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Energy **Talk**

Your Monthly Energy News Digest

April 2024

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EPA Releases Package of Final Rules for Power Plants

On April 25, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a package of final rules for power plants. EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette issued the following statement on the regulations:

“EEI’s member companies continue to lead our nation in delivering reliable, resilient clean energy, and we are proud that carbon emissions from the U.S. electric power sector are now as low as they were nearly 50 years ago, while electricity use has more than doubled. We remain committed to building on this progress, while maintaining customer reliability and assuring affordability, and we must have durable regulatory frameworks in place to do so.

“EPA’s suite of new regulations will affect the generation sources that will be used to reliably power America’s increasingly electricity-dependent economy, and we appreciate the agency’s efforts to align compliance deadlines to help companies make informed resource planning decisions that minimize customer costs.

“While we appreciate and support EPA’s work to develop a clear, continued path for the transition to cleaner resources, we are disappointed that the agency did not address the concerns we raised about carbon capture and storage (CCS). CCS is not yet ready for full-scale, economy-wide deployment, nor is there sufficient time to permit, finance, and build the CCS infrastructure needed for compliance by 2032.

“Electric companies across the country are investing in carbon-free technologies to ensure they satisfy industry performance requirements and support reliability at costs that are affordable for customers. While CCS and other 24/7 clean energy technologies could be important tools for reducing emissions in the future, EPA’s record does not support a finding that CCS is demonstrated today.

“Affordable, reliable, and resilient clean energy is essential for America’s economic security, and we appreciate EPA’s efforts to include additional compliance flexibilities that will help EEI’s members address reliability concerns in the years ahead. We will remain engaged with EPA and with state agencies as they implement these rules. We also will continue to work constructively with EPA as it develops a new proposal for existing natural gas turbines.”



IN THE NEWS

Update on DOE's Distribution Transformer Rule

This month, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) finalized its efficiency compliance standards for distribution transformers. EEI Senior Vice President of Security and Preparedness Scott Aaronson issued the following statement on the rule:

“While we still are reviewing the full details of the rule, we appreciate that DOE made improvements that were responsive to concerns raised by electric companies, transformer manufacturers, steel producers, and numerous members of Congress.

“We share the collective goals of enhancing energy efficiency, ensuring energy grid reliability and resilience, and growing domestic production of highly efficient transformers. The revised rule helps to preserve the availability of both grain-oriented electrical steel (GOES) and amorphous steel, and it provides the additional time needed to protect and expand domestic manufacturing capacity.

“While this is a positive step forward, electric companies today still are facing unprecedented lead times for transformers. We will continue to work with all stakeholders to identify opportunities to shorten the lead times for these essential grid components, which are critical to efforts to meet growing electricity demand using resilient clean energy.”



HAPPENING NOW

Earth Day Facts and Figures

On April 22, EEI and our member companies celebrated Earth Day by showcasing the work of America's electric companies to protect the environment and reduce emissions across our economy. Today, carbon emissions from the U.S. electric power sector are as low as they were nearly 50 years ago, while electricity use has more than doubled since then. Additionally, more than 40 percent of all U.S. power generation now comes from clean, carbon-free sources, including nuclear energy, hydropower, wind, and solar energy.

Find more clean energy facts and figures in [EEI's Earth Day infographic](#). Visit EEI's [clean energy and climate change webpage](#) for company highlights, a map that links to EEI member companies' clean energy commitments, and much more. Join the clean energy conversation on social media with [#Committed2Clean®](#).



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

EEI Hosts 8th Annual Global Electrification Forum

EEI's eighth annual Global Electrification Forum (GEF)—held April 15-19 in Washington, D.C.—attracted more than 1,000 attendees from around the world and highlighted how international electric companies are leading the effort to advance global electrification.

During the GEF's opening session, EEI President and CEO Dan Brouillette spoke with Charles Oppenheimer, founder of the Oppenheimer Project and grandson of J. Robert Oppenheimer, about how the energy industry has evolved over the past several decades.

"It is a pivotal time and an exciting time to be a part of the energy industry," said Brouillette. "The decisions and investments that we are making today will pave the way for an energy secure, environmentally secure, and economically secure future."

Oppenheimer echoed the sentiment, saying that now "is the time to innovate in this industry."

"The world needs [energy innovation]," Oppenheimer continued. "We have increasing demand, and this is a time when we can jump ahead."

Sessions throughout the week centered on the need for innovation and collaboration to continue our progress toward a clean energy future, with a focus on cross-industry partnerships, emerging demand-drivers like artificial intelligence and data centers, grid resilience initiatives, green hydrogen, and more.

Watch all GEF sessions through the [conference registration portal](#). Find in-depth coverage of the GEF in the upcoming issue of *Electric Perspectives*.

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A banner with a dark blue background and a white diamond shape in the center. The text is white and red. The EEI Business Diversity logo is in the top left corner.

EEI
Business
Diversity

40th Annual

EEI Business Diversity Conference

May 21-24, 2024
Hyatt Regency Atlanta
265 Peachtree St NE, Atlanta, GA 30303

LOOKING AHEAD

EEI's 40th Annual Business Diversity Conference

Learn more about business diversity best practices and have one-on-one meetings with diverse suppliers during EEI's 40th Annual Business Diversity Conference, held May 21-24 in Atlanta.

This year's conference, hosted by Southern Company, will highlight critical policy initiatives and innovation within the electric power industry, showcase diverse businesses, and offer networking opportunities.

