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INSTITUTE

Energy **Talk**

Your Monthly Energy News Digest

June 2025

EEI

Electric Perspectives
PODCAST



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latest episode!



L to R: EEI Vice Chair Chris Womack, Chairman, President, and CEO, Southern Company; EEI Chair Calvin Butler, President and CEO, Exelon; and EEI Vice Chair David Campbell, Chairman and CEO, Evergy.

TOP STORY

EEI Elects New Board Leadership

On June 3, EEI's Board of Directors elected Exelon President and CEO Calvin Butler as EEI Chair for the 2025-2026 cycle. Butler succeeds Maria Pope, president and CEO of Portland General Electric. David Campbell, chairman and CEO of Evergy, and Chris Womack, chairman, president, and CEO of Southern Company, were elected Vice Chairs.

"Our industry stands at an exciting crossroad, with new challenges, historic levels of investment, and burgeoning technologies like artificial intelligence that are redefining America's energy future," said Butler, who most recently served as an EEI vice chair. "I look forward to working with EEI and its member companies to ensure that we continue to meet the evolving needs and expectations of our customers, while at the same time working to keep their bills as low as possible."

"With demand for electricity rising at the fastest pace in decades, Calvin's leadership will be essential as EEI's member companies work to advance our shared policy priorities and to deliver the reliable, secure electricity that powers our nation's economy," said EEI interim President and CEO Pat Vincent-Collawn.

[Read more in EEI's press release.](#)



Safra Catz, CEO, Oracle, and Outgoing EEI Chair Maria Pope, President and CEO, Portland General Electric.

INDUSTRY ON DISPLAY

Highlights from EEI 2025

EEI 2025, held in New Orleans from June 2-4, showcased how EEI's member companies are working to meet growing demand for electricity while keeping customer bills as low as possible.

The conference featured a dynamic lineup of speakers and sessions covering top-of-mind topics, including a keynote session between outgoing EEI Chair Maria Pope, president and CEO of Portland General Electric, and Safra Catz, CEO of Oracle.

"You're missing an opportunity if you do not take this demand signal seriously," said Catz when discussing the current rise in energy demand. "I think anyone who reads history understands that adaptability and harnessing new technologies is really the difference between success and failure. ... There is no question that harnessing AI is widely recognized as a technical matter and a national security matter." Watch the full keynote conversation on [EEI's YouTube channel](#).

Read highlights from EEI 2025, including our keynote conversations, breakout sessions, and programming in The Hub, on the [Electric Perspectives website](#).



L to R: Pedro J. Pizarro, President and CEO, Edison International; Hamed Valizadeh, Senior Advisor, Grid Operations, Southern California Edison; Vik Trehan, Director of Grid Operations, Southern California Edison; and Steve Powell, President and CEO, Southern California Edison.

AWARD WINNING

Edison International and Southern California Edison Win 97th Edison Award; Fortis, Inc., Wins International Edison Award

During EEI 2025, EEI interim President and CEO Pat Vincent-Collawn proudly presented the 97th Edison Award to Edison International and Southern California Edison (SCE) and the International Edison Award to Fortis, Inc.

Edison International and SCE's Advanced Waveform Anomaly Recognition system supplements advanced sensors and other applications already used by many electric companies with state-of-the-art, physics-based AI models and machine learning technologies. The resulting grid anomaly detection and proactive fault management technology can help to identify and locate problematic equipment on SCE's circuits before a failure occurs, mitigating outages and helping to keep customers and communities safe and energized. Read more about the project in [EEI's press release](#).



L to R: Dave Hutchins, President and CEO, Fortis, Inc., accepts the International Edison Award accompanied by Margaret Kenequanash, CEO, Wataynikaneyap Power; Lucy Edwards, CEO, Opiikapawiin Services; Frank McKay, Board Chair, Wataynikaneyap Power; and Gary Smith, Executive Vice President, Operations and Technology, Fortis, Inc.

