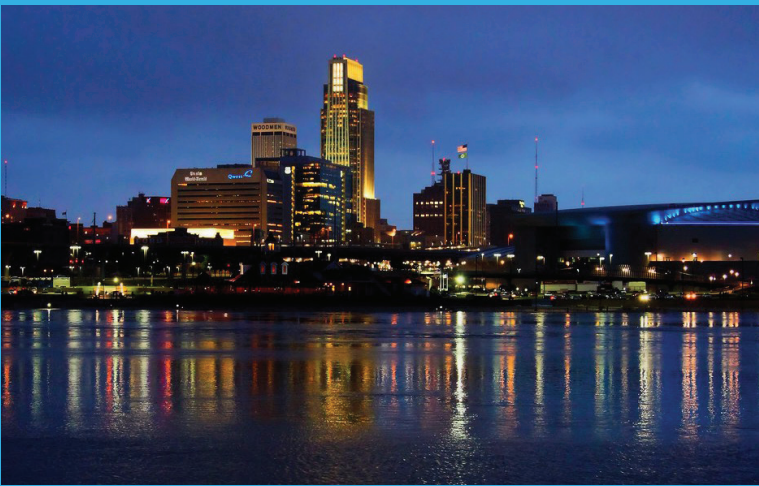




2026 SPRING CONFERENCE

April 27-29, 2026 | Omaha, NE

***Electrifying the Future:
People, Power, Progress***



JOIN US IN OMAHA!

April 27-29, 2026

Hilton Omaha

About the 2026 Alltricity Network Spring Conference

A cornerstone of Alltricity Network since its inception, the annual Spring Management, Engineering, and Operations Conference delivers top-tier continuing education and exceptional networking for electric utility professionals. Featuring 20+ presentations, the conference dives deep into critical topics across generation, transmission, distribution, safety, customer service, human resources, and management.

With its flexible breakout session structure, you can customize your experience to match your unique interests. Plus, dedicated networking opportunities allow you to connect with industry peers and tabletop exhibitors.

Venue & Hotel Reservations

Hilton Omaha

1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE

(469) 320-1234

A special room rate of \$239 is available. The discounted rate applies to rooms reserved within the block dates of April 25-30, 2025. The deadline to book is April 6, 2026.

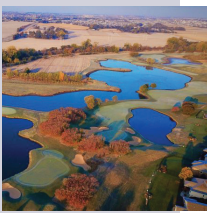
Note: When calling the hotel, mention that your reservation is part of the Alltricity Network room block to avoid incorrect availability or rate information. Meeting the room block helps prevent financial liability for Alltricity Network. **Government Employees:** If booking at the federal government rate, please mention Alltricity Network to ensure your reservation counts toward the room block.

Spring Conference Highlights

Golf Outing

Monday, April 27 | 8:30 a.m.

Hit the links with your utility industry peers for a fun round of golf at The Players Club Omaha, the city's only 27-hole private club designed by the great Arnold Palmer.



Emerging Leader Awards

Celebrate the 2026 Emerging Leader award recipients, recognized for their significant contributions, strong leadership potential, and outstanding service to their organizations and the industry.

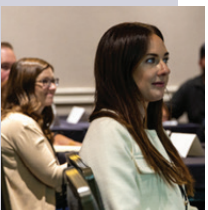


Pre-Conference Workshop:

How to Motivate, Mentor & Recruit Early Career Talent

Monday, April 27 | 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Hosted by the NextGen Committee, this workshop is for early-career leaders eager to shape the industry's future. Only \$100 to add for members!



