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Exelon 2020 Diversity Core Values

As part of its continued commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I), Exelon named 34 companies to its 2020 D&I Honor Roll, which recognizes partners in banking, insurance, IT, legal, professional services and investments for their work to include women and people of color in key roles on Exelon's account teams, as well as additional efforts that recognize the value of D&I. Exelon also continually improves its own diversity, equity and inclusion programs, and this year added Exelon Investments and Legal as part of the combined D&I Partnership Program, recognizing a broader scope of firms that support diversity in their day-to-day interactions with Exelon.

"Companies with a diverse workforce are stronger, more agile, and more innovative because of the variety of experiences and viewpoints people bring to the table," said Bridget Reidy, Exelon's executive vice president of Corporate Operations. "While diversity, inclusion, and equity are good for business, it is a moral imperative that we reaffirm and recommit ourselves to these values in the wake of recent events. That commitment extends to our business partners, and it's important to recognize and encourage progress while creating a forum to share best practices and learn from one another."

EEI Member Companies Collectively On Track To Electrify More Than One-Third of Their Fleet Vehicles By 2030

All across America, the Edison Electric Institute's (EEI's) member companies – the nation's investor-owned electric companies – are leading a clean energy transformation. Collectively, they are committed to getting the energy they provide as clean as they can as fast as they can, and already have reduced their carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions approximately 45 percent below 2005 levels while keeping electricity reliable and affordable for customers.

Nearly 40 percent of U.S. power generation now comes from carbon-free sources, and EEI's member companies are charting clear paths forward that will leverage this growth in clean energy to help achieve deep carbon reductions in the transportation sector, which is the largest domestic source of CO₂ emissions.

"Carbon emissions in the power sector are at their lowest level in more than 30 years, and they continue to fall," said EEI

President Tom Kuhn. "As the transportation sector increasingly electrifies, it is also getting cleaner. This week is National Drive Electric Week, which provides an opportunity to celebrate the clean energy progress that we have made, while spotlighting the new technologies and corporate commitments that are leading us forward."

In 2014, EEI's member companies committed to invest at least 5 percent of their annual vehicle fleet budgets in plug-in electric vehicles (EVs) and technologies. This target quickly was eclipsed, with participating members investing 10 percent of their total budgets on average by 2015. In every year since, companies consistently have met or exceeded the investment target.

Building on this early success, more than 70 percent of EEI member companies – serving more than 200 million U.S. customers – already have made new fleet electrification commitments. Collectively, these new

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FROM THE STAFF

Well, we (almost) made it through another General Election. At least most of the choices are decided here in Illinois, even if the presidential race is still at least somewhat up in the air. Just a word of thanks to the thousands of volunteer election workers who make our amazing democratic elections system work cycle after cycle. Even though it doesn't always seem like it, we really do appreciate all you do help protect our votes. IEF

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Exelon

This year's honorees are:

- Banking: CIBC, Sumitomo, Northern Trust, Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, MUFG, Mizuho, Citibank, and JP Morgan
- Insurance: Beecher Carlson, Marsh, and Aon
- Legal: Jenner & Block, Morgan Lewis & Bockius, Blank Rome, and Reed Smith
- Professional Services: PricewaterhouseCoopers, Willis Towers Watson, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, and Duff & Phelps
- IT Services: 720 Worldwide and Accenture
- Investments: Artemis Real Estate Partners, Pugh Capital Management, The Rock Creek Group, The Vistria Group, Ares Management Corporation, BlackRock, Camden Asset Management, Dodge & Cox; MacKay Shields, Oaktree Capital Management, and Thoma Bravo

Additional business partner Bank of America was recognized as "Most Improved" because of their significant efforts over the past year to increase female and minority representation on the account teams working with Exelon. IEF

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Goals put EEI's member companies on track to electrify more than one-third of their total fleets by 2030, including two-thirds of the passenger vehicles in their fleets.

"As an industry, it is critical that we lead by example, and our collective commitments to electrify our fleets both show our customers the path to clean transportation and send a clear message to the automakers that our industry – and many others – are committed to an electric vehicle future," said Pedro Pizarro, Edison International President and CEO and co-chair of EEI's CEO task force on electric transportation.

Many company announcements also include targets for electrifying medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, which make up about 5 percent of all vehicles on U.S. roads but contribute 28 percent of all vehicle greenhouse gas emissions. Most vehicles in EEI member company fleets are work trucks. When these trucks are electrified, workers can operate bucket lifts, digger derricks, and work lights without idling the engine.

"Auto Innovators' members are leading the way in advancing technologies for vehicle electrification," said Alliance for Automotive Innovation President and CEO John Bozzella. "Our members offer more than 40 electric models, and that number is

expected to more than triple by 2025. But putting EVs on the market is just part of the equation. Fleet purchasing commitments, such as these, are key to increasing consumer awareness, boosting market penetration, and aligning demand with the need for more charging infrastructure." IEF

Illinois American Water Awards Over \$87,000 in Firefighter Grants

Over \$87,000 will be shared by 88 Illinois fire departments through Illinois American Water's 2020 Firefighter Grant Program. Since the program was created in 2010, over 680 grants totaling over \$668,000 have been awarded to fire and emergency organizations across Illinois.

