residential Energy Efficiency: Exploring Non-Energy Impacts and Equitable Design Strategies
- Program Innovation Moving Past Lighting
- Market Transformation in the Age of IRA

Wednesday | 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

- Checking in with MEEA's Workforce Committee
- Attribution of Energy Savings
- Assessing Gas and Cold Climate Heat Pumps for Midwest Applications

MEEA NIGHTCAP

Wednesday, January 29 | 8:30 – 11:30 p.m. | 4th Floor

On Wednesday after your client dinners, return to the Marriott to challenge your colleagues in arcade games, sing your heart out in the Karaoke Lounge or grab a seat to enjoy a few more free drinks and continue the networking.

Activities include:

- Arcade Games
- Mini Golf
- Karaoke Lounge | Sponsored by:



LINKEDIN 101

Swing by the Professional Development Hub in the Exhibit Hall to learn how to build connections through your LinkedIn profile. Learn how to make it as quick as possible for your connections to learn about you & your company. Receive resources, a profile checklist, quick wins and bigger picture items. See details on the sessions below in the conference app.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

3:15pm | AI for People Who 'Don't Do Tech': How to Use AI to Save Hours and Start Creating

5pm | LinkedIn & Libations

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

10:45am | Unmute Yourself: How to Stand Out in a Crowded Social Media World

2:45pm | Scroll-Stopping Secrets: How to Make Your Content Impossible to Ignore

4:30pm | LinkedIn & Libations



AFFINITY GROUPS

Wednesday, January 29 | 1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

In this structured networking time, you can find your community and join the conversation. Meet professionals with similar interests, identities or roles within their organizations to find new connections. See our conference app for more details.

LGBTQ+ in EE | 5th Floor - Denver Room

Women in EE | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 1

Work/Life Wellbeing | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 2

BIPOC in EE | 7th Floor - Grand Ballroom Salon 3

Marketing Professionals | 7th Floor - Left Side Alcove

Small Businesses | 7th Floor - Right Side Alcove

MEEA'S 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Board Chair

Brian Doyle | Xcel Energy

Vice-Chair

Ashley Palladino | Resource Innovations

Secretary

Sara Conzemius | ILLUME Advising

Treasurer

Christina Frank | Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas

BOARD MEMBERS

William Worek | Argonne National Laboratory

Dr. Amalia Hicks | Cadmus

Carl Nelson | Center for Energy & Environment

Bryan McDaniel | Citizens Utility Board

Andrenika Whisenton | CLEAResult

Denise Munoz | ComEd

Theresa Schmidt | Consumers Energy

Carla Foster | Franklin Energy

Ryan Kerr | GTI Energy

Thomas Glendening | ICF

Lisa Keels | LG&E and KU Energy

Carl Samuelson | Michaels Energy

Katie Frye | Minnesota Power

Emily Wilbur | Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of Energy

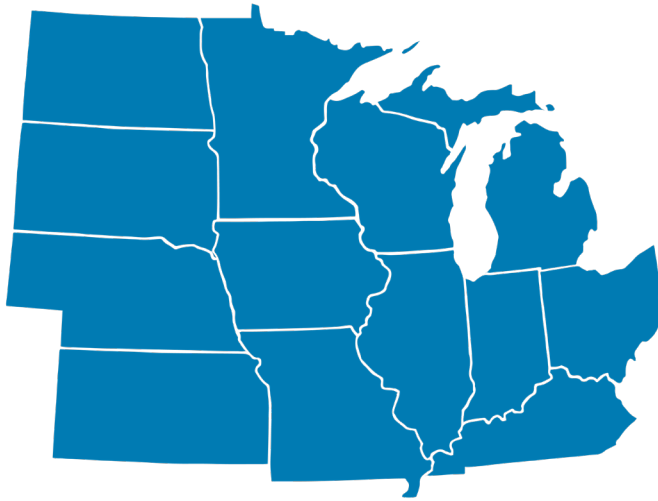
Jennifer Milazzo | Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC

Julia Friedman | Oracle

Jolene A. Sheil | Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Theresa Collins | Senior Services Plus

John Boladian | Walker-Miller Energy Services



MISSION: The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) is a collaborative network, promoting energy efficiency to optimize energy generation, reduce consumption, create jobs and decrease carbon emissions in all Midwest communities.

