

*Sessions will take place in the Mountain Time Zone

Formed in 2001, the Energy Providers Coalition for Education (EPCE) is a national coalition of utilities, energy organizations and education partners. **EPCE is an initiative of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL)**, a national non-profit organization. EPCE provides its members with workforce solutions through its premier online education, built to address the critical employment needs of the evolving utility industry. The EPCE Coalition meeting offers utility professionals the opportunity to learn about online education and training resources that support employer workforce development and training strategies.



[Register to Attend \(required\)](#)

[SEE EXPERIENCE POWER CONFERENCE AGENDA](#)

MONDAY OCT. 3, 2022 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ROOM: WILLOWLAKE 1

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|----------------------------|---|
| 8:00 am - 8:30 am | NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
<i>Ryan Cheney, Industry Education Solutions Manager Marketing, CAEL</i> |
| 8:30 am - 9:30 am | NETWORKING BREAKFAST |
| 9:30 am- 9:40 am | WELCOME
<i>Angie Lucas, Director, Industry Education Solutions, CAEL</i> |
| 9:40 am - 10:00 am | EPCE BUSINESS UPDATE
<i>Angie Lucas, Director, Industry Education Solutions, CAEL</i>
<i>Ryan Cheney, Industry Education Solutions Manager Marketing, CAEL</i> |
| 10:00 am - 10:30 am | BUILDING A WORKFORCE TO POWER THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE FUTURE
<i>Jim Auld, Director, External Training Initiatives, NextEra Energy/FPL</i>
<i>Kevin Cooper, Indian River State College</i> |

Electric vehicles are not coming soon, they are here. Join the discussion on developing a highly trained workforce to support industry needs in electric vehicle infrastructure and technology including:

- *Installation and maintenance of charging stations*
- *Technicians*

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- *Manufacturers*
- *Software developers*
- *Engineers*

10:30 am - 10:45am NETWORKING BREAK

10:45 am - 11:15 am RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION THROUGH CAREER PATHWAY MAPPING AND SOLUTIONS

Kristen Himmerick, Vice President, Solutions, CAEL

In this interactive session, participants will learn strategies that support recruiting and retaining employees through career pathway mapping.

11:15 am - 11:30 am CAEL MEMBERSHIP - THE BENEFIT OF LABOR MARKET REPORTS

Jeannie McCarron, Senior Director, Member Engagement, CAEL

11:30 am - 12:15 pm REIMAGINING LEARNING THAT ENGAGES

This discussion centers around the training challenges and opportunities to use new methods, systems, and tools, individually and across the industry to improve employee development and retention.

Deanna Myers, Training Program Manager, Sargent & Lundy

Jane Kelly, Excelsior University

Wes Braun, Department Chair, Bismarck State College

Holly Stanton, Sr. Manager, Strategic Workforce Planning, Xcel Energy

12:15 pm - 1:00 pm NETWORKING LUNCH

1:00 pm - 1:30pm MARKET CHALLENGES, TRENDS, NEW INITIATIVES, EPCE BEST PRACTICES - OPEN DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Angie Lucas, Director, Industry Education Solutions, CAEL

- **SUPPORTING APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS**

Mark Palacio, XCEL Energy

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- 1:30 pm- 2:00 pm** **'COGNITIVE SCIENCE' METHODS FOR TRAINING GRID OPERATORS**
We are creating example cognitive science-based training for grid operators. You will hear about the benefits of training with cognitive science-based training in other domains. You will understand principles we use in cognitive-science-based training. You will see how those principles will be applied to training grid operators. You will get to share your thoughts on this value of this approach to training grid operators, and what would be required to adopt this training.
- Bob Porkny, Principal Scientists, Innosys*
Doug Heckman, Senior Director of Partnership Development, CAEL
- 2:15 pm- 2:30 pm** **USING EPCE TOOLS TO ENHANCE EMPLOYEE RECRUITING AND RETENTION**
Ryan Cheney, Industry Education Solutions Marketing, CAEL
- 2:30 pm- 3:00 pm** **LEGISLATIVE ENERGY UPDATE**
Aaron Ray, Associate Director, Environment, Energy, and Transportation
National Conference of State Legislatures NCSL
- State legislatures continue to play a leading role in shaping state energy policy. In recent years states have pursued policies to strengthen clean energy targets, support state energy production, ensure reliability and affordability, and manage the transition to an electrified transportation system. This presentation will highlight recent trends in state energy legislation from across the country.
- 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm** **NUPT CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING**
- 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm** **ELPW CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING**
- 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm** **EXPERIENCE POWER NETWORKING RECEPTION - EXHIBIT HALL**
- 7:00 pm** **EPCE DINNER - OLD HICKORY STEAKHOUSE**
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Tuesday Oct. 4, 2022

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10:00 am - 6:30 pm EXHIBIT HALL OPEN - EPCE BOOTH #

