



Edison Electric  
INSTITUTE

# Energy Talk

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## Your Monthly Energy News Digest

December 2025

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### IN THIS ISSUE

- EEI calls for permitting reform and affirms support for the SPEED Act.
  - Amazon and Entergy Mississippi join the latest *Electric Perspectives* podcast episode to discuss how data center partnerships are strengthening the grid and serving communities.
  - EEI releases fact sheets highlighting key issue areas.
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### TOP STORY

## EEI Calls for Permitting Reform, Supports SPEED Act



Earlier this month, EEI partnered with other energy associations to send a letter to Congress expressing strong support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. This bipartisan legislation takes critical steps to cut red tape, reduce delays, and unlock the investment needed for essential energy infrastructure. [Read the full letter to Congress here.](#)

EEI President and CEO Drew Maloney issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the SPEED Act on Thursday:

*"The House passage of the SPEED Act is an important first step toward cutting red tape, lowering customer costs, and delivering reliable, affordable electricity to American families and businesses. At a time of unprecedented electricity demand, our outdated permitting processes can no longer stand in the way of unleashing American energy dominance. We value Chairman Westerman's leadership and urge the Senate to take the next step on this common-sense legislation that will help provide relief for customers and support the energy infrastructure that powers the American economy."*

*"We will also continue to work to make America's permitting system more predictable and more durable for all forms of energy, and to bring more electrons on the grid. We look forward to working with lawmakers on practical, bipartisan solutions to ensure that America's most important machine—the energy grid—works reliably every day for families, businesses, and local communities."*

TUNE IN

## The Electric Perspectives Podcast

The image shows a promotional graphic for an episode of the Electric Perspectives Podcast. At the top left, it says "Electric Perspectives PODCAST". On the right, the letters "EEI" are visible. The main title of the episode is "Data Centers: Costs and Customer Benefits". Below the title, there are two photographs of the guests: Haley Fisackerly and Brandon Oyer. Each guest has their name and title below their photo. A call-to-action at the bottom left encourages listeners to "Listen to this episode on your favorite podcast platform!".

**Data Centers: Costs and Customer Benefits**

Haley Fisackerly  
President and CEO  
Entergy Mississippi

Brandon Oyer  
Head of Energy and Water for the Americas  
Amazon Web Services

Listen to this episode on your favorite podcast platform!

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

On a recent episode, Entergy Mississippi President and CEO Haley Fisackerly and Amazon Web Services Head of Energy and Water for the Americas Brandon Oyer discuss how electric companies and large-load customers like Amazon are working together to deliver clear benefits to the grid and existing customers while strengthening reliability. The episode also highlights a [new E3 study](#) examining electricity rate design and tariffs for large loads like data centers, based on real-world case studies from Amazon's partnerships with electric companies.

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

### POLICY PRIORITIES

## EEI Releases Fact Sheets Highlighting Key Issue Areas



Investor-owned electric companies power the lives of nearly 3 in 4 Americans. Every day, they are building critical energy infrastructure, providing reliable energy for customers as affordably as possible, and strengthening U.S. national and economic security. EEI has compiled fact sheets highlighting how our member electric companies are:

- [Delivering Value to Customers](#)
  - [Supporting a Reliable, Resilient Energy Grid](#)
  - [Attracting and Retaining a Highly Skilled Workforce](#)
  - [Strengthening America's Energy Dominance](#)
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## 2025 LOOK BACK

# How EEI Members Served Customers, Workers, & Their Local Communities

## EEI Member Impact Across America



EEI's member investor-owned electric companies play a critical role in powering the lives of nearly 250 million Americans each day. Throughout 2025, EEI's member companies showcased how they are working for their communities by helping to lower costs, supporting the nation's economic growth, strengthening the energy grid, and investing in the future.

See some of the ways our member companies have showcased their commitment to their communities and workforces on [the Electric Perspectives website](#).

ncta PRESENTS

# AFTER THE STORM

REBUILDING NETWORKS. RESTORING COMMUNITIES.

WATCH THE FILM



SPONSORED CONTENT

# When Disaster Strikes, Teamwork Helps Reconnect Communities

The new docufilm [\*\*“After the Storm”\*\*](#) shows how broadband providers, electric company crews, and government agencies work together to restore essential services after hurricanes, wildfires, and other natural disasters.

Reestablishing critical connections is complicated, with many repairs dependent on each other. Progress hinges on timing, precision, and teamwork, often as crews face rough terrain, lingering storms, and the challenge of restoring the very communities they call home.

These moments of coordination don't just happen. They're built through planning, trust, and experience. “After the Storm” captures that effort, offering a rare look at how partnership drives recovery under the toughest conditions.

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## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

### Xcel Energy Testifies on Behalf of EEI Before U.S. House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy Grid Security



Xcel Energy Area Vice President for Security and Resilience Policy Sharla Barklind Artz recently testified on behalf of Xcel Energy and EEI before the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy on cyber and physical threats to the energy grid. Artz discussed the vital role of industry-government partnerships and how America's electric companies are actively working with federal, state, and local entities to strengthen the security and resilience of the energy grid.

Watch the full hearing and read the full written testimony [on EEI's website](#).

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## WHAT WE'RE READING

### Electric Companies Provide Legal Aid on EmPOWERING Pro Bono Day



November 13 marked the fourth annual EmPOWERING Pro Bono Day, and several members of EEI's legal team participated by joining the AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly to provide free assistance to community members. These attorneys helped clients sign up for bill assistance services and ensured the clients understood the required paperwork.

Read more about this day of service on [the Electric Perspectives website](#).

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GET SOCIAL

**We Are the Energy That Powers America**

From powering celebrations to critical infrastructure, America's electric companies are ensuring families and communities have reliable, affordable energy to power their daily lives.

Our industry is working to keep customer bills as low as possible and meet the needs of our communities. Over the next five years, we'll deliver more than \$1.1 trillion in smart grid investments that will benefit customers, drive economic growth, and help America achieve energy dominance.

We Are the Energy That Powers America

Learn more at: [eei.org](http://eei.org)

