

# Energy **Talk**

---

## Your Monthly Energy News Digest

September 2025

---

Learn how Southern Co. delivers  
reliable flexible capacity with DR.

 Southern Company

**uplight**

[Learn More](#)

---

### IN THIS ISSUE

- EEI calls for comprehensive permitting reform.
  - Drew Maloney discusses his priorities for EEI and the importance of customer affordability on the latest *Electric Perspectives* podcast and with E&E News.
  - September Board meeting featured conversations with officials from the Trump Administration and OpenAI.
- 

### TOP STORY

## EEI Calls on Congress to Act on Permitting Reform

## Permitting Reform Will:

- ✓ **Drive**  
New Grid Investments
- ✓ **Strengthen**  
U.S. Energy Dominance
- ✓ **Lower**  
Costs



EEI President and CEO Drew Maloney recently sent a letter to Congressional leaders urging action on comprehensive permitting reform to accelerate infrastructure deployment that will provide better service to customers, drive economic growth, and strengthen America's energy dominance. As [Politico](#) wrote, EEI is "*the latest industry powerhouse to call on Congress to pass a bipartisan permitting overhaul this fall that makes it easier to build new energy infrastructure to meet rising energy demand.*" EEI's letter also was covered by [Axios](#), [Daily Energy Insider](#), and [Utility Dive](#).

*"Rapid deployment of new energy infrastructure—including generation, transmission, and pipelines—is the lynchpin to providing more energy to our customers, meeting growing energy demand, and winning the AI race,"* wrote Maloney. *"Congress must act now to streamline outdated permitting processes and ensure that the National Environmental Policy Act and the Clean Water Act are no longer used to stall forward progress."*

Find the full letter [here](#) and a one-page background document [here](#).

---

### PARTNERSHIPS ON DISPLAY

## EEI Hosts Administration Officials at Fall Board of Directors Meeting



Several Trump Administration leaders, including U.S. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Paul Dabbar and U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz, joined EEI's Fall Board of Directors and Chief Executives meeting for conversations on how America's electric companies best serve customers by ensuring a reliable and affordable energy supply, promoting American energy dominance by leveraging our nation's abundant resources, and securing the grid against evolving physical and cyber threats.

Also during the meeting, EEI Chair Calvin Butler, president and CEO of Exelon, led a conversation with OpenAI Chief Strategy Officer Jason Kwon, who highlighted how electric companies are essential to winning the race for deploying advanced AI technologies.

---

**TUNE IN**

## **The Electric Perspectives Podcast**



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

On our latest episode, EEI President and CEO Drew Maloney discusses his priorities for EEI, the electric power industry's commitment to providing reliable, affordable energy for customers nationwide, and how the industry is strengthening America's energy dominance. Maloney also recently shared his EEI priorities and commitment to customers [with E&E News](#).

Plus, hear a conversation on the critical role of flexible generation between Edison Foundation Managing Director Eric Holdsworth, Wärtsilä Business Development Manager Andrew Phillips, and Tucson Electric Power Senior Director of Energy Resources Operations Dylan Bearce.

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

---

**Meet demand growth cost-effectively with the Demand Stack**

Integrated demand-side solutions that deliver reliable capacity.

[Learn More](#)

**uplight**

**SPONSORED CONTENT**

## Maximize Grid Impact With an Integrated ‘Demand Stack’

Electric company executives today are tasked with meeting new demand growth, quickly and cost-effectively. Not only is new generation costly, but material and interconnection backlogs are adding years to the timeline.

What if you could grow your capacity today with existing resources already deployed at homes and businesses?

A unified [\*\*“Demand Stack”\*\*](#) leverages demand-side programs as integrated grid resources: energy efficiency as 24/7 generation, time-varying rates as mid-merit, and demand response as peaking resources—creating grid and customer benefits that are more than the sum of their parts.

---

### TECHNOLOGY FOCUS

## EEI Hosts Advancing AI for Electric Sector Summit



In late September, EEI hosted the inaugural Advancing Artificial Intelligence for the Electric Sector Summit, which brought together artificial intelligence (AI) innovators, energy leaders, and industry stakeholders to discuss how advanced AI systems can help the energy grid become smarter, faster, more resilient, and more secure.

Programming focused on real-world case studies for integrating AI technologies into the energy grid, emerging AI-driven tools to enhance industry operations, and shared energy security goals.