Professional Development Hours

PDH Certificates will be added to attendees' Alltricity Network profiles post-event, awarding:

- » Full Conference: 14.0 PDHs
- » Tuesday Only: 8.0 PDHs
- » Wednesday Only: 6.0 PDHs
- » Pre-Conference Workshop: 3.0 PDHs



TOPICS AT-A-GLANCE

The full 2026 Spring Conference agenda and brochure, including all session dates, times, speakers, and descriptions, will be shared soon! Learn more, book your discounted hotel room at the Hilton Omaha, and register at AlltricityNetwork.org/Spring26

GENERAL SESSION TOPICS

NextGen Pre-Conference Workshop: Hosted by the Alltricity Network NextGen Committee
Managing the Next Generation: How to Motivate, Mentor & Recruit Early-Career Talent

Day 1 Keynote: **Erick Rheam**, Former Military Police Officer & Utility Leader | Speaker & Author
Lead Without Speaking — The Importance of Nonverbal Communication

Senior Leadership Panel: *Executive Perspectives: Navigating Market, Regulatory & Technology Change*

Day 2 Keynote: **Duane Highley**, Chief Executive Officer, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc.
From Godzilla to Zombies: Managing Growth, Threats & Reliability

BREAKOUT SESSION TOPICS

Generation

PANEL: Plant Life Extensions & Compliance in the Evolving Utility Landscape

Advancing Small Modular Reactors: Current Status & Deployment Progress

Permitting & Compliance: Strategies to Accelerate Timelines

What's Next: Policy Directions for New Generation

The Modern Balancing Act: Renewables, Reliability & the Role of Synchronous Condensers

Data Center Energy Independence: Behind the Meter Generation Solutions

Re-Skilling the Future: People Power Beyond Coal

Generation Roundtable Reception

Transmission & Distribution

PANEL: Utility Perspectives on System Reliability, Asset Management, Performance Modeling & Cost Recovery Strategies

Grid-Enhancing Technologies & Increasing Transmission Capacity

From Design to Decision: Leveraging AI for Next Generation Engineering Support

PANEL: Utility Innovation: Advancing Smart Grid, AMI 2.0 & DER Management Systems & Technologies

Modeling Reliability in a Rapid-Interconnection Era: Data Centers, Load Growth & System Stressors

PANEL: From Risk to Readiness: Wildfire Intelligence & Utility Responses

Transmission & Distribution Roundtable Reception

Leadership

PANEL: Powering the Future: Building Talent & Leadership in the Power Industry

AI in Action: Opportunities, Risks & the Road to Smarter Operations

Engage, Empower, Elevate: Tools for Transforming Your Workplace

Balancing the Trilemma: Growth, Reliability, Affordability

Redefining Rewards: The New Era of Total Compensation

Powering Knowledge: Training Strategies for a Resilient Utility Future

AI & How Machine Learning is Changing Cybersecurity



MONDAY, APRIL 27

8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

GOLF OUTING

The Players Club Omaha (additional registration required)

Kick off the 2026 Spring Conference by reconnecting with industry colleagues and friends over a round of golf at Omaha's only 27-hole private club, designed by Arnold Palmer. The outing will be a four-person scramble format. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to start time. When registering, please include the names of the player(s) with whom you would like to be paired. Appropriate golf attire is required. Mulligans will be available for purchase.



2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: *How to Motivate, Mentor & Recruit Early Career Talent*

Hilton Omaha St. Nicholas Room (additional registration required)

As the electric utility industry workforce evolves, leaders and managers must adapt to engage and retain early-career professionals with diverse expectations. This pre-conference workshop, hosted by the Alltricity Network NextGen Committee, equips leaders with strategies to better understand and effectively lead the next generation.

Attendees will explore key motivators of emerging talent, build stronger mentorship practices, and learn best practices for recruiting and managing a multi-generational workforce. Participants will leave with practical tools to strengthen engagement, improve retention, and build a resilient talent pipeline.



4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

CHARLES SCHWAB FIELD OMAHA TOUR

Enter through the "Club/Suite Entrance" at 13th and Cuming, just right of the "Road to Omaha" statue. An A-frame sign will mark the entrance, with street and metered parking nearby.

Sponsored by: 

Home of the men's College World Series, the tour offers an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at Charles Schwab Field Omaha. Participants will explore everything from the top press level, which offers stunning panoramic views, to the ground level, where they will see the heart of the stadium, including the team's dugouts, indoor batting cages, and clubhouses. Whether someone is a die-hard baseball fan or simply curious, the tour provides a firsthand look at all the features that make this ballpark a premier destination. It's an exciting opportunity to experience the energy and excitement of this iconic sports landmark up close.



