

CEATI

November 17-18, 2026 | Denver, CO

Transmission & Distribution Conference

Preparing You for the Power Delivery System of the Future

T&D DAY 1
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026

7:00 - 8:30AM **BREAKFAST - Exhibit Hall**
Young Professionals Networking Breakfast and Personal Brand Workshop - Peaks Lounge

8:30AM

WELCOME PLENARY – ALL TRACKS | Capitol Ballroom, Level 4
Opening Remarks: Megan Owens, CEATI
Keynote Panel: Mazana Armstrong, *IEEE PES*, Lindsay Melvin, *Manitoba Hydro*, Shana Kuhn, *Bonneville Power Administration*

9:45 - 10:30 AM **COFFEE BREAK - Exhibit Hall**

	Session A1: Transmission Line Design & Lifecycle Management *Capitol 1-3 & North Corridor* Session Chair: Prasad Yenumula, Duke Energy	Session B1: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies *Capitol 4 & North Corridor, LE* Session Chair: Jeff Lehman, CEATI	Session C1: Vegetation Management & Right-of-Way Resiliency *Capitol 5-7 & South Corridor* Session Chair: Megan Owens, CEATI	Session D1: Substation Design & Asset Lifecycle *Mineral Hall D-E, Level 3* Session Chair: Brian Sparling, CEATI	Session E1: Grounding and Lightning *Mineral Hall F-G, Level 3* Session Chair: John Williamson, CEATI
10:30AM	**33148: Risk Assessment of Overhead Lines to Tornadoes, Downbursts and Microbursts** *Frank Lombardo, University of Illinois, & Asim Haldar, CEATI*	**Progress, Not Perfection: Making AMI Data Useful Before AMI 2.0** *Stephen Petersen, PacifiCorp*	**From Imagery to Action: Span-Level Wildfire Risk Mitigation for the Utility ROW** *Megan Walker, Overstory*	**Infrared Monitoring of Substation Assets: A Utility's Experience Finding the Right Solution for Asset Health Monitoring** *Michael Kim & Stephen Augustine, Pacific Gas & Electric*	**The Journey from Conservatism to Performance: the Status of IEEE 80 and 81** *Bryan Beske, Safearth Americas*
11:15AM	**PG&E's Risk-Based Steel Structure Assessment Program** *Fela Odeyemi & Nick Narup, Pacific Gas & Electric*	**Reliability and Resiliency: Better Together** *Joe Zerdin, Hydro One & Dave Dewulf, Eaton*	**See More. Respond Faster. Scaling Utility Operations with Remote and Multi-Drone Workflows** *Christina Park, Corey Hitchcock, Michael Dorr, Skydio*	**When Every Inspection Finds Something, How Do You Know What Matters Most? Using multispectral inspections, continuous monitoring, and AI to improve asset health decisions** *Michael Kelly & Dale Morrison, OFIL*	**Risk-Based Analysis to Enhance Grounding System Resiliency** *Robert Otal & Riley Prescott, BBA*

12:00- 1:30 PM **NETWORKING LUNCH - Exhibit Hall**

	Session A2: Transmission Line Design & Lifecycle Management Session Chair: Steve Haddock, CEATI	Session B2: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies Session Chair: Matt Sveinbjornson, ATCO Electric	Session C2: Vegetation Management & Right-of-Way Resiliency Session Chair: David Villa, CEATI	Session D2: Substation Design & Asset Lifecycle Session Chair: Raymond Lings, CEATI	Session E2: Grounding and Lightning Session Chair: Mickie Cassady, Bonneville Power Adminstration
1:30 PM	**AI-Driven Grid Intelligence - from images to insights** *David Wickstrom, Arkion*	**GridFlex: Leveraging AI-Driven Predictive Analytics and DER Orchestration to Mitigate Localized Distribution Peaks** *Stefan Schilke & Sydney Atkinson, Hydro Ottawa*	**Improving Vegetation Risk Management Through High-Accuracy LiDAR, AI-Driven Reporting, and Network-Wide 3D Visualisation: A Utility Perspective** *Peter Stirratt, Network Mapping & Shahed Mirmohammadi, Hydro One*	**Lessons Learned When Introducing & Applying Continuous Monitoring Systems** *Brian Sparling, CEATI*	**Review of Methodologies for Testing Transmission Line Footing Electrodes and their Accuracy** *Emanuel Petrache & Mohit Bhatnagar, Kinectrics*
2:15 PM	**From Black Box to Open Book: How to Validate a Dynamic Line Rating** *Dr. Henri Manninen, Gridraven*	**Operating the Distribution Grid with High DER Penetration: Flexible, Data-Driven Interconnection** *Luigi Montana, Envelio & Gerhard Walker, Eversource*	**Commanding the Canopy: Turning Vegetation Data into Grid Resilience** *Liz Fulton & Cassie Bond, Asplundh*	**Substation Structural Performance Criteria Relative to Lifecycle and Asset Assessment** *Leon Kempner, Bonneville Power Administration*	**Aggregate Resistivity: Are You Between a Rock and a Hard Place?** *Lee Howard & Jacob Rioux, Hood Patterson & Dewar*