The approximately \$1.9-billion Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission System is Canada's largest Indigenous-led electricity project. Fortis partnered with Wataynikaneyap Power and 24 First Nations communities to construct the 1,800-kilometer (1,118-mile) transmission line connected to 22 substations. The system connects 17 rural and remote First Nations communities to the Ontario provincial energy grid. Read more about the project in [EEI's press release](#).



IN THE NEWS

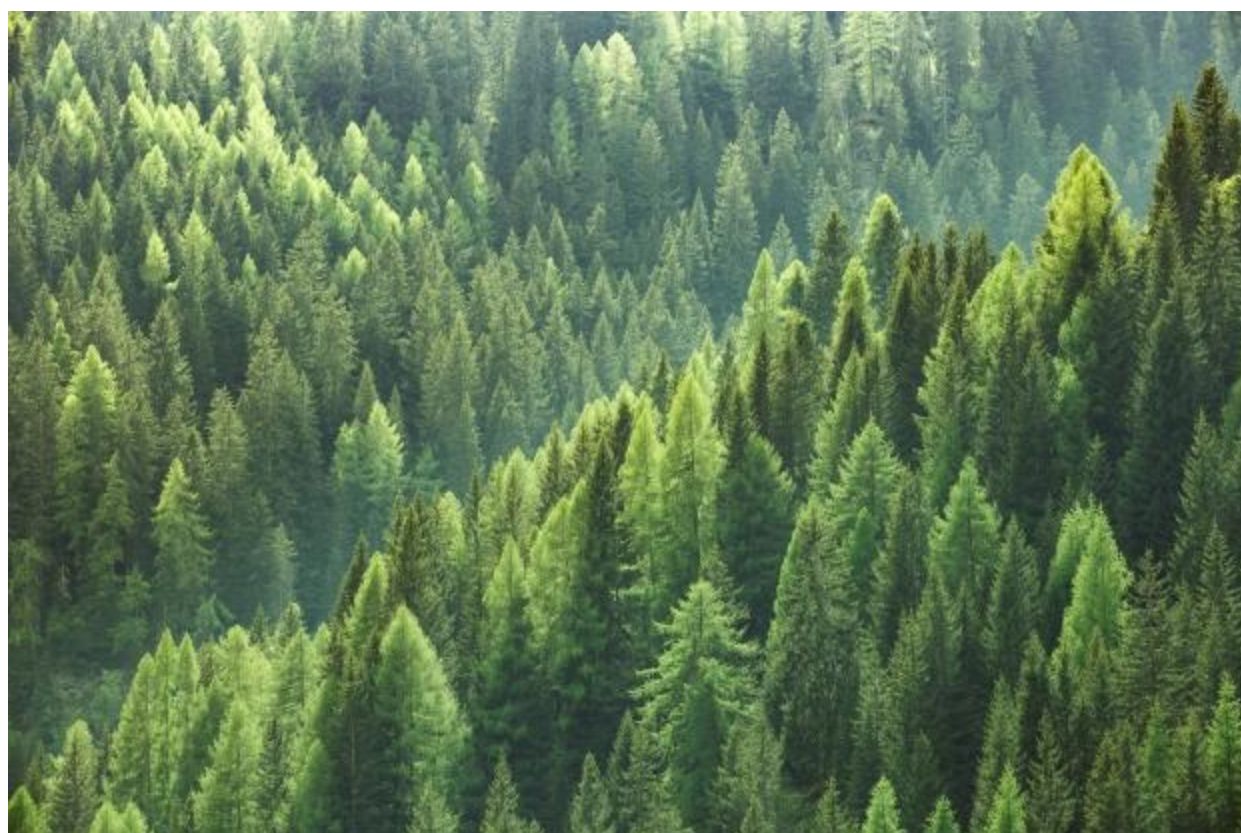
EEI Welcomes FCC Ruling Recognizing the Importance of Demand Response Communications

Earlier this month, EEI applauded the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) declaratory ruling affirming that demand response communications fall within the scope of service-related messages under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.

Demand response programs empower customers to shift or reduce their electricity usage during peak demand periods, helping to alleviate stress on the energy grid and to potentially avoid the need for costly new infrastructure. These programs help to enhance grid reliability and minimize price spikes.