5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Hilton Omaha Foyer & Main Ballroom

Sponsored by: 

Join us for an evening welcome reception featuring light appetizers, a hosted bar also sponsored by the Alltricity Network Champions, and plenty of time to mingle with new and old industry colleagues and friends before you hit the town for dinner with your teams or clients.





TUESDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAKFAST & TABLETOP EXHIBITS

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

» **Ken Wilmot**, Executive Director, Alltricity Network



WELCOME TO OMAHA!

» **Javier Fernandez**, Chief Executive Officer, Omaha Public Power District



9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

DAY 1 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *Lead Without Speaking* — *The Importance of Nonverbal Communication*

» **Erick Rheam**, Former Military Police Officer & Utility Leader | Author & Speaker



About Erick Rheam:

Erick is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and began his career as an officer in the U.S. Army's Military Police Corps, serving in Bosnia, Herzegovina, Germany, and at Fort Carson, Colorado. After leaving the Army in 2000, he spent nearly a decade

in the utility industry with municipally owned organizations, including Anderson Municipal Light and Power and Loveland Water and Power, where he developed key accounts programs, built long-term commercial relationships, and established the customer relations division. He later spent ten years in software efficiency sales before transitioning into the professional speaking industry, including serving as Director of Student Success at The Speaker Lab.

Now a full-time professional speaker and published author with over a decade of experience, he travels the country helping individuals find clarity, purpose, and peace in the midst of demanding lives. His work is shaped by a pivotal turning point in 2005 that launched a 15-year journey of personal growth, during which he developed five guiding principles that transformed his life. Today, he shares those insights to help others rise above chaos and lead more meaningful, intentional lives.

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAK & TABLETOP EXHIBITS

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

PANEL: *Plant Life Extensions & Compliance in the Evolving Utility Landscape*

» **Scott Eidem**, Director of Engineering Services, Omaha Public Power District

» **Jim Monette**, Vice President of Sales—Americas, Babcock & Wilcox

» **Manny Zeringue**, Vice President of Generation, Big Rivers Electric Corporation



As utility fleets age and regulatory expectations evolve, plant life extension is key to maintaining reliability, managing costs, and ensuring compliance. This panel will explore how utilities are extending the life of existing generation assets while navigating an increasingly complex regulatory landscape.

Hear from industry experts on the emerging trends with plant life extensions, lifecycle management strategies, compliance considerations, and challenges—offering practical insights to help balance risk, investment, and long-term asset performance.

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

PANEL: *Utility Perspectives on System Reliability, Asset Management, Performance Modeling & Cost Recovery Strategies*

» **Lori Lopez**, Director of Technical Services Distribution, CPS Energy

» **Aaron Smith**, Director of Distributed Device Strategy & Integrated Distribution Planning, Omaha Public Power District

» **To be Announced**



As T&D networks face growing demand and aging infrastructure, utilities must balance reliability, performance, and cost. This panel explores strategies for managing assets, modeling system performance, and recovering costs across T&D operations.

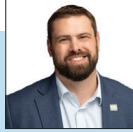
T&D leaders will share their experiences and innovative approaches to optimize network performance, ensure regulatory compliance, and deliver reliable service in an evolving utility landscape.



LEADERSHIP

PANEL: Powering the Future: Building Talent & Leadership in the Power Industry

- » **Josh Johnson**, Vice President—*Technology Segment, Black & Veatch*
- » **Lisa Lewis**, Chief Administrative Officer, *CPS Energy*
- » **John Staup**, Director of Human Capital, *Omaha Public Power District*



As the power industry transforms, success depends on the people behind the grid. Electric utilities—and their supplier and vendor partners—are navigating a rapidly changing landscape: emerging technologies, shifting customer expectations, and evolving regulatory demands, all of which require strong, adaptable leaders. This discussion brings together key industry leaders to share how they identify emerging talent, develop leadership skills, and prepare their colleagues and teams to meet these challenges head-on, ensuring their organizations remain resilient and future-ready.