VISION: MEEA seeks an achievable pathway for all people and communities in the Midwest to receive the economic, environmental and societal benefits of energy efficiency and the larger clean energy economy.

OUR STATES: MEEA oversees a 13-state region including Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION STATEMENT: MEEA is committed to cultivating a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion within our organization, supporting our members as they pursue similar goals and providing a platform to elevate policies, programs and resources that encourage the diversification of the larger energy efficiency industry as a whole to increase access to clean energy for all.



GET INVOLVED

Join MEEA and partner with more than 170 million leading utilities, businesses, government offices and nonprofit organizations to advance energy efficiency.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR STOP BY MEEA CONNECT IN THE EXHIBIT HALL TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MEEA MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS OR TO GET MORE INVOLVED.

THANKS TO OUR 2025 CONFERENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sandy Gallo | Building Efficiency Resources

Dr. Amalia Hicks | Cadmus

Colleen Morris | Calico Energy

Shonda Biddle | Center for Energy and Environment

Rebeca Barrios-Hurst | CLEAResult

Andrenika Whisenton | CLEAResult

James Fay | ComEd

Brady McNall | DNV

Theodora Okiro Quarles | Eco Health Strategies

LeAndra Archuleta | Energy Solutions

Selena Worster Walde | Erthe Energy Solutions

Dena Jefferson | Franklin Energy

Bethany Reinholtz | GDS Associates Inc

Kelly Schneider | ICF

Catalina Lamadrid | Inova Energy Group

Nanako Hisamichi | Institute for Electric Innovation

Martin Agbugui | The JPI Group

Catherine Kabus | Michaels Energy

Kelly Mulder | Mulder Consulting

Chanda Rowan | Nicor Gas

Hannah Howard | Opinion Dynamics

Anne Lenzen | Oracle

Jolene A. Sheil | Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Jacqueline Freidel | VEIC

Erika Dominick | Walker-Miller Energy Services

Kelly Klopp | WEC Energy Group

PLATINUM



Ameren Illinois is a regulated electric and gas delivery company headquartered in Collinsville, Illinois. At Ameren Illinois, we believe in strengthening the communities we share through a range of corporate citizenship initiatives. Balancing

the needs of our environment, customers and economy is important to all of us at Ameren Illinois. From Avian Protection to Energy Efficiency, we are building a legacy of environmental stewardship.



ComEd is one of the largest electric utility companies in the nation, responsible for delivering safe and reliable power to 4.1 million homes and businesses across northern Illinois. The

company manages a network of 90,000 miles of power lines, 1.3 million poles and 1,300 substations that make up the electrical infrastructure of the nation's third largest metropolitan region. We power more than just homes and businesses - we power lives. It's who we are and what we do. Powering lives is about making sure every customer has the energy they need to thrive and to meet their ever-evolving needs. For over a century, we have kept our promise to our customers to be more than an energy company. We deliver on that promise every day by empowering our communities, driving innovation, delivering clean energy and supporting our customers for a brighter tomorrow.



Franklin Energy delivers end-to-end sustainable energy management solutions through a portfolio

of intelligent products and services that lowers costs, reduces carbon and waste, and grows stronger communities and local economies. Franklin Energy is committed to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2025, protecting our communities and planet while building a brighter, more sustainable future.



ICF is a global consulting services company, but we are not your typical consultants. We help clients navigate change and better prepare for the future.

Our experts have been embedded in every corner of the energy industry for over 40 years, working at the intersection of policy and practice. We work with the top global utilities, plus all major federal agencies and relevant energy NGOs, to devise effective strategies, implement efficient programs, and build strong relationships with their customers. From creating roadmaps to meet net zero carbon goals to advising on regulatory compliance, we provide deep industry expertise, advanced data modeling and innovative technology solutions, so the right decisions can be made when the stakes are high.



