

Skamania Lodge,  
Columbia River Gorge  
October 16-18

# Grid *FWD* 2023

Join us in a special gathering  
focused on advancing the electric  
grid by **Embracing Disruption**

## Event Agenda

See event app for final details

#GridFWD

Presented by:  **GridForward**

Lead Sponsors:



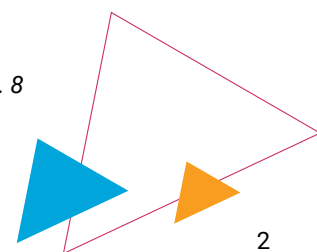


# TUESDAY OCT. 17 CONFERENCE SESSIONS

START	STEVENSON A/B SESSIONS	CASCADE A SESSIONS	CASCADE B TECH JAMS
7:30 AM	Registration in Lobby		
8:00 AM	Breakfast & Networking in Riverview Pavilion		
8:30 AM	Opening Plenary Session in Riverview Pavilion with Siva Gunda, Vice Chair, CA Energy Commission		
9:00 AM	<b>From planning to Action: Applying Resilient Solutions to the Grid</b>	<b>Meeting Workforce Demand on a Modern Grid: Education, Skillsets, and Training</b>	9:10 AM – Synthetic Inertia and Grid Forming Inverters 9:35 AM – Embedded Intelligence Making Smart Meters Sexy Again
10:00 AM	Break & Networking		Grid Innovation Pitch Contest
10:30 AM	<b>Virtual Power Plants: Optimizing Customer Experience, Leveraging Data and More</b>	<b>Avoiding Disruptions: Securing the Grid From Increasing Cyberthreats</b>	10:40 AM – Accelerated Power Delivery Through Innovative Solutions and Partnerships 11:05 AM – High Frequency Grid Edge Measurement
11:30 AM	Huddle Discussion Sessions		
12:15 PM	Lunch & Networking in Riverview Pavillion	Working Lunch with USDOE Grid Deployment Office and Loan Program Office	
1:00 PM	Skamania Networking Events		
2:30 PM	<b>Case Studies in Grid-Edge Disruption and the Electrification of Everything</b>	<b>Disruptive Retail Innovation: Redefining the Relationship Among Customers, Utilities and Solution Providers</b>	2:40 PM – Fiber to the Device, Alabama Power's Communication Program for Grid Modernization 3:05 PM – Accelerating and Optimizing DER Interconnections
3:30 PM	Break & Networking		Grid Innovation Pitch Contest
4:00 PM	Huddle Discussion Sessions		
4:45 PM	Networking Reception on the Riverview Pavilion		

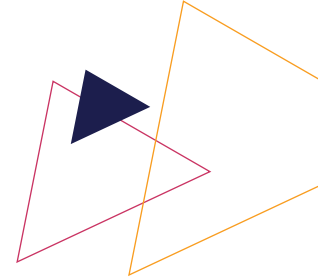
Full agenda and details will be available in the event app.

- **Plenary Sessions:** with leaders from industry, technology, and government
- **Main Conference Sessions:** interactive deep-dives led by today's practitioners – *Details on p. 3 & 5*
- **Huddles:** informal group discussions led by content experts, defined by participants – *Details on p. 7*
- **Networking:** catch up with long time contacts and make new ones multiple times each day – *Details on p. 8*
- **Pitch Competition:** Listen to the rapid fire overviews of grid innovation solutions – *Details on p. 9*
- **Tech Jam:** Case study presentations of promising advanced tech and programs – *Details on p. 6*



# Conference Sessions and Participants

## Tuesday, October 17