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

ALLTRICITY NETWORK 2026 EMERGING LEADERS AWARDS & NETWORKING LUNCHEON

- » **Presented by: Nathan Tate**, Director of *Transmission Planning, Strategy & Development, Salt River Project* • *Alltricity Network Vice President of Vital Issues*

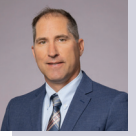


Join us as we recognize the 2026 Alltricity Network Emerging Leader Award winners. Established in 2014, this award honors individual members with between 5 and 10 years of professional industry experience who have made significant contributions within their organizations. These rising leaders have demonstrated strong leadership potential and outstanding service to the industry, setting the stage for continued impact in the years ahead.

12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP PANEL

- » **Moderator: Steve Vetsch**, Vice President of *Transmission, Evergy* • *2025-2026 Alltricity Network Board President*



This session features four accomplished senior utility leaders sharing unique perspectives on the strategic initiatives driving their organizations forward amid evolving market dynamics, regulatory shifts, and technological advancements.



- » **Jason Dedrickson**, Senior Vice President of *Power Markets & Strategy, Kiewit Power Group*

With over 26 years of power generation experience, Jason is based in Lenexa, Kansas, and works with clients across North America to advance energy projects from early engagement through contract formation and execution. His team is responsible for all business planning and market strategy related to gasfired and solar generation, battery storage, and carbon capture markets. He also oversees the Kiewit Power Engineering Services organization, responsible for early project development services in these markets.

Prior to his current role, Jason spent 15 years in various positions starting as a mechanical design engineer for major EPC power projects. He went on to serve as a project manager, overseeing Kiewit's generation estimating organization. His experience spans all aspects of the power generation business including planning, estimating, engineering, and construction.

Before joining Kiewit, Jason worked at Caterpillar Inc. as a design engineer in their marine engine division. Jason holds a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Missouri, and various professional engineering licenses across the U.S.



- » **Scott Thompson**, Chief Operations Officer & Senior Vice President, *Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

Scott joined AECL in July 2017, bringing 30 years of energy industry experience to lead and establish the cooperative's Energy Risk Management Division. In 2023 Scott was promoted from senior vice president & chief risk officer to senior vice president & chief operations officer.



Prior to AECI, Scott served as vice president of business development and customer services as well as director of natural gas trading and vice president of portfolio management during his 16 years with ACES, a nationwide, member-owned energy management company. His career includes director of NE Trading & Storage with Williams Energy Marketing and Trading, as well as positions with PG&E Trading and Energy Services, Gasco Inc., Industrial Energy Services Co. and Halliburton.

Scott is professionally certified as a Commodity Trade Advisor by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. He holds a bachelor's degree in petroleum and natural gas engineering from Penn State University and a Master of Business Administration from West Virginia Wesleyan College.



» **Troy Via**, *Chief Operating Officer & Vice President of Utility Operations, Omaha Public Power District*

Troy oversees all utility operations, including engineering, asset and work management, nuclear decommissioning, and the construction and maintenance of

OPPD's generation, transmission, and distribution systems. He guides both strategic direction and daily performance for one of the nation's largest publicly owned electric utilities.

Since joining OPPD in 2013 as Director of Energy Marketing and Trading, Troy has held roles of increasing responsibility, becoming Vice President of Energy Delivery in 2018 and later leading the newly formed Utility Operations business unit in 2021, unifying generation and delivery functions to enhance operational alignment.

Before OPPD, he held leadership roles in merchant asset management and regulated power trading with Dominion Resources in Virginia and Aquila Energy in Missouri, building deep expertise in market operations, asset optimization, and utility strategy.



» **Scott Walz**, *Vice President of Energy Delivery, Nebraska Public Power District*

Scott's utility career began after graduating from Northeast Community College in Norfolk in May of 1982, where he earned a Utility Line Degree. Shortly after, he started at Norris Public Power,

which set the foundation for Scott's work in the field before joining Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) as a Journey Line Technician in 1986.

Throughout his time at NPPD, Scott has served in a variety of leadership roles, ranging from Lead Line Technician to Transmission O&M & Construction Manager. He's overseen all field operations as the Transmission & Distribution Construction and Maintenance Manager, where he coordinated the efforts and direction for both Transmission and Distribution teams.