Resource Innovations (RI) is a women-led energy transformation firm focused on impact. Building on our expertise in energy efficiency, we're constantly expanding our portfolio of clean energy solutions to guide utilities through increasingly complex, connected challenges. Load flexibility. Electrification. Carbon reduction. With every step, we're leading the charge to power change.

GOLD



Energy for what matters most.

CenterPoint Energy is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission and distribution, power generation and natural gas distribution within six states. Headquartered in Houston, CenterPoint is committed to fulfilling our legacy that extends more than 150 years through our predecessor companies. In addition to the energy we provide to our customers, we have had energy efficiency programs over the past 30 years that have saved CenterPoint customers billions of dollars and avoided millions of metric tons of emissions.

CLEARResult[®] CLEARResult is the largest provider of energy efficiency, energy transition and energy sustainability services in North America. Since 2003, our mission has been to change the way people use energy. Today, our experts lead the transition to a sustainable, equitable, and carbon-neutral future for our communities and our planet. Our hometown teams collaborate with a diverse network of local partners to deliver world-class technology and personalized services that make it easy for commercial and industrial businesses, governments, utilities, and residential customers to reduce their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. CLEARResult is headquartered in Austin, Texas, and has over 2,700 employees in more than 60 cities across the U.S. and Canada. CLEARResult is majority owned by leading U.S. middle market private equity firm Kohlberg & Company. Explore all our energy solutions at clearResult.com.



Energy Efficiency Program

Nicor Gas is one of four natural gas distribution companies of Southern Company Gas, a wholly owned subsidiary of Southern Company (NYSE: SO). The company serves more than 2.3 million customers in a service territory that encompasses most of the northern third of Illinois, excluding the city of Chicago. The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program offers rebates, assessments, free products, and other resources to help customers take control of the way they use natural gas. The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program helps our customers save energy and money on their natural gas bills. From providing free products and assessments to rebates and tips, we work with our customers to try to help them find the best ways to save for home and business.

SPONSORS CONTINUED

The program has been providing energy efficiency support to customers for over 13 years. During this time, we have provided over 1.37 million customers with more than \$278 million in energy efficiency incentives.

PEOPLES GAS® NORTH SHORE GAS®

ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

For 175 years, Peoples Gas has delivered safe, reliable natural gas to 891,000 residents and businesses throughout the 178 neighborhoods in Chicago, and for 125 years, North Shore Gas has done the same in 54 communities in Lake County, IL. Our Energy Efficiency Programs provide opportunities for residents and businesses to reduce overall energy consumption, save on energy bills, and access funding for more efficient technology.



SEEL, LLC is a leading implementation partner that designs and manages programs with utilities and stakeholders across the country to help them

reach their clean energy goals. We create access to services including energy audits, weatherization upgrades, electrification projects (including EV management), rebate processing, call center services and workforce development. As an MBE, SEEL is committed to energy equity, ensuring that all individuals and communities have access to reliable energy services by educating the public about ways to reduce energy use and carbon emissions. As a BPI training center, we help to create a workforce with equitable access to careers.



Walker-Miller Energy Services (Walker-Miller) is one of the largest African American and Woman owned energy

efficiency companies in the United States. Led by Carla Walker-Miller, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Walker-Miller's commitment to Empowering People Enriching Communities is the bedrock of a unique, people-centered approach that normalizes diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) in the delivery of energy programs. A 23-year-old Certified B Corporation, Walker-Miller is a trusted partner with deep roots in the energy industry.



Xcel Energy Inc. is a U.S. regulated electric utility and natural gas delivery company. It serves more than 3.7

million electric customers and 2.1 million natural gas customers across parts of eight states. The company is engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution, and sale of electricity, using various energy sources including coal, nuclear, natural gas, hydroelectric, solar, biomass, oil, and wind energy.

SILVER



Center for Energy and Environment, CEE, is your all-in-one starting point for energy efficiency and decarbonization. From homes to high-rises, we've got you covered. With more than 200 employees, CEE is one of the Midwest's oldest and largest clean energy organizations — driven by mission, not profit. Known as a leader in efficiency, we design innovative programs that make the clean energy transition work for everyone.