3:00 - 3:45 PM **COFFEE BREAK - Exhibit Hall**

	Session A3 Panel: Building the Utility Workforce of the Future: Developing, Engaging, and Retaining Talent Facilitator: David Villa, CEATI	Session B3: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies Session Chair: Steve Greey, CEATI	Session F3: System Planning, Operations & Protection Session Chair: Ed Watson, CEATI
3:45 PM	The **Talent Management Panel** will explore practical strategies for attracting, developing, and retaining utility talent, with a focus on employees' first 10 years through mentorship, career development, succession planning, and upskilling. Utility leaders and workforce experts will share best practices and actionable ideas to strengthen long-term workforce development. *Panelists: Lewis Payne, New York Power Authority, Jill Holmes, US Bureau of Reclamation & TBC*	**Decision Framework for Distribution Pole Material Selection: Standardizing a Utility's Implementation of Non-Wood Pole Structures** *Ben Wu, Pacific Gas & Electric*	**From Vision to Deployment: Nova Scotia Power's Roadmap for Large-Scale DLR Implementation** *Mike MacMillan, Nova Scotia Power & Luke Howell, Ampacimon*
4:30 PM		**From Planning to Practice: Real-World Lessons from Deploying Advanced Distribution Assets under CPS Energy's Community Energy Resiliency Program** *Lingyu Jia, ICF International*	**A Digital DLR Implementation Framework Validated on 138 kV Overhead Lines in Brazil** *Andres Carvalho, Enline*

5:30-7:00PM **EXHIBITOR RECEPTION - Exhibit Hall**

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T&D DAY 2
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026

7:00 - 8:30AM BREAKFAST - Exhibit Hall
Women in Power Networking Breakfast

8:30AM PANEL SESSION - ALL TRACKS | Capitol Ballroom, Level 4
Wildfire Mitigation & Resiliency Working Group: *Shaping the Wildfire-Ready Utility*
Trevor Grenier, *ATCO Electric*, Denis Obiang, *Los Angeles Department of Water and Power*, Kelley Hishon, *BC Hydro*

9:45 - 10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK - Exhibit Hall

	Session A4: Transmission Line Design & Lifecycle Management *Capitol 1-3 & North Corridor* Session Chair: Brian Gallagher, ESB	Session B4: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies *Capitol 4 & North Corridor, LE* Session Chair: Steve Greey, CEATI	Session C4: Vegetation Management & Right-of-Way Resiliency *Capitol 5-7 & South Corridor* Session Chair: David Villa, CEATI	Session E4: Utility Safety & Grounding *Mineral Hall D-E, Level 3* Session Chair: Sheryl Yee, CEATI	Session F4: System Planning, Operations & Protection *Mineral Hall F-G, Level 3* Session Chair: Prasad Yenumula, Duke Energy
10:30AM	**Failure Analytics for Asset Management: Comparison of Aerial vs. Ground Inspections** *Casey Davis & Keli Thurston, Exponent & Janet Henkai, Pacific Gas & Electric*	**DIY: Standing Up an On-Prem AI System for Your Utility** *Mike Hejmej, Senpilot*	**Hydro Ottawa's Journey to Targeted Vegetation Management** *Phil Chen, Overstory & Tom Willmott, Hydro Ottawa*	**How to Turn $50 into $15 million - The Power of Integrity Testing** *Brandon Dobrowski, Safearth Americas*	**Forecasting for a Changing Grid: Integrating Electrification Trends and Climate Resiliency into T&D Capacity Planning** *Christopher Wan, EPCOR*
11:15AM	**Guidelines for Overhead Transmission Line Inspection and Assessment** *Andy Stewart, EDM International & Ed Watson, CEATI*	**From Images to Action: Automating Distribution Line Inspection Workflows with Power-I** *Praveen Kumar, Mitsubishi Electric Power Products*	**A Conceptual Framework for UAV Integration into National Power Grid Inspection Programs** *Delali Dagodzo, Ghana Grid Company*	**Lessons from After Action Reviews: Turning Disruptions into Program Improvements** *Tori Evins, Exponent, Angie Gibson & Felix Chan, Pacific Gas & Electric*	**Transmission Planning in the Context of Extreme Heat Waves and Cold Snaps** *Casey Burleyson & Nathalie Voisin, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