Education has always played an important role in his personal and professional growth. While managing leadership responsibilities, Scott dedicated evenings and weekends to further his studies. Earning his Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in business from Peru State College, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2015. Scott also completed a Master of Science in Organizational Management from Peru State College in 2019. Scott was appointed Nebraska Public Power District's Vice President of Energy Delivery in 2023. In this role, he is responsible for the overall management and oversight of NPPD's transmission and distribution assets including operations, engineering, planning roles, materials management and technical training

1:50 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

Small Modular Reactors & Their Role in Clean, Reliable Energy

- » **Scott Koehler**, *Technical Expert of Vertical Infrastructure, Olsson*
- » **Nick Morris**, *Natura Resources*



Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are an emerging low-carbon energy solution offering flexible, scalable deployment. This session will explore the current SMR landscape, including updates from Natura Resources on its pilot project at Abilene Christian University. The discussion will also cover key considerations such as regulation, safety, economics, and supply chain readiness, along with implementation challenges and opportunities for grid resilience and decarbonization. Attendees will also gain insight into SMR project lifecycles and their potential role in district energy systems, campuses, and broader energy strategies.



TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Grid Enhancing Technologies - The Time-Saving Solution to Transmission Congestion, Permitting & Development

- » **Chris Anderson**, Senior Engineer, Great River Energy
- » **Greg Parent**, Principal Engineer, Ultieg

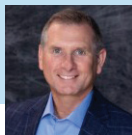


The biggest bottleneck to new transmission line buildout is the permitting and acquisition of new transmission line right of ways (ROW). For many transmission lines this process can take 10+ years. Today's electrical demand is requesting a huge amount of power in a very short amount of time. This can be seen as a huge problem or a huge opportunity. Grid Enhancing Technologies make it possible to transmit significantly more power through the existing transmission infrastructure. Many of the permitting requirements and all of the ROW acquisition is eliminated making G.E.T.s a far quicker alternative to increasing transmission capacity. This presentation will discuss two types of G.E.T. Dynamic Line Rating (DLRs) and Advanced Reconductoring. We will discuss appropriate use cases for these technologies and engineering considerations for these two technologies. In order to meet the power demands of the next ten years our industry will need to think creatively and optimize our existing infrastructure.

LEADERSHIP

Safety in Action: Bringing Safety Technology to the Front Lines

- » **Arlo Amis**, Solutions Engineer, Novara
- » **Jason Wernex**, Director of Safety (EHS), Utilitra



Field ops and front line employees are your greatest asset in building a proactive safety culture — but engaging them is easier said than done. This session will discuss strategies for driving front line engagement through innovative communication and practical technology. Drawing from hands-on experience, the presentation will walk through what works, what doesn't, and how to sidestep the common pitfalls that can stall even the best safety programs. Attendees will leave with: Actionable strategies for boosting front line participation, tools for leveraging technology to reinforce a safety-first culture, and a roadmap for avoiding the missteps that undermine safety objectives.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

NETWORKING BREAK & TABLETOP EXHIBITS

3:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

Permitting & Compliance: Strategies to Accelerate Timelines

- » **Jared Morrison**, Senior Director of Environmental Services, Evergy, Inc.
- » **Michael Noonan**, President, Aspen Consulting Services, Inc.
- » **Russ Weatherly**, Senior Environmental, Health & Safety Manager, Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Navigating permitting and compliance requirements can be one of the most significant challenges in bringing new power generation projects online, and the associated transmission system. This session explores strategies utilities and developers are using to accelerate timelines, streamline processes, and maintain regulatory compliance, while offering insights to help projects move forward efficiently while meeting environmental, safety, and regulatory standards.

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

From Design to Decision: Leveraging AI for Next Generation Engineering Support

- » **Ben Sooter**, Director of Agentic AI & Micro Data Centers, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)



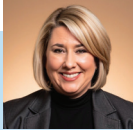
This session explores how AI is transforming engineering workflows—from early design through real-time decision-making. It highlights emerging approaches for augmenting engineering teams with faster insights, improved reliability, and more adaptive systems. Attendees will gain practical perspectives on applications, implementation considerations, and the evolving role of engineers in AI-enabled environments.