As summer begins and Americans use more electricity to cool their homes and businesses, demand response programs allow grid operators to maintain reliability while helping to keep customer bills as low as possible. EEI appreciates the FCC allowing electric companies to deliver timely and clear communications that help customers conserve electricity—and save money—at times of extremely high demand.

[Read more on EEI's website.](#)



FOCUS ON WILDFIRES

New Executive Order on Wildfire Prevention and Response Aims to Enhance Coordination Across the Federal Agencies

“EEI and our member electric companies commend President Donald Trump for calling for a streamlined, common-sense federal approach to help prevent wildfires before they happen and to protect affected communities across the United States from long-term costs,” said EEI interim President and CEO Pat Vincent-Collawn shortly after the new Executive Order was signed.

“Wildfires are a societal problem that require societal-level solutions. Enhancing coordination across the federal agencies is a positive step, and we look forward to supporting these efforts to develop a comprehensive national approach that emphasizes community protection, wildfire prevention, responsible investment, and rapid recovery. Congress also can support these efforts by sending the Fix Our Forests Act to President Trump’s desk.”



Partners in Wildfire Prevention

POWERFUL COALITIONS

Partners in Wildfire Prevention

The United States experienced 64,897 wildfires last year that burned more than 8.8 million acres of land. With more communities across the country facing growing risks from these dangerous wildfires, leaders from some of the nation’s largest business, labor, and community organizations—including EEI—have come together to launch Partners in Wildfire Prevention.

The coalition’s mission is to advocate for a coordinated federal wildfire strategy that ensures communities are better protected from the dangers that wildfires pose while empowering businesses to make smart, forward-looking investments in wildfire resilience. Many of the coalition’s members already play an important role in wildfire prevention and response efforts across the nation.

Learn more about Partners in Wildfire Prevention [on its website](#).

The podcast cover features a vibrant orange-to-yellow gradient background. In the top left corner, there is a purple rectangular button with a white microphone icon and the text "TUNE IN" in white. The title "Electric Perspectives" is prominently displayed in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font, with "PODCAST" written below it in a smaller, white, all-caps font. A large, faint, stylized graphic of a power button is visible in the background on the right side.

 TUNE IN

Electric Perspectives

PODCAST

TUNE IN

The Electric Perspectives Podcast

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

On a recent episode, EEI Chair Calvin Butler, president and CEO of Exelon; Entergy Chair and CEO Drew Marsh; and Entergy Louisiana President and CEO Phillip May joined live from EEI 2025 to discuss how America's electric companies are enhancing grid resilience while working to meet the growing demand for electricity and to keep customer bills as low as possible.

Plus, EEI Managing Director of Public Affairs Jeff Ostermayer joined the podcast to discuss a new coalition advocating for a national response to wildfires: Partners in Wildfire Prevention. Ostermayer was joined by Partners in Wildfire Prevention Communications Director Chet Wade to share more about the federal policy that can support efforts to prevent wildfires and how we can work together to mitigate wildfire risks and to protect vulnerable communities.

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



Read the latest issue of
Electric Perspectives



WHAT WE'RE READING

A Q&A With Entergy's Drew Marsh

Drew Marsh, chair and CEO of Entergy, recently spoke with *Electric Perspectives* to share his thoughts on demand growth, grid resilience, and the importance of a customer-driven mindset.

"I take pride in knowing our work helped turn the Gulf Coast into one of the nation's greatest comeback stories in recent memory, and I know just how much work went into getting us there," said Marsh. "Since Hurricane Katrina, Entergy has invested billions of dollars into building weather-resilient infrastructure and hardening our grid to withstand Mother Nature's worst."

Read the full interview on the [Electric Perspectives website](#).

GET SOCIAL

America's Electric Companies on Capitol Hill



Senator Kevin Cramer

June 10 at 4:51PM · 🌐

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Members of [Edison Electric Institute](#) leadership met with me today to discuss permitting reform, reconciliation, and prioritizing reliable electricity in the One Big Beautiful Bill.



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