



MIDWEST

2026

POST-SHOW REPORT



EXPLORE THE HIGHLIGHTS

from the 2026 event and start making your plans to join us in Rosemont on June 14–16, 2027!



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#IESNA

2026 FACTS & FIGURES



OVER
45

Exhibiting Companies



OVER
700

Solar & Storage
Professionals

32

U.S. states
represented

8

countries
represented



82

Knowledgeable
Speakers



4

Inspiring Keynotes



6

Technical
Workshops



13

Conference
Sessions

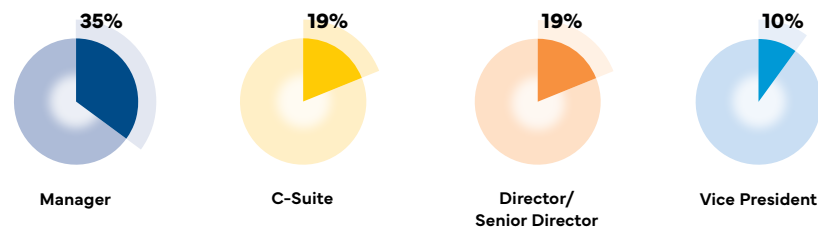


ATTENDEE PROFILE

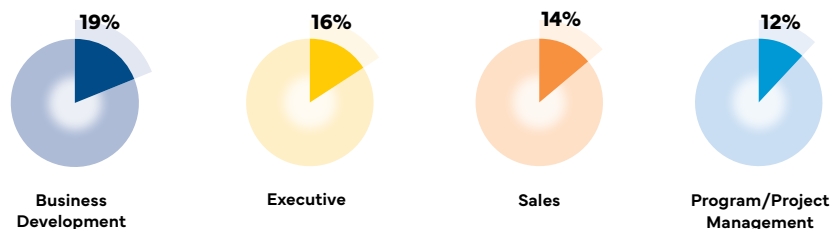
ATTENDEES' TOP 10 BUSINESS TYPES

1. Engineering, Procurement, Construction
2. Developer
3. Consulting Services
4. Manufacturer
5. Installer/Contractor
6. Utility
7. Distributor
8. Non-Profit/NGO
9. BESS
10. Trade Association

TOP JOB LEVELS REPRESENTED



TOP JOB FUNCTIONS



TOP OBJECTIVES FOR ATTENDING



PURCHASING AUTHORITY



Seven out of 10 exhibit hall attendees were involved in the purchasing process

22% of attendees are the final decision-maker



15%

Part of Purchasing Team

18%

Recommend Products or Services

14%

Research and Present Options

Data pulled from IESNA Midwest 2026 verified registrant responses.

TOP 10 STATES REPRESENTED



1. Illinois
2. California
3. Wisconsin
4. Michigan
5. Texas
6. Virginia
7. Indiana
8. Minnesota
9. New York
10. Colorado / Florida

2026 COMPANIES IN ATTENDANCE (SAMPLE LIST)

DEVELOPERS & IPPS

- Arevon
- Cypress Creek Renewables
- EDP Renewables
- Form Energy
- Madison Energy Infrastructure
- Nexamp
- Orsted
- Trajectory Energy Partners

DISTRIBUTORS

- Alchemy Solar Distribution
- Richardson Electronics
- Viking Electric Supply (Sonepar)

MANUFACTURERS & TECHNOLOGY

- Enphase Energy
- FranklinWH
- Generac Power Systems

FINANCE

- Atmos Financial
- BluePath Finance
- HASI
- Sunstone Credit

Qcells North America

- REC Group
- Silfab Solar
- SolarEdge Technologies
- Stem Inc.
- Tigo Energy

EPSCS & INSTALLERS

- Arch Electric
- Fresh Coast Solar
- Harvest Solar
- Inovateus Solar
- Kraemer North America
- Second City Solar
- SOLV Energy
- StraightUp Solar

UTILITIES

- Ameren Illinois
- ComEd
- Exelon
- WEC Energy Group
- Xcel Energy

“

This is a high-quality event in the Midwest. IESNA provides the space to meet with people involved in making renewable energy happen in the Midwest.”