[Register now to join us in Atlanta.](#)

EI Senior Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Chief Diversity Officer Courtney Peterson spoke to Minority Business News to share more about this year's conference and EI's and our member companies' commitment to diverse business practices. "It's a really big deal to be celebrating 40 years of the conference," said Peterson. "The [conference awards] are a longstanding feature, and, for the 40th year, there will be a new award and some surprises." [Learn more about the Business Diversity Conference in her full interview.](#)



TUNE IN

Electric Perspectives: The Podcast

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

Recently, EI Senior Vice President, Chief Diversity Officer, and Chief Human Resources Officer Courtney Peterson spoke with former EI employee Charlotte Blount-Lewis about Blount-Lewis' work to develop industry business diversity programs

and to organize the first Business Diversity Conference. EEI will host [the 40th Annual Business Diversity Conference](#) in Atlanta from May 21-24.

Plus, Consumers Energy Senior Vice President of Transformation and Engineering Tonya Berry joined the podcast to discuss the company's strategic plan to limit the scope and length of power outages in their service territory.

[Listen to the episodes here](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.

A dark blue banner with white text and a 'Learn More' button. The text reads 'Experienced guidance for your industry's changing landscape.' To the right is a 'Learn More' button. Further right is the Regions Securities logo, which includes a green triangle icon, the text 'REGIONS SECURITIES', and 'Equal Housing Lender | Member FDIC' below it. The background of the banner features a faint image of power lines.

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IN MEMORIAM

Christopher Crane

Former Exelon Corporation President and CEO Christopher “Chris” Crane passed away on April 13. He served in leadership roles at Exelon since 2004 and served as EEI Chair from 2019-2020. EEI Chair Pedro J. Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, and EEI Vice Chair Calvin Butler, president and CEO of Exelon, issued a statement following Crane’s passing.

[Read more here.](#)

EEI 2024

JUNE 18-20

Fontainebleau Las Vegas

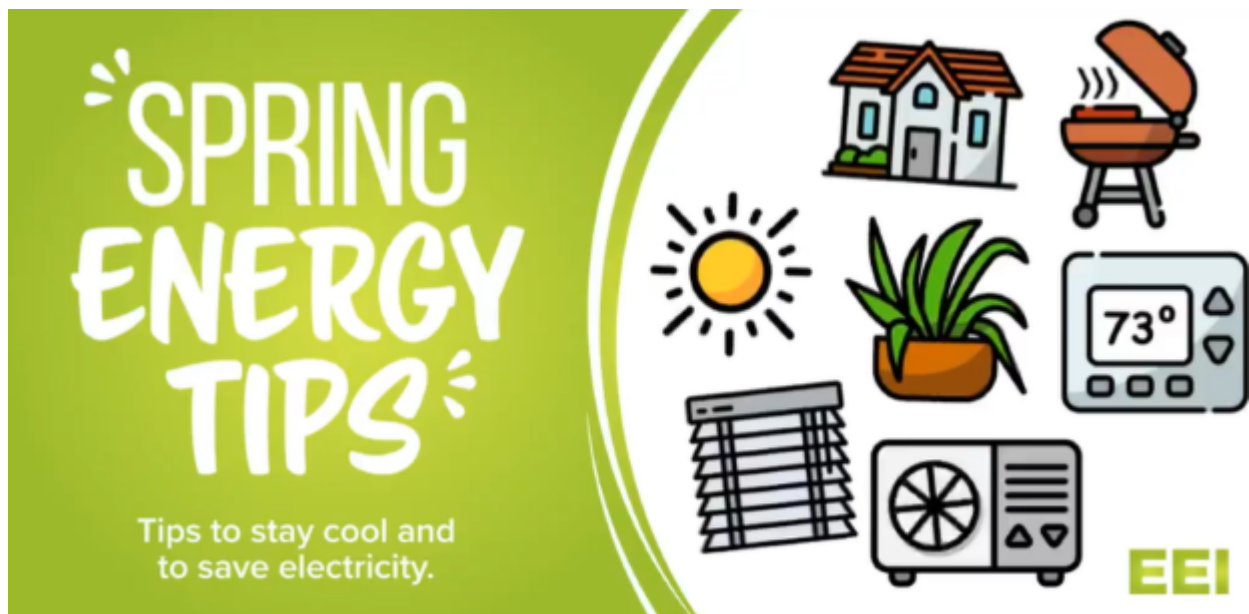
[REGISTER NOW](#)

EEI 2024

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

EEI 2024 will showcase how America's electric companies are delivering resilient clean energy across our economy, and will address topics that are defining and shaping the energy landscape of today and tomorrow—AI, hydrogen, clean energy and grid technologies, and so much more.

[Register now](#). We look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas!



[WHAT WE'RE READING](#)

Spring Into Energy Efficiency

Spring brings an opportunity for a fresh start, and EEI and our member companies want to remind customers to keep energy efficiency in mind. Here are a few simple energy efficiency tips to help keep electric bills low:

- Service your air conditioner by replacing or cleaning your air filters, which can lower your cooling system's energy consumption by up to 15 percent.
- Caulk air leaks and seal ducts to keep the cool air inside and the hot air outside, reducing energy consumption and electricity costs.
- Cook outside with an outdoor grill instead of indoor ovens to keep warmer air outdoors.

Find more Spring energy efficiency tips [on EEI's website](#).

GET SOCIAL

Total Eclipse of the Sun



@Edison_Electric



"When the upcoming solar eclipse limits solar energy output, electric companies and system operators will be prepared."

While electric companies don't anticipate major impacts from the upcoming [#solareclipse](#), they still are preparing accordingly for changes in power capacity and increased congestion where people are flocking to see the eclipse. Learn more: bit.ly/4aaHgpr





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