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BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

- 8:00 am - 9:30 am THE WAY FORWARD - EXPERIENCE POWER OPENING KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS**
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am EPCE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**
- 11:00 am– 6:30 pm VISIT EPCE IN THE EXHIBIT HALL**
- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm EXPERIENCE POWER NETWORKING AND LUNCH - EXHIBIT HALL**
- 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm OPTIONS FOR ADVANCING YOUR CAREER IN POWER GENERATION**

Moderator:

Angie Lucas, Director, Industry Education Solutions, CAEL

Panelists:

Jana Lesh, Controls Mechanic, LAWPD

Holly Stanton, Sr. Manager, Strategic Workforce Planning, Xcel Energy

Vicky Kruslemsky, Chief Talent Officer of Commonwealth Associates, Inc.

It's not just about the aging workforce, there are numerous game changers impacting the energy industry that create an important need to develop employees' skills to transition into key positions when you add internal , internal (mergers, acquisitions, new technologies) and external (grid modernizations and regulatory changes).

In this session, we will discuss a few main strategies, including developing non - traditional career paths, leveraging education and training partnerships to build the skills of transitioning workers and how blended learning models can support internal training initiatives.

Some examples include:

- Transitioning and merging technical skills to develop a multi-skilled technician
- Transitioning a military background to leverage veterans' technical skills
- Transitioning incumbent workers to replace the highly-skilled, aging workforce
- Incumbent continuous training models to develop various types of skilled, technical workers

- 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm EXPERIENCE POWER NETWORKING BREAK- EXHIBIT HALL**

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3:30 pm - 5:00 pm EXPERIENCE POWER SESSION ATTRACTING AND RETAINING A DIVERSE WORKFORCE

How can the energy sector (and feeder institutions) develop, attract, and support a diverse workforce? How can we welcome younger people into the industry to help supplement those workers we lost to the “Great Resignation”? This session will focus on creating cultural change in energy recruitment and in the energy industry itself. Experts from across industries will provide best practices in recruiting and supporting people of color, women, and younger workers.

Topics include

- Using traditional and non-traditional methods to find and assess talent
- Marketing the company's value, appealing to multi-generations

Moderator:

Kristen Himmerick, Vice President, Solutions, CAEL

Panelists:

Caley Van Cleave, Young Professionals in Energy, Colorado Chapter

Monique Dyers, President, AABE, Denver Area Chapter

Kari Shafenberg, Director, Initiatives, CAEL

Prasanth Thupili, SVP, Power Generation Services Mitsubishi Power Systems Americas, Inc.

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm EXPERIENCE POWER NETWORKING RECEPTION - EXHIBIT HALL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2022

8:20 am - 9:00 am BITCOIN'S VITAL ROLE IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION - KEYNOTE

This keynote presentation is geared to inform and excite the power generation industry at the prospects and opportunities that bitcoin mining can provide for the energy industry. Our speaker, Andrew Webber, brings to bear over a decade of financial expertise and experience, having worked at firms such as Goldman Sachs, Surveyor Capital, and Fortress Investment Group. Andrew and his company, Digital Power Optimization (DPO), are working to inform the energy sector of the

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variety of ways through which it can directly utilize bitcoin mining as a powerful tool by taking advantage of the direct link between power generation and Bitcoin. Join us as we explore what exactly cryptocurrency mining is, how it works, and the many use cases for bitcoin mining as an energy management tool.

10:00 am– 6:30 pm VISIT EPCE IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022

9:00 am - 11:30 am TOUR NREL'S ENERGY SYSTEMS INTEGRATION AND RESEARCH SUPPORT FACILITIES

Attendees can sign-up for an opportunity to tour facilities at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden as part of the conference. NREL advances the science and engineering of energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable power technologies, and supports research and development to help integrate and optimize energy systems. The tour consists of two parts:

Part one is a tour of the NREL Research Support Facility (RSF), where you will gain insight into how the best energy efficiency and environmental performance technologies and practices can be used in a large-scale commercial office building.

You'll see:

- How to Design Buildings to be Net Zero
- Zero Energy Boundary
- Energy Use
- Water Conservation
- Zero Energy Dashboard
- Evolution of Solar (walk through)

Part two is a tour of the NREL Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF), which accelerates the efficient transition to future energy systems that are secure, resilient, reliable, affordable, and clean. At this facility NREL's team researches and designs:

- Renewable Energy-to-Grid Integration
- Energy Storage
- Energy Security
- Energy Resilience

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- Advanced Mobility
- Grid-Interactive Buildings
- Data Integration and Analysis
- Hydrogen and Fuel Systems
- VR Cave

***This tour option is limited to 40 individuals. The tour will last about four (4) hours in total, which includes travel time to and from the Gaylord Rockies resort to NREL's campus, along with security checks. Tour attendance is subject to prior approval.*