– Nick Matthes,
Creator & CEO, Illumination Solar

EXHIBITOR PROFILE

2026 EXHIBITOR LIST

- AEON Staffing Group
- APA Solar Racking
- Arch O&M
- COM2 Recycling Solutions
- Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc
- Energy Safety Response Group
- Energy Toolbase
- EnergyScape Renewables
- Erosion & Construction Solutions Inc
- EticaAG
- Foundation Technologies, Inc.
- Gautam Solar Private Limited
- German-Bliss Equipment
- Greentech Renewables
- Heliene USA
- Illinois Solar Energy and Storage Association (ISEA)
- Intelligent Generation
- Jefferson Energy
- Jolma Utilities LLC
- Land & Liberty Coalition
- LIDAR Drone Services
- LiveWire Energy
- MARS Energy Solutions
- Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA)
- National Purchasing Partners
- NeoVolta
- North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP)
- Pioneer Engineering & Environmental Services, LLC
- Powering Chicago
- Quickbase
- REC Americas LLC
- Richardson Electronics, Ltd.
- Roof Tech Inc.
- Sinclair Designs & Engineering
- Solar Connections International
- SolarEdge Technologies North America
- Summit Ridge Energy, with JIREH Workforce Solutions
- Sungrow
- SunModo, LLC
- Sun-Pull Wire, LLC
- Sunrun
- Tri-Trade Solar Partnership
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters
- Verde Solutions
- Ziegler Energy Solutions

“

As an exhibitor, we loved the opportunity to deeply engage with attendees and have the time and space to form relationships at the booth that carried over into the networking sessions.”

– Celia Sweet,
Engagement Director,
Midwest Renewable Energy
Association



FEATURED TECHNOLOGY CATEGORIES ON THE SHOW FLOOR



Solar Modules
& Components



Mounting
& Racking Systems



Energy
Storage Systems



Inverters
& Balance of Systems



Grid Infrastructure
& Integration



EV Charging



Operations
& Maintenance



Recycling

WORKSHOPS

Six pre-conference workshops on Monday, June 15 delivered hands-on training across the issues shaping the 2026 market—post-ITC project finance, cybersecurity, PV reliability and O&M, workforce strategy, and residential sales models—with four offering NABCEP CEU credits.



The Post-ITC Playbook: Structuring Viable Projects After 2027

This closed-door working session brought together developers, financiers, EPCs, manufacturers, utilities, investors, and policy leaders to pressure-test strategies for financing and structuring projects after the ITC phase-down. Facilitated breakouts covered capital structures, merchant and hybrid revenue models, storage value stacking, state policy, supply chain resilience, and M&A.

Speakers:

- **Evelyn Carpenter**, President & CEO, Invera Energy
- **Ravi Mikkelsen**, CEO, Atmos Financial
- **Genevieve Kennedy**, Central Market Lead, Madison Energy Infrastructure

Executive Forum: Workforce Strategy in a Volatile Market

This forum examined how clean energy executives are navigating recruitment, retention, and workforce development amid a volatile regional job market. Attendees left with market trends, real-world case studies, and guidance for building internal training pipelines.

Speakers:

- **Pagan Poggione**, Vice President Workforce Strategy and Innovation, Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC)
- **William Liuzza**, Founder and CEO, EnergeiaWorks
- **Jeanine Otte**, Senior Director, Corporate Partnerships, Elevate
- **Robert Hattier**, Director of Renewable Energy, IBEW Local 134
- **Taylor Wallace**, Employer Relations & Placement Manager, 548 Foundation

Cybersecurity: Securing Energy Systems

This course explored how to secure PV and energy storage operating systems against natural disasters and human threats like cyber attacks, covering energy management systems, monitoring equipment, and network access.

Speaker:

- **Nick Matthes**, Creator/CEO, Illumination Solar

Rethinking Residential Solar: Stop Selling Systems, Start Designing Energy

This workshop shared a framework that meets underserved homeowners where they are, starting with efficiency, portable solar, and partial offset systems. Attendees learn how to expand their addressable market and build long-term customer relationships.

Speaker:

- **Emmitt Muckles**, Founder/Principle Consultant, S.E. Power Consulting

Boosting PV Reliability: Top 10 Common Challenges and Proven Prevention Strategies

This session dove into real-world insights on common PV challenges and shared prevention tactics to ensure system success.

Speaker:

- **Nick Matthes**, Creator/CEO, Illumination Solar

PV System O&M Fundamentals

This session covered common causes of PV system failures and underperformance, their remedies, and how regular O&M inspections help avoid unscheduled downtime.

Speaker:

- **Emmitt Muckles**, Founder/Principle Consultant, S.E. Power Consulting

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Thirteen conference sessions covered storage market dynamics in MISO and PJM, U.S. and Illinois solar policy, data center demand, project finance, supply chain onshoring, community solar, microgrids, VPPs, and state-by-state policy updates across the Midwest.