LEADERSHIP

Engage, Empower, Elevate: Tools for Transforming Your Workplace

- » **Lori Johnson Leal**, *Director of Employee Experience & Engagement, CPS Energy*
- » **Jorge Vasquez**, *Director of Safety Operations, CPS Energy*



This session explores how utilities can strengthen organizational performance by integrating employee experience, engagement, and safety culture into a unified strategy. Participants will learn practical tools for building trust, improving communication, and empowering employees at every level to contribute to operational excellence. Through real world examples, the session highlights how a people centered approach drives safer behaviors, stronger teams, and a more resilient workforce. Attendees will leave with clear steps to elevate their culture and create workplaces where employees feel valued, connected, and committed to safety.

3:50 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

Re-Skilling the Future: People Power Beyond Coal

- » **Patrick Hale**, *Director of Talent Development, CPS Energy*



The shift beyond coal is reshaping the power generation workforce, creating both challenges and opportunities. This session will explore how utilities are re-skilling employees, developing new capabilities, and preparing teams for a future powered by emerging technologies and cleaner energy sources. The discussion will also provide insights on workforce transformation, knowledge transfer, and talent development—ensuring employees remain adaptable, empowered, and ready to drive the next era of electric generation.

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Design to Decision: AI-Driven Process Reinvention for the Next Generation of Utility Operations

- » **Christopher Marriage**, *Managing Director & Utilities Industry Lead, Accenture*



The utilities industry is at a historic inflection point — surging interconnection backlogs, massive capital buildouts, and accelerating load growth are pushing traditional planning approaches to their limits. This session explores how leading utilities are deploying AI across the full planning lifecycle, from interconnection and transmission planning to asset risk management and operational resilience. Drawing on real client examples, we'll walk through how multimodal and agentic AI techniques are driving measurable outcomes and allowing for processes to be reinvented end to end. This session will provide practical insights into the data platforms, integration strategies, and ecosystem partnerships required to scale AI across the enterprise — and a clear picture of what next-generation utility operations looks like.

LEADERSHIP

What Does AI Risk Readiness Mean?

- » **Bill Lawrence**, *Chief Delivery Officer, INTEGRITI Corporation*
- » **Scott Spencer**, *Vertical Markets Manager, Convergent Utilities*



AI risk readiness is the ability to adopt and govern AI with discipline. This session will help leaders understand what responsible AI adoption requires, where common readiness gaps exist, and how to move forward in a way that supports performance, protects operations, and strengthens decision-making.



4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT ROUNDTABLE RECEPTIONS

GENERATION

Roundtable Reception

» **Moderator: Ryan Gerdts**, Director of Production Operations, Omaha Public Power District • Member, Alltricity Network Generation Committee



The power generation landscape is changing fast, creating new challenges and opportunities. Connect with industry peers over snacks and beverages in an informal, interactive setting designed for open dialogue, shared perspectives, and meaningful conversation among utility industry generation professionals about the critical issues shaping the future of our industry.

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Roundtable Reception

» **Moderator: Brent Gerling**, Distribution Engineering & Design Supervisor, Evergy • Chair, Alltricity Network Distribution Committee



Transmission and distribution systems are under increasing pressure as demands on the grid continue to grow and evolve. This roundtable brings together T&D peers for a casual, open forum discussion over drinks and light bites. Join this roundtable and share experiences, compare approaches, and dive into the real-world challenges shaping T&D today—walking away with new ideas to support your work in the field.

6:00 – 9:30 p.m.

EVENING NETWORKING RECEPTION & DINNER



Sponsored by the Alltricity Network Champions, this evening reception brings together all conference attendees for a lively night of dinner, and networking. Make connections, exchange ideas, and strengthen relationships in a relaxed and engaging atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

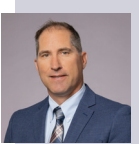
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAKFAST & TABLETOP EXHIBITS

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

WELCOME BACK

» **Steve Vetsch**, Vice President of Transmission, Evergy • 2025-2026 Alltricity Network Board President



9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

DAY 2 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: From Godzilla to Zombies: Managing Growth, Threats & Reliability
Duane Highley, Chief Executive Officer, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc.