---

## AWARD WINNING

# EEI Announces 2025 Outstanding Customer Engagement Award Recipients



EEI presented the 2025 Awards for Outstanding Customer Engagement yesterday during the Fall National Key Accounts Workshop in Birmingham, Ala. These awards, which have been presented annually for 25 years, recognize EEI member companies and their National Key Accounts executives for outstanding engagement and partnership with corporate customers. Learn about the award recipients in [EEI's press release](#).

---

## EEI UPDATES

# EEI Announces New Members of Leadership Team



Earlier this month, three new leaders joined the existing EEI leadership team. Rachael Marsh joined as Chief Legal Officer, Emily Schillinger joined as Chief Communications Officer, and Kiel Weaver joined as Chief Advocacy Officer.

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

Learn how Southern Co. delivers  
reliable flexible capacity with DR.

 Southern Company

 uplight

[Learn More](#)

---

## WHAT WE'RE READING

# FCC's New Pole Attachment Reforms Encourage Investment and Accelerate Broadband Deployment



The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently took action to modernize the rules for attaching telecommunications equipment to existing power poles.

*"EEI and our member electric companies appreciate the Commission's commitment to reforming the pole attachment process in a way that removes barriers to broadband deployment while safeguarding the energy grid,"* said EEI Executive Director of Environment and Deputy General Counsel Alex Bond. *"We look forward to working with the FCC, communications providers, and other stakeholders to implement these reforms and bring broadband to more communities while keeping customer bills as low as possible."*

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

---

## GET SOCIAL

# Highlighting Lineworkers, Our Essential Workforce



**Edison Electric Institute**

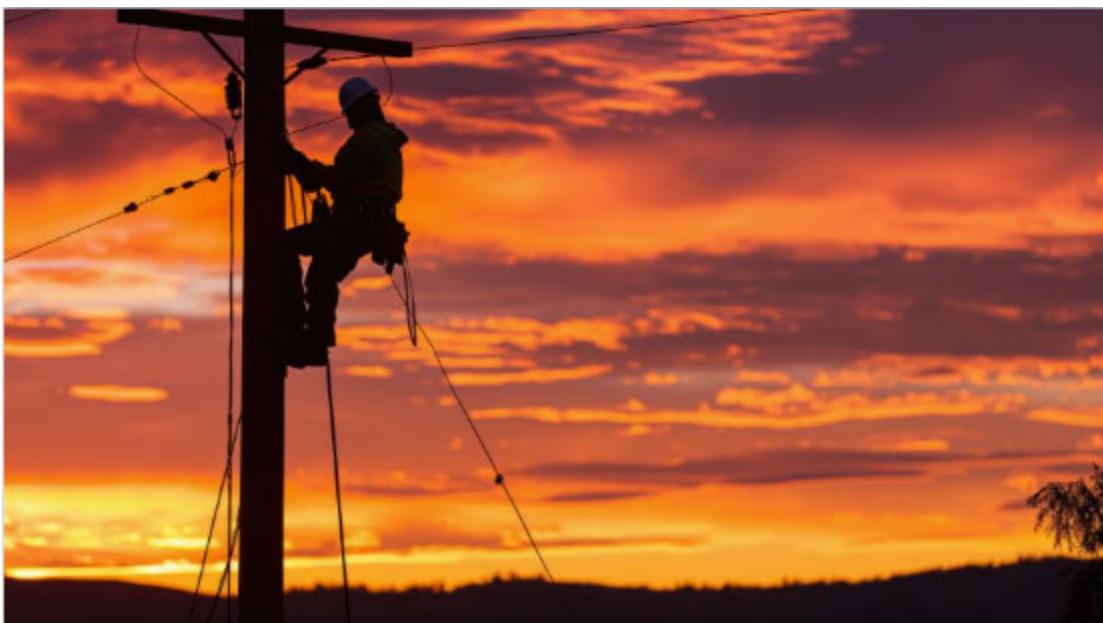
33,653 followers

1w •

ICYMI: [#ElectricPerspectives](#) spoke with five highly skilled lineworkers from [CenterPoint Energy](#), [NV Energy](#), [Georgia Power Company](#), and [Pacific Gas and Electric Company](#) about the day-to-day realities of their trade.

Lineworkers are essential to the electric power industry's efforts to enhance and strengthen the energy grid. They play a key role in building, installing, and maintaining the critical energy infrastructure and smart grid technologies that are helping to reduce outage times and to keep customer bills as low as possible.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3HUCK3V>



**Edison Electric  
INSTITUTE**

---

701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. | Washington D.C. 20004-2696  
202-508-5000 | [www.eei.org](http://www.eei.org)

