

## **MID-GRID 2035 Virtual Workshop**

### **Generation Fleet Change Pathways and Cost Implications**

#### **February 23, 2021 at 8:45 am Central**

The Midwest is in the midst of significant changes on the electric grid. New generation is being added at a rapid pace while older power plants are being retired. Many states have articulated carbon reduction and grid modernization goals while other states aim to capitalize on economic benefits brought by recent cost declines, customer motivations, and the public policy goals of their neighbors. Meeting participants will hear from some of the nation's leading experts on the pathways these changes present in terms of total system cost. As each state and utility makes its own choices around generation resource types and location, there are regional implications for reliability and cost. Presenters will discuss their research findings on potential pathways to a low-carbon energy system, the role of DERs as well as the transmission system, highlighting opportunities to meaningful collaboration for states in the Midwest and recommendations for how the system can be planned in a regionally optimized manner.

#### **February 23 – All Times in Central**

- 8:45 am**      **Welcome and Introductions**
- Jesse Heier, Executive Director, Midwestern Governors Association
- 9:00 am**      **National-Scale Low-Carbon Energy System Modeling – Midwest Implications**
- This presentation will provide insight into cutting-edge, nation-wide [Net-Zero America](#) analysis as a glimpse into the possible future, focusing on modeling results for the Midwest region. Audience members will learn what this analysis tells us about what technologies are needed to maintain reliability and affordability while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the possible future generation mix in the Midwest, its implications for transmission and distribution grid needs, and subsequent impacts on energy costs in the region. Participants will also hear of opportunities and strategies to optimize these investments and minimize cost in a carbon-constrained world.*
- [Jesse Jenkins](#), Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment, Princeton University
- 9:45 am**      **Understanding Transmission Needs in the Era of Distributed Energy Resources**
- This presentation will further expand on leading-edge analysis examining the roles of transmission- and distribution-connected resources including contributions to system reliability and cost implications, providing another datapoint for states and participants to consider in their efforts to define and implement their shared vision of an optimized transmission grid.*
- [Debbie Lew](#), Associate Director, Energy Systems Integration Group
- 10:30 am**      **Panel Discussion**
- Panelists will react to the keynote presentations, comparing modeling results and implications to their own efforts within their states. Panelists will also discuss recent work of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) Joint Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning and reflect on work underway in their states to support optimized grid investments. The discussion will aim to identify opportunities further collaboration for the MGA and Midwest states via the MID GRID 2035 process.*
- [Jennifer Richardson](#), Executive Director, Indiana Office of Energy Development
  - [Commissioner Dan Scripps](#), Chair, Michigan Public Service Commission
  - [Commissioner Beth Trombold](#), Acting Chair, Ohio Public Utility Commission
  - [Commissioner Ted Thomas](#), Chair, Arkansas Public Service Commission
  - **Moderator:** [Jeff Ackermann](#), Former Chair, Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- 11:45 am**      **Concluding Remarks/Adjourn**