



Wisconsin Public Utility Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

2023 ACTIVITIES REPORT



CELEBRATING OVER 40
YEARS OF SERVICE!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

01



As WPUI completes its 41st year as a successful organization, we offer our congratulations to WPUI Members for making this happen!! Your support and involvement continue to keep WPUI at the forefront of providing important and up-to-date programming.

WPUI is an officially-sanctioned UW-Madison Institute. However, it is completely self-funded, relying solely on membership fees and program registration fees. Additionally, WPUI is governed by an outside board of directors which is structured to represent WPUI's membership.

Remaining focused on its goals and mission, WPUI's board renewed its commitment to ensuring WPUI's financial well-being and continuity of operations, maintaining and strengthening WPUI's role as facilitator and leader of discussion for the utility of the future, enhancing WPUI's membership, and focusing on staff training and board development. In 2023, the board welcomed several new members who are already positively impacting WPUI programming and the Institute's future. Given the global challenges being faced and the transformations occurring in the electricity, natural gas, and water industries, WPUI is looking forward to continued member organization input and involvement and the creation of timely, informative, and interesting WPUI programming.

As was started in 2022, WPUI continued its hybrid programming for our multi-day programs while keeping a virtual platform for our single-day programs. As we begin planning WPUI's 2024 programming, we anticipate many opportunities to incorporate WPUI member feedback into program design.

Additionally, WPUI's programs continue to benefit enormously from the participation of a diverse range of speakers that includes vast representation from WPUI member organizations. We plan to continue using a hybrid model for our multi-day programs as it allows us to welcome many registrants to Madison as well as many more virtually.

This report is the product of students from the UW-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communications. WPUI is delighted with this partnership and the opportunity to support student development.

WPUI exists and is able to provide timely and important programming only because of your organization's support and input. Thank you!! We look forward to another exciting year in 2024.

Sincerely,

Lori Sakke

Director



2023 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

02



Understanding Recent Advances in Fusion Energy *(January 9)*

A members-only opportunity to hear from Dr. Paul Wilson of WPUI member University of Wisconsin-Madison's College of Engineering about the national advances in fusion energy and the research conducted at UW-Madison.

Short-Term Energy Outlook for 2023 *(January 24)*

A members-only opportunity to hear from Dr. Tyler Hodge of the U.S. Energy Information Administration's Office of Energy Analysis about key highlights and trends of EIA's Short-term Energy Outlook report.

Public Utilities Law Update *(March 1)*

Update of notable regulatory and legal cases, statutes, and administrative code provisions impacting practitioners in the energy and water arenas.

Affordability and the Energy Burden *(March 7)*

Discussion of the high energy burden and effectiveness of initiatives implemented at the national, state, and local level and how gaps might be addressed.

Regional Transmission Organization Fundamentals: Background, Purpose, Future *(April 24-26)*

Comprehensive overview of regional transmission organizations in North America, how and why RTOs were created, what their many functions are today, how transmission planning is conducted, how resource adequacy is managed, how the system maintains operational reliability, and how financial markets operate.

Federal Infrastructure Grant Opportunities *(June 20)*

A members-only opportunity to hear from Maria Lauck of WPUI member Power System Engineering about federal funding being made available to support a wide range of utility-related projects.

Edison Electric Institute's Electric Rates Course *(July 23-26)*

Rate design course on principles and examples of new rate options in a changing industry.

Technology Advancements in System Planning *(September 20)*

Assessment of technologies currently researched and developed, and the challenges and considerations faced during implementation.

Energy Utility Basics *(October 9-13)*

WPUI's annual intensive course on the history of the utility industry and the fundamental concepts critical to being conversant in the industry today.

Water – Sustainability and Climate Change *(October 25)*

Consideration and discussion of climate variability's impact on water infrastructure and how best to move forward with a cohesive water policy and sustainable infrastructure.



2023 PROGRAM STATISTICS

03



19

Days of
Programming

3

Members-Only
Programs

3

One-Day
Programs

2

Multi-Day
Programs

2

WPUI-Hosted
Programs

Member Supported. Member Driven.

Principles

WPUI provides programs and forums, in non-partisan format, that promote the exchange, creation, integration, transfer, and application of knowledge. WPUI does not take a position on issues.

Vision

WPUI is an educational outreach organization within the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and as such the activities of WPUI follow the Wisconsin Idea of applying the resources of the University to meet the need for information outside of the University's boundary.