Consumers Energy, based in Jackson, is Michigan's largest utility and provides natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

Since 2009, the company has a continued commitment and focus on delivering energy efficiency to residential and business customers. Our purpose and our passion is to make life better for the people of Michigan.



DNV provides assurance to the entire energy value chain through its advisory, DSM, verification, and certification services. Driven by its purpose, to safeguard life, property, and the environment, DNV helps tackle the challenges and global transformations facing the world today and is a trusted voice for many of the world's most successful and forward-thinking companies.



MichaelsEnergy

Michaels Energy is a veteran-owned energy consulting firm that exists to help businesses minimize waste and maximize value. Our energy and engineering gurus are obsessed with optimizing buildings and processes to maximize energy savings and profits, minimize utility grid stress and carbon footprints, and keep this big, beautiful planet in tip-top shape. Our purpose, combined with our core values of proactive and responsive service, intuitive analysis, collaborative partnerships, and fanatical execution, forms the foundation of our culture.



Slipstream creates, tests, delivers and scales the next generation of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs that move us farther, faster toward a clean and more equitable energy economy. Nonprofit Slipstream partners with utilities, local and state governments, regulatory agencies and other organizations to inspire new solutions to big energy challenges. With more than 40 years of experience demonstrating "what's next" in programs and technologies, Slipstream is an established and trusted partner in the industry.



TRC delivers advanced energy, decarbonization, and resiliency solutions that help our clients achieve a clean and equitable energy future

for the communities they serve. With 30+ years of experience providing energy, engineering, and risk advisory services, we excel at navigating clients through uncertainty and providing stability in a rapidly evolving market. Our work is guided by the talent and accountability of our people, our focus on energy equity, and is fueled by the innovative solutions we develop to solve our clients' needs.

BRONZE



Leveraging more than 30 years of experience managing nearly \$2 billion in clean energy investments and supporting energy programs of many sizes and scopes, APTIM's experts and our comprehensive energy transition services will help you feel good about your company's

operations and their impact on the planet. As part of APTIM's commitment to building a more sustainable, resilient world for future generations, we are proud to partner with you on your transition to cleaner energy.

CADMUS

Cadmus is a technology-empowered strategic consulting firm with more than 1,300 experts dedicated to

serving government, commercial, and non-governmental organizations worldwide. We help our clients achieve their goals and drive lasting, impactful change by leveraging transformative digital solutions and unparalleled expertise across domains. Together, we are strengthening society and the natural world. For more information, visit cadmusgroup.com.



CMC Energy Services is a nationally recognized WBE energy efficiency service provider for all markets, including providing in-home energy audits and weatherization for single and multifamily homes at market rate and for income-eligible; call center support; QA/

QC work; servicing small business direct install programs, providing support for clean heating and cooling technologies like heat pumps, offering marketing and outreach support for utilities, and providing engineering and outreach for large C&I programs.



Daikin is committed to elevating the quality of air in homes, businesses, and public spaces. As a global leader in HVAC&R applications, we strive to

leverage the insights and innovations of Daikin worldwide to create better indoor environments across North America. Daikin's footprint in the USA is growing. We are proud to employ more than 22,000 in the USA - and we are actively investing in the next generation of workers and production capabilities. Daikin's core technologies include inverter control technology and heat pumps. An inverter is a modern energy

saving technology that eliminates wasted operation in heat pumps by efficiently controlling motor speed. With modern, inverter type air conditioners and heat pumps, temperature is adjusted by changing motor speed without turning the motor ON and OFF, as legacy heat pumps do.



The Energy Resources Center - University of Illinois Chicago has been providing Energy & Environmental Leadership for 50 Years. The ERC is home to a wide variety

of experts who comprise a team of technical specialists with backgrounds in a variety of relevant disciplines including engineering, economics, architecture, computer science, database development, and public policy analysis. Erthe Energy Solutions is a mission-driven, woman-owned small business, providing innovative, sustainable clean energy solutions for businesses and communities.



ERTHE is committed to helping our clients solve their biggest challenges and make our collective future better.

We are a team of thoughtful and creative problem-solvers with deep industry knowledge and practical project management, operations, and business expertise, creating lasting change for our clients.