"We know how important water is in protecting homes and businesses. We also understand the impact of the pandemic on our first responders. This is why we approved every grant we received in full this year, supporting our local heroes in a meaningful way," said Justin Ladner, Illinois American Water President. "Some of the departments will use the grant funds for pandemic-related needs, while others will allocate the funds for communication tools, extraction equipment, training resources, and more."

Illinois American Water's Firefighter Grant Program awards grants to support firefighter needs such as personal protective gear, communications equipment, firefighting tools, water handling equipment, training materials and classroom programs. IEF

David Anderson, NW Natural, to Lead as AGA Chair


David H. Anderson, President & CEO of NW Natural in Portland, OR, will Chair the American Gas Association (AGA) Board of Directors in 2021. The Board voted unanimously during a virtual meeting on Oct. 14.

“I am humbled by the opportunity to lead the American Gas Association and be a voice for our 180 million customers nationwide in the conversation about affordable, reliable energy,” Anderson said. “In the year ahead, natural gas will continue to play an essential role for families and businesses recovering from the economic devastation wrought by COVID, providing the energy folks need and expect, while also helping us achieve our shared goal of lower emissions and a clean energy future.”

NW Natural is a local distribution company that currently provides natural gas service to approximately 2.5 million people in more than 140 communities through more than 770,000 meters in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Anderson joined NW Natural, a subsidiary of NW Natural Holding Company in 2004 and served in a number of leadership positions before becoming President and Chief Executive Officer in 2016. He previously held executive positions within TXU Corporation (formerly Texas Utilities). Anderson is a member of AGA’s Executive Committee, past co-chair of the Clean Energy Task Force and past Chair of the Audit Committee. He is also a member of the AGA Compensation Committee, Finance Committee and Board Safety Committee. He is Director of the Oregon Business Council, a member of SOLVE Founders’ Circle, and has been appointed to serve on Oregon’s Global Warming Commission.

The following executives will serve on the AGA Board of Directors in 2021:

Richard Mark, Chairman & President, Ameren Illinois and Charles Matthews, President & CEO, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas. 

Yes, it’s Safe to Charge Your Electric Vehicle in the Rain

While it’s normally a bad idea to stand on a wet surface and plug something in, electric vehicles are built to do just that.

With electric vehicles growing in popularity, people are curious about charging in inclement weather, says Thomas Bruhl, a member of the [board of directors](#) for [Safe Electricity](#), a part of [University of Illinois Extension](#).

“My car sits outside year round,” says Bruhl, who owns an electric vehicle and is the electric utility supervisor for the [city of Naperville](#). “It can be pouring rain while it’s charging and sometimes, I have to brush snow off the charger before I unplug. All of those conditions are suitable for the factory charger or a quality after-market charger.”

Electric vehicles are powered by an electric motor instead of an internal combustion engine. The battery that powers the motor is charged with a dedicated plug-in cord that connects it to a charging station or regular wall outlet.

“When using a quality charging device, there generally are no safety related issues as long as the plug is not sitting in a puddle of water or the charging port on the car is packed with snow,” Bruhl says.

The charging equipment is designed to be insulated and waterproofed and undergoes testing by the Society of Automotive Engineers for almost any weather condition, with the exception being extreme weather conditions such as floods and hurricanes, according to Safe Electricity.

When it’s wet outside, Bruhl says the only area of concern is not where the plug meets the car, but where the charging cord plugs into an outlet or an extension cord, though Bruhl suggests that the use of extension cords come with its own set of risks.

“People could get into trouble if they’re plugging the charging cord into an extension cord,” Bruhl says. “You want to make sure that all cords are appropriate for the use, are in good working order, and that connections are not in water.”

Safe Electricity recommends that electric vehicle owners always follow manufacturer instructions and check charging equipment before using it.

With 7,950 electric vehicles on the road, Illinois ranks 10th in the U.S., according to the [U.S. Department of Energy](#). Those numbers have increased, particularly in urban areas, as prices decrease, mileage range increases, and the technology generally becomes more accessible to consumers, Bruhl says.




New Mexico State's Center for Public Utilities Offers "The Basics" Training

Register for the 4-day "The Basics" Practical Regulatory Training for the Natural Gas Local Distribution (LDC) Industry, Dec 7-8 & 10-11, 2020 live online via Zoom. There is no class held Wednesday, December 9th.


This course is specifically designed to capture the nuances of the Natural Gas LDC industry and includes the following topics and more!

- Industry Technology, Structure, and Regulation
- Revenue Requirements
- Class Cost-of-Service
- LDC Gas Procurement
- Rate Design
- Rate Case Procedures

For the program brochure and additional information visit the course webpage by [CLICKING HERE](#). 

IRPS Announces Series of Webinars

The Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies at Illinois State University has announced a series of monthly free webinars to begin on December 17, 2020. Other webinars will be held on January 14 and February 11, 2021. Each webinar will be from 12:00-1:30 Central Time.

Registration will be opening soon. Check the IRPS Website for updates. Registration is required, but is free of charge. 

Illinois Energy Forum is published monthly by the Illinois Energy Association, Springfield, Illinois. For questions or comments, please contact James Monk at **217-523-7348** or e-mail at jmonk@ilenergyassn.org.

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