Mission

The mission of WPUI is to advance understanding and discussion of relevant industry topics and emerging trends in the electric, natural gas, and water industries.

Priorities

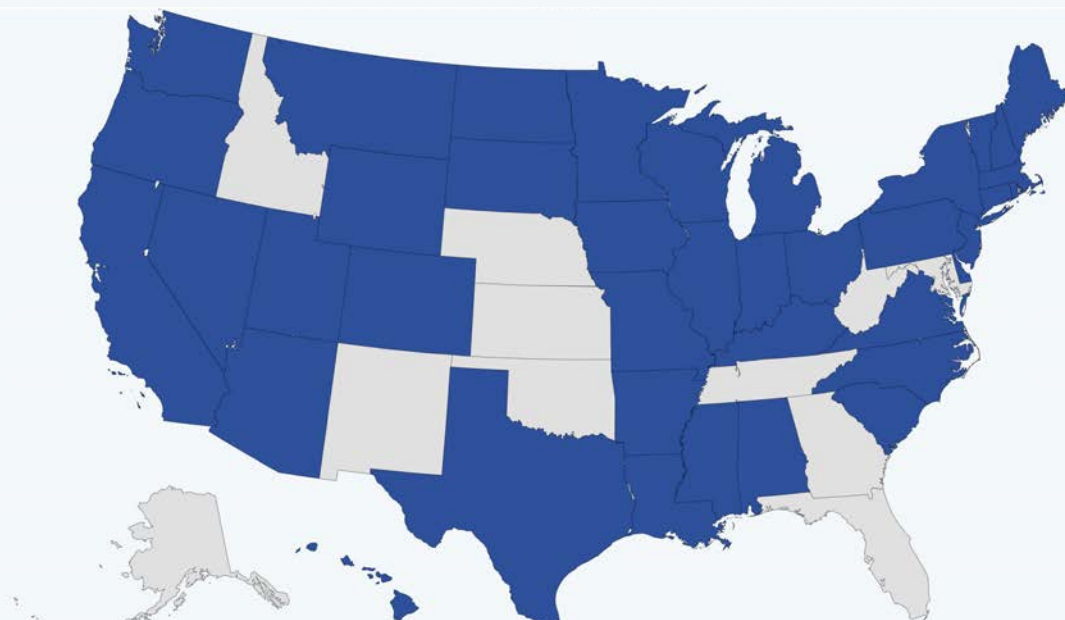
- WPUI financial well-being and continuity of operations
- WPUI role as facilitator and leader of discussion for the utility of the future
- Membership Recruitment
- Staff Training
- Board Improvement



2023 PROGRAM STATISTICS

04

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600+

Registrants

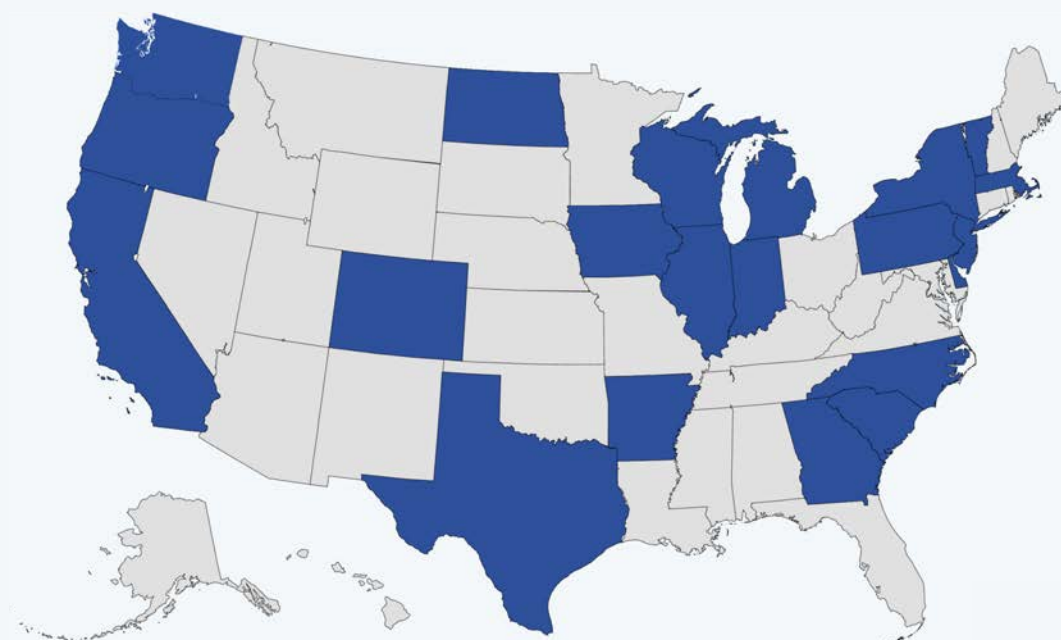
39 States
Represented
+ D.C.