- Navigating the New Normal: U.S. and Illinois Solar Policy in 2026
- The State of Community Solar: Illinois, the Midwest, and the Road to Community Energy
- Building Community Trust and Coalition Support for Renewable Energy Projects
- Breaking Down Barriers: Municipal Regulation in Community Solar
- Stuck in the Queue: Solving Interconnection Bottlenecks for Midwest Solar and Storage Projects
- Solar + Storage Microgrids: From Backup Power to a More Resilient Grid
- Meeting the Moment: Scaling VPPs for Reliability and Affordability
- Cybersecurity in Clean Energy: Protecting a More Connected Grid
- Storage at Scale: MISO and PJM's Evolving Market in 2026 and Beyond
- Financing the Energy Transition: Closing Deals in a Post-OBBA Market
- Stacking Value: The New Economics of Midwest C&I Solar
- Powering the AI Boom: How Data Centers Are Reshaping Midwest Grid Planning and Renewable Procurement
- Manufacturing & Supply Chain Reset: Onshoring, Offshore Reality, and the Race to Scale
- From Solar Waste to High-Performance Asset: Recycled Glass Composite Ballast Blocks

 [CLICK HERE](#) for full session descriptions



"Rewiring the Midwest: How Utilities Are Adapting to a New Energy Reality"



Bria Shea
President MN, ND, SD
Xcel Energy



Brice Sheriff
Sr. Director Regulatory
Affairs & Energy Supply
Ameren Illinois



Andy Plenge
VP Strategy & Energy Policy
ComEd



Nico Johnson
CEO
SunCast Media (moderator)

"From Backlog to Energization: How Top Developers and EPCs Are Delivering at Scale"



Helena Kimball
Chief Revenue Officer
SOLV Energy



Nick Maynard
VP, Engineering
Arevon Energy



Yann Brandt
Managing Editor & CEO
SolarWakeup (moderator)

"How the Midwest is Tackling AI Growth with Solar + Storage"



Jason Houck
Policy Director
Form Energy



Carrie Zalewski
SVP Regulatory Government
Affairs and Policy
Constellation



Laura Sherman
President
Michigan EIBC



Julian Spector
Senior Reporter
Canary Media (moderator)

"Risk, Return, and the Road Ahead: An Unfiltered Conversation on Clean Energy Finance"



Daniela Shapiro
Co-Chief Risk Officer
HASI



Cameron Bard
Chief Revenue Officer
Madison Energy Infrastructure



Julian Spector
Senior Reporter
Canary Media (moderator)

SPEAKERS

From national association leaders and utility executives to technology founders and energy journalists, the 2026 speaker roster brought together some of the most influential voices shaping the Midwest clean energy landscape today.

Listed in alphabetical order:



