

GridWise® Global Forum Welcomes New Speakers to Premier Event

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Cyber security, consumer engagement, investments key topics to be discussed by thought leaders

September 8, 2011 - Washington, DC - The GridWise Alliance, the leading coalition advocating for the transformation of the electric system, in partnership with the United States Department of Energy (DOE), today announced the addition of 12 top corporate executives, utilities and energy policy experts to the roster of international thought leaders speaking during the second annual GridWise Global Forum, November 8-10, 2011, in Washington, DC. The newly confirmed speakers will join other national and international government officials, CEOs, academics, NGOs and technology innovators in discussing topics ranging from the impact of an advanced grid on energy use to grid vulnerability to consumer engagement.

“The GridWise Global Forum prides itself on being one of the few, truly global events dedicated to thought-provoking discussion and collaboration around transforming the electric grid,” said Bob Shapard, Chairman of the GridWise Alliance. “Though the thoughtful exploration of the most pressing issues facing the movement to modernize the electric grid, the international community can successfully transform the way in which the world generates, transmits, distributes and consumes electricity. We welcome our new speakers and look forward to their inspiring insight throughout the Forum.”

Newly confirmed speakers include:

- The Honorable Rick Boucher, former US Congressman; and chairman of Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality; Partner, Sidley Austin, LLP
- Steve Catanach, Light and Power Manager, Fort Collins Electric
- Peter Delaney, CEO, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company
- Michele DeNegrìs, Director, T&D Technologies, Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico (RSE)
- Paul Feldman, MISO, Independent Director and past Chairman; Western Electricity Coordinating Council, Non-affiliated Director; DOE, NCC Advisor
- Dave Hallquist, CEO, Vermont Electric Cooperative
- Mike Kluse, Laboratory Director of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, operated by Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Senior Vice President of Battelle
- The Honorable John Norris, Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Eimund Nygaard, CEO, Lyse Energi
- Edmund Schweitzer, III, President, Schweitzer Engineering Labs
- Lee Tien, Senior Staff Attorney, Electronic Frontier Foundation
- Pablo Vegas, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, American Electric Power

Sessions featuring these new speakers include: Energy Industry in Transition: Models for Success; Lessons Learned: What the ARRA Data Tells Us; Guarding the Grid: Smart Grid and Grid Vulnerability; and, Smart Grid Data: Insights, Privacy, or Both? To see the full agenda, [click here](#).

“A secure energy future will enhance our economic productivity and efficiency, lessen our environmental impact and improve global competitiveness,” said the Honorable Rick Boucher, a former US congressman and a current partner at Sidley Austin, LLP, who will serve on the Forum’s opening panel, Energy Industry in Transition: Models for Success. “There is a clear need for leadership in the industry to achieve this global energy agenda. I am excited to be a part of this international dialogue to collaborate on the vision of a fully realized electric grid.”

To register to attend the much-anticipated Second Annual GridWise Global Forum, visit: <http://www.gridwiseglobalforum.org>. Forum events and announcements can also be followed on Twitter at: [@gridwiseforum](https://twitter.com/gridwiseforum).

About the GridWise Alliance

The GridWise Alliance is the industry-leading coalition advocating for the transformation of the electric system for the public good. Through its diverse membership, the GridWise Alliance promotes the advancement of the electric system through thought leadership, production of white papers and reports, and legislative advocacy. Its 138 members include utilities, technology companies (large and small), telecommunications companies, equipment manufacturers and academia - all of which share a holistic and technology neutral view of the electric system.

For more information about the GridWise Alliance, visit: www.gridwise.org.