115+

Speakers

22 States
Represented

+ D.C. + Denmark



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CORPORATE

Alliant Energy
WEC Energy Group

SUSTAINING

American Transmission Company
Madison Gas and Electric
Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District
UI Solutions Group
Xcel Energy

CONTRIBUTING

Dairyland Power Cooperative
Deloitte
Michael Best & Friedrich
Ranger Power

ASSOCIATE

Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.
Great Lakes Utilities
Illume Advising
ITC Midwest
Perkins Coie LLP
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C.
Sandia National Laboratories
WPPI Energy

STANDARD

Boardman & Clark LLP
Christensen Associates Energy Consulting
Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin
City of Rochelle Illinois
Clean Wisconsin
Customers First! Coalition
Customized Energy Solutions
Focus on Energy
Foley and Lardner LLP
Fredrickson & Byron, P.A.
GDS Associates, Inc.
Kentucky Public Service Commission
Michaels Energy
Midcontinent Independent System Operator
Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin
OneEnergy Renewables
Pacific Economics Group
Power System Engineering
Preferred Intelligence LLC
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Quarles & Brady LLP
RENEW Wisconsin
Slipstream Group, Inc.
Stafford Rosenbaum LLP
Superior Water Light & Power
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association
Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group
Wisconsin State Legislature



2023 BOARD of DIRECTORS

06

Lori Sakk, WPUI, Director

Sarah Justus, WPUI Board Chair

Karl Hoesly, WPUI Board Vice Chair, Xcel Energy

Michael Greiveldinger, Alliant Energy

John Garvin, American Transmission Company

Lawrie Kobza, Boardman & Clark LLP

Thomas Content, Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin

Kristin Gilkes, Customers First! Coalition

Joyce Peppin, Dairyland Power Cooperative

Andrew Koors, Deloitte

Matthew Spencer, Madison Gas and Electric

Jordan Hemaïdan, Michael Best & Friedrich

Kira Loehr, Perkins Coie LLP

Matt Sweeney, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



Sarah Justus, WPUI Board Chair

Paul Harris, Ranger Power

Robin Lisowski, Slipstream Group, Inc.

Chris LaRowe, WEC Energy Group

Mary Blanchard, Wisconsin Energy Institute, UW-Madison

Paul Wilson, College of Engineering, UW-Madison

Ben Callan, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Todd Stuart, Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group

Jem Brown, WI Rapids Water Works and Lighting Commission

Representative David Steffen, WI State Assembly, District 4

Representative Lisa Subeck, WI State Assembly, District 78

Frank Greb, Former CEO & President, Retired



Karl Hoesly, WPUI Board Vice Chair

Rodney Stevenson, Professor Emeritus, UW-Madison
WPUI Founder

2024 PROGRAM PREVIEW

07



Members-Only Event (January)

Economic overview regarding macro trends in the energy industry.

Transition to Clean Energy (March 5)

Review and discussion of the issues involved with the transition to clean energy.

Public Utilities Law Update (March 13)

Update of notable regulatory and legal cases, statutes, and administrative code provisions impacting practitioners in the energy and water arenas.

Regional Transmission Organization Fundamentals & RTO 2.0 (April 8-12)

Comprehensive overview of regional transmission organizations in North America, how and why RTOs were created, what their many functions are today, how transmission planning is conducted, how resource adequacy is managed, how the system maintains operational reliability, and how financial markets operate. RTO 2.0 will delve a bit deeper into topics covered in RTO Fundamentals.

Members-Only Event (June)

Topic TBD.

Edison Electric Institute's Electric Rates Course (July 28-31)

Rate design course on principles and examples of new rate options in a changing industry.

Members-Only Event (August)

Topic TBD.

Future of Natural Gas (September 10)

Examination of what the future holds for natural gas.

Energy Utility Basics (October 7-11)

WPUI's annual intensive course on the history of the utility industry and the fundamental concepts critical to being conversant in the industry today.

Technology Advancements (October 29)

Update on the latest utility industry developments in nuclear and energy storage.



Wisconsin Public Utility Institute

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



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