Greenlite, a proudly WBE and DBE certified-business, leads in manufacturing energy efficiency

products and implementing solutions for utility funded programs. We distribute ENERGY STAR products such as smart thermostats, heat pumps, and LED lighting. Serving over 150 utilities nationwide, we excel in designing and managing energy efficiency programs, focusing on low-income households and underserved markets.



Guidehouse is a global consultancy providing advisory, digital, and managed services to commercial and public sector

organizations. Purpose-built and driven by proven success, the award-winning firm serves the defense and security, energy, sustainability, and infrastructure, financial services, and healthcare industries. With agility, capabilities, and scale rarely seen across legacy consulting models, Guidehouse delivers customized, technology-forward, future-focused solutions that position clients for innovation, resilience, and growth. Our Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) team provides EM&V services for dozens of utility clients across the United States. Guidehouse has distilled our decades of experience as a utility program EM&V industry leader into an interconnected team structure to ensure our experts are aligned on best practices, industry innovations, and tools.

SPONSORS CONTINUED



i3 Energy strives to assist utility clients with achieving their energy savings and sustainability plans. Our team is focused on Inclusion, Integration, and

Innovation (i3) to help each of our clients expand their energy efficiency program reach via trade ally networks, workforce development and technical trainings.

We seek partnerships where we can bring our experience and expertise to the table including trade ally identification, recruitment, training, and inspections for small, medium, and large commercial programs as well as software solutions for trade ally delivered programs. Additional skills extend to income-qualified and mobile homes programs.

i3 Energy is driven by our passion for developing diverse talent and engaging people from all backgrounds. We aim to further community outreach while also providing opportunities to those with a challenging past. i3 Energy is a woman-owned business.



The Edison Foundation's Institute for Electric Innovation focuses on advancing the adoption of new technologies that improve the

customer experience by enhancing how electric companies engage with customers to strengthen and transform the energy grid. IEI's members are the investor-owned electric companies that represent about 70 percent of the US electric power industry. The membership is committed to an affordable, reliable, secure, and clean energy future. IEI promotes the sharing of information, ideas, and experiences among regulators, policy makers, technology companies, thought leaders, and the electric power industry. IEI also identifies policies that support the business case for the adoption of cost-effective technologies.



Leidos provides proven approaches to delivering cost-effective, high-performing energy programs. Our team

leverages over 35 years of experience to execute programs across various market segments, regulatory requirements, and geographic regions. We implement a wide range of programs – including energy efficiency, electrification, electric vehicle infrastructure design, grid optimization, and carbon-free assessments.



Minnesota Power is an electric utility providing service to over 150,000 customers within a 26,000-square-mile area in northern Minnesota. Under its EnergyForward strategy, Minnesota

Power has made significant strides in transitioning to carbon-free energy and is well on its way to delivering more than 80% renewable energy by 2030.



NTC is a premium provider of educational programming with operations in the U.S., Australia and New Zealand. We work directly between schools and clients to promote beneficial behaviors and life skills to students in grades K-12 on a local, regional and national level. Since 1978, we have formed connections and helped develop relationships between thousands of schools and corporations, nonprofits and governmental organizations.



Willdan is an industry-leading energy solutions provider and sustainability consultant, specializing in energy engineering, renewable generation, electric vehicle fleets and infrastructure, program management, microgrids, financing, data analysis, software development and more. Our innovative tools and processes support every stage of your project. Our Energy Design Assistance uses real-time energy modeling to optimize your project design to meet your goals, reduce energy use, and save money.

SAVE THE DATE

2026
MIDWEST
ENERGY
SOLUTIONS
CONFERENCE

January 27 – 29, 2026

Chicago, IL

Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



PARTNER

Clarke Energy | Copeland | EnergyHub | E Source | ESPLabs | HData | HVAC U | ILLUME Advising | LG Electronics | Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US | MyHEAT | National Energy Foundation | Onbe | Oracle Energy and Water | Rheem Manufacturing | Trane Technologies | TrickleStar

PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS

Advanced Energy United | Building Performance Association | Illinois Green Alliance | Midwest Climate Collaborative