12:00- 1:30 PM NETWORKING LUNCH - Exhibit Hall

	Session A5: Transmission Line Design & Lifecycle Management Session Chair: Emma Butler, ESB	Session B5: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies Session Chair: Joe Zerdin, Hydro One	Session C5: Vegetation Management & Right-of-Way Resiliency Session Chair: Megan Owens, CEATI	Session E5: Utility Safety & Grounding Session Chair: Lisa Moller, CEATI	Session F5: System Planning, Operations & Protection Session Chair: John Ciufo
1:30 PM	**Root Cause Analysis of Ground Faults in a 66-kV Underground XLPE Cable System Due to Improper Shield Bonding** *Alireza Moghtader, Invenergy*	**Developing and Defending Projects with Regulatory AI** *Nathan Duarte, Senpilot & Mike MacMillan, Nova Scotia Power*	**Building Wildfire-Ready Utilities: Identifying Complementary Solutions to Manage Risk, Cost, and Reliability** *Michael Haydon, Xcel Energy, Don McPhail, eSmart Systems, David Schoenberg, Technosylva & Arvind Satyam, PanoAI*	**The Five "Ds" of Mitigating Physical Security Risks** *Shahedul Amin, ATCO Electric*	**From Complexity to Consistency: Reframing Fault Response Requirements for Inverter-Based Resources** *Bogdan Kasztenny, SEL*
2:15 PM	**Reusing a 1960s steel pipe to replace 110kV Gas Compressed Cable with modern XLPE cable in an Urban Environment** *Trevor Sheridan & Joe McHugh, ESB Networks*	**Grid Resiliency Advisor** *Kristin Luttik and Liam Stearns, National Grid*	**Risk Doesn't Wait for the Cycle: Continuous, Network-Wide Intelligence for Vegetation, Wildfire and Storm Risk** *Nick Ferguson, LiveEO*	**Copperweld Grounding for Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution Systems** *Jason Zurowski, Copperweld*	**REFCL Deployment in 3-Wire Unigrounded and 4-Wire Multigrounded Distribution Grids: A Pathway for Wildfire Risk Mitigation in North America** *Viacheslav Levashov & Klaus Winter, Swedish Neutral*

3:00 - 3:45 PM COFFEE BREAK - Exhibit Hall

	Session A6: Transmission Line Design & Lifecycle Management Session Chair: Asim Haldar, CEATI	Session B6: Distribution Equipment & Advanced Technologies Session Chair: Jeff Lehman, CEATI	Session F6: Planning, Operations, Protection, Substations & Vegetation Session Chair: John Ciufo, CEATI
3:45 PM	**From Inspection to Reliability: Operationalizing Digital Intelligence for Power Line Lifecycle Management** *Kaitlyn Albertoli, Buzz Solutions*	**Taming Demand: Inside EPCOR's Dynamic DSM Integration that Transforms High Variability Level 3 EV Charger Loads into Reliable Dispatchable Resources** *Alice Wang, EPCOR*	**Tree Times the Charm: A Cultivated Protection Approach to Targeted Tree Trimming** *Amy Sinclair, SEL*
4:30 PM	**Improving the Resilience of Overhead Transmission Lines at TEPCO** *Tomoaki Osono & Shiraishi Tomonori, TEPCO*	**SHIELD KPIs - Leading Performance Indicators for System Stress** *Shane Fraser, EPCOR*	**Optimized Distribution Protection & Control: Adventures in Digital Substation Centralization** *Wayne Hartman, GE Vernova*

5:30-7:00PM CLOSING RECEPTION & AWARD CEREMONY - Capitol Ballroom 4

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