Ky Ajayi
Straight Up Solar



Evelyn Carpenter
Invera Energy



Ben Jacobi
Polsinelli



Alan Bailey
American Farmland Trust



Kavi Chintam
Vote Solar



Nico Johnson
SunCast Media



Cameron Bard
Madison Energy Infrastructure



Jessica Collingsworth
Nexamp



Genevieve Kennedy
Madison Energy Infrastructure



Eran Beck
Enights



John Delurey
Vote Solar



Will Kenworthy
Vote Solar



Mikkela Blanton
OneEnergy Renewables



Samuel Egendorf
Range Renewables



Andy Keyt
Heyl Royster



Jess Blue
Illinois Shines



Antonio Fayad
EDP Renewables



Helena Kimball
SOLV Energy



Kevin Borgia
SunVest Solar



Kiera Gavin
Cultivate Power



Madeleine Klein
ENGIE



Yann Brandt
SolarWakeup



Mark Goudreault
CPower



Louis Langlois
Renewable Properties



David Braun
Intelligent Generation



Robert Hattier
IBEW Local 134



Michelle Lipchin
Sunstone Credit



Michael Braun
Lillibridge Healthcare Services



Brian Haug
Nanogrid Technologies



William Liuzza
EnergeiaWorks



Rich Brewer
REC Group



Amy Heart
Sunrun



Brian Maillet
Renewable Energy Evolution



Brent Buchberger
Summit Ridge Energy



Emma Heins
Advanced Energy United



Jessica Maldonado
Iowa Solar Energy Trade Association



Lewis Butler
TotalEnergies



Jason Houck
Form Energy



Brinda Malladi
Arevon Energy



Carolyn Campbell
McHenry County



John Hulse
SolarEdge



Nick Matthes
Illumination Solar



Jacob Carney
38 Degrees North



Maroua Jabouri
TotalEnergies

Speakers continued on next page

SPEAKERS



Nick Maynard
Arevon Energy



Regina McCormack
Illinois Solar Energy and Storage Association



Samarth Medakkar
Advanced Energy United



Ravi Mikkelsen
Atmos Financial



Tim Montague
Clean Power Consulting Group



Emmitt Muckles
S.E. Power Consulting



George Nelson
ENGIE



Michael Norbeck
Enphase Energy



Dan Nordloh
FTI



Patrick O'Hara
COM2 Recycling Solutions



Patty O'Keefe
Vote Solar



Jeanine Otte
Elevate



Marc Palmer
Conductor Solar



Eric Peterman
MARS Energy Solutions



Kelly Pickerel
Solar Power World



Michael Pittman
Ameren Illinois



Andy Plenge
ComEd



Pagan Poggione
IREC



Jonathan Roberts
Soltage



Tim Rocky
Nextpower



Erik Ruediger
Sunipro



Aviv Shalgi
Solar Simplified



Daniela Shapiro
HASI



Bria Shea
Xcel Energy



Brice Sheriff
Ameren Illinois



Laura Sherman
Michigan EIBC



Matias Sigal
REplace



Julian Spector
Canary Media



Hal Sprague
Trajectory Energy Partners



Brett Sproul
Advanced Energy United



Becky Thompson
Nania Energy Advisors



Matt Van Arkel
New Leaf Energy



Taylor Wallace
548 Foundation



Sarah Whebbe
Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association



Brandon Williams
Heliene



James Wolf
Solitude Labs



Carrie Zalewski
Constellation



Ben Zientara
pv magazine USA



DISCOVER & CONNECT

IESNA Midwest provides an unmatched onsite experience, facilitating opportunities for discovery, networking, and fun.

Opening Reception

Sponsored by Trajectory Energy Partners



Renewables Unwind Chicago

at Pete's Tiki Tiki



A relaxed evening of networking with top clean energy professionals to cap off day one.



Mobile Solar Training Lab

Illumination Solar Training Systems brought their hands-on Mobile Solar Training Lab to the show floor, including a live demo where students wired a full solar array to battery-based and grid-tied systems using real industry-grade equipment.

Solar Drinks on the Roof

Presented by Illinois Solar Energy Association



Attendees connected over a buffet and open bar, unwinding with other solar and storage professionals after a full day at the show.



Pop-A-Shot Competition

A 32-person bracket tournament during exhibit hall happy hour, with the last player standing taking home a \$100 Visa gift card.



Congratulations

to champion John LeBlanc of NeoVolta and runner-up Tom Duncan of SunPeak Power!



THANK YOU

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SUNGROW

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KILOWATT SPONSOR



OPENING RECEPTION SPONSOR



EVENT PARTNERS



2026 Education Committee

The Education Committee guides the development of the conference program — shaping session topics, workshop content, and the speaker roster for IESNA Midwest.



Aviv Shalgi
CEO
Solar Simplified



Shawn O'Brien
President & CEO
NABCEP



Brian Maillet
CEO
Renewable Energy Evolution



Ben Jacobi
Shareholder
Polsinelli



Lewis Butler
Senior Account Executive
TotalEnergies



Louis Langlois
Director of Origination
Renewable Properties



Annabelle Sanford
Renewable Energy Lead
Emmons & Olivier Resources



Jake Rozmaryn
Chief Growth Officer
Antenna Group

THE IESNA EVENT SERIES

IESNA is the U.S. conference and tradeshow series built around the real challenges facing solar, storage, and clean energy professionals. Committed to providing quality connections, resources, and knowledge in support of the energy transition both nationally and regionally, IESNA delivers best-in-class exhibitors, educational sessions, and networking events.

Join the developers, EPCs, installers, manufacturers, distributors, and other key players shaping the U.S. clean energy market—and get the information, access, and connections you need to move projects forward—at our upcoming events:

inter
solar
connecting solar business



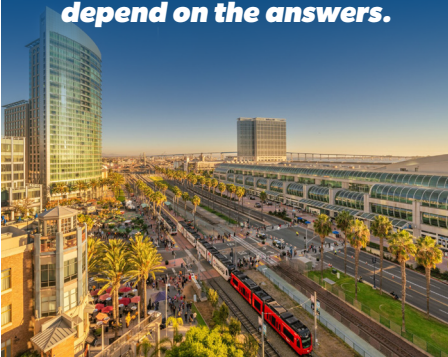
ENERGY
STORAGE
NORTH AMERICA

FLAGSHIP

February 9–11, 2027

San Diego Convention Center
San Diego, CA

*Where market questions
get worked through by
the people whose jobs
depend on the answers.*



iesna.com/flagship

inter
solar
connecting solar business



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MIDWEST

June 14–16, 2027

Donald E. Stephens
Convention Center
Rosemont, IL

*Built for Midwest
practitioners seeking
information they can
put into action.*



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solar
connecting solar business



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STORAGE
NORTH AMERICA

TEXAS

2027

Event Details to Come

*Focused on addressing
the real pressure points
in ERCOT.*



iesna.com/texas

Interested in Exhibiting? Contact our team to get started.



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