About Duane Highley:

Duane joined Tri-State in 2019 and has 36 years of experience with cooperatives. Previously serving as President and CEO for Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC) and Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (AECI), he led an organization that provided reliable, affordable, responsible power through 17 member systems to 1.3 million consumers. Duane serves on the Southwest Power Pool Members Committee and serves as Co-Chair of the Electric Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC), coordinating security efforts between electric utilities and the U.S. Government.



About the Presentation:

This is a time of unprecedented uncertainty. War, capacity shortages, tariffs, inflation, cyber attacks, fuel volatility and lengthening lead times are all disrupting our industry. Many wish we could make electricity boring again, but that is not our future. Duane will discuss today's top concerns for utility leaders, stakeholders and policy-makers. Drawing on over 40 years of work in power supply, he will share some strategies that have served his organizations as they faced some of their more interesting challenges.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

NETWORKING BREAK & TABLETOP EXHIBITS

10:30 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

Unlocking Engineering Intelligence: AI-Driven Extraction of Asset Intelligence from P&IDs and Electrical Drawings

- » **Terry Blalock**, Business Development Manager, Mesa Associates, Inc.
- » **To be Announced**



Emerging applications of artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming how power generation organizations manage and extract value from engineering and plant data. This presentation explores an AI-driven approach to identifying and cataloging assets directly from image-based engineering documents, including P&IDs and electrical drawings. By extracting asset metadata and relationships, the solution can improve data accuracy, reduce manual effort, accelerate workflows, and enhance visibility across generation operations. The session will also highlight real-world implementation outcomes and discuss future opportunities for integration, improved document traceability, and support for predictive maintenance.



TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Plugging In the Giants: Large Loads, Grid Dynamics, and the New Interconnection Reality

- » **Jon Grooters**, Director, U.S. Market, EnerNex



As data centers and other large loads scale faster than traditional planning methods can keep up, interconnection studies must evolve. This talk goes beyond capacity checks to examine the dynamic behavior of large loads and their interaction with the bulk power system. Using guidance and findings from the NERC Large Load Task Force, this presentation will highlight emerging challenges, modeling gaps, and best practices for dynamic simulation that are shaping modern interconnection requirements.

LEADERSHIP

PANEL: Redefining Rewards: The New Era of Total Compensation

- » **Brian Garden**, Area Manager, Kiewit Power Constructors Co.
- » **Ashley Liston**, Lead Human Capital Business Partner, Omaha Public Power District
- » **Brenda Sanne**, Total Rewards Manager, Nebraska Public Power District



Compensation strategies are shifting as organizations compete for talent in today's dynamic workforce. This panel examines how utilities are redefining total compensation—balancing pay, benefits, incentives, and flexibility to attract and retain employees. Panelists will share insights on emerging trends, innovative reward structures, and practical approaches to aligning compensation with organizational goals—helping leaders build competitive, engaging, and future-ready workplaces.

11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GENERATION

Power Generation in the age of Data+Power

- » **Brendan O'Brien**, Director of Sales & Strategy—Power Generation, Burns & McDonnell



This presentations explores the intersection of traditional power generation and the rapidly growing data center industry, examining recent trends in both sectors and how data-driven projects are reshaping generation planning, capacity, and operational strategies. Attendees will gain insights into the convergence of these two critical industries, including opportunities for collaboration, challenges in meeting rising energy demands, and innovative approaches to integrating power generation with modern data infrastructure.



TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Power Under Pressure: Wildfire Planning, Innovative Engineering, and Leadership for Extreme Conditions

- » **Shane Coyne**, (Ret.) LTC, Superintendent, SOCO Wildland Fire Team
- » **Josh Guck**, Associate Director Renewables Energy, Ulteig
- » **Kevin Weiner**, Senior Environmental Specialist, Ulteig & Wildland Fire Fighter



As wildfire risk continues to escalate, utilities must adapt their planning, engineering, and response strategies to operate safely under extreme conditions. This session brings together engineering, environmental, and field leadership perspectives to explore practical approaches to wildfire mitigation, system resilience, and emergency response. Speakers will share real-world insights on aligning technical planning with on-the-ground execution. The presentation will conclude with an interactive discussion to help attendees apply these strategies within their own organizations.

LEADERSHIP

Powering Knowledge: Training Strategies for a Resilient Utility Future

- » **Patrick Hale**, Director of Talent Development, CPS Energy
- » **Tim Mongeau**, Director of Enterprise Development, Zachry Group



Utilities rely on a skilled, adaptable workforce to navigate today's challenges and prepare for the future. This session explores strategies for designing effective training programs, developing critical skills, and cultivating leadership at every level of the organization. Participants will learn practical approaches to building a resilient workforce, fostering knowledge retention, and creating a culture of continuous learning. The discussion will also highlight ways to empower employees to embrace new technologies, adapt to changing operational demands, and drive long-term organizational success in an evolving utility landscape.

12:00 p.m.
CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

SPONSORS

THANK YOU 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE SPONSORS!

Charles Schwab Field Omaha Tour & Welcome Reception Sponsors



Tabletop Exhibit Sponsors



CHAMPIONS

THANK YOU 2026 ALLTRICITY NETWORK CHAMPIONS!

Diamond Champions



Platinum Champions



Gold Champions

Silver Champions

CLP Engineering, LLC
ENTRUST Solutions Group
HDR
K&A Engineering Consulting, P.C.
Nooter/Eriksen, Inc.
Osmose
Sargent & Lundy
Stella-Jones Corporation

Altec Industries, Inc.
Ampirical
Babcock Power, Inc.
Barr Engineering Co.
Black & McDonald
Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
Cutsforth
DataPhleet
GE Vernova
Great Southwestern
Construction, Inc.

Hughes Brothers, Inc.
Irby
Laminated Wood Systems, Inc.
Mitsubishi Power Americas
Siemens
Sparus Holdings
Surveying And Mapping, LLC
(SAM, LLC)
Taber International, LLC
Total-Western
Wärtsilä North America, Inc.



REGISTRATION FORM

Registrant Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Guest Name: _____

Registration Fees

Check the items you wish to purchase. All conference fees include: Meals, breaks, electronic handouts, attendee roster, education sessions, and a continuing education PDH certificate for the full conference or day purchased.

Pricing

MEMBER

_____ NextGen Pre-Conference Workshop Only.....	\$195
_____ NextGen Pre-Conference Workshop + Full Conference.....	\$1,195
_____ Full Conference.....	\$1,095
_____ Monday Only.....	\$325
_____ Tuesday Only.....	\$675
_____ Wednesday Only.....	\$425

NON-MEMBER

_____ NextGen Pre-Conference Workshop Only.....	\$495
_____ NextGen Pre-Conference Workshop + Full Conference.....	\$1,995
_____ Full Conference.....	\$1,795
_____ Monday Only.....	\$645
_____ Tuesday Only.....	\$1,295
_____ Wednesday Only.....	\$945

SPOUSE/FAMILY MEMBER

_____ Full Conference.....	\$350
_____ Monday Only.....	\$150
_____ Tuesday Only.....	\$250

GOLF OUTING

_____ Golf Outing.....	\$175
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(List those you wish to be paired with)

TOTAL: \$ _____

Payment Options

1. CREDIT CARD

Pay with a credit card at the conference registration table or fill out your credit card information below and deliver to the conference registration table. Charge My:

MasterCard: _____ Visa: _____ American Express: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

2. ONLINE AT ALLTRICITYNETWORK.ORG

Members can go online to AlltricityNetwork.org/Spring26, log in, and register for the Spring Conference.

Cancellation & Refund Policy: 100% of fees are refundable if cancellation is received 29 days or more before the event date. If cancellation is received between 28 and 14 days before the event date, 50% of the registration fee will be refunded. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received 13 days or less before the event date, including no-shows. To have someone take your place, please notify Alltricity Network at info@alltricitynetwork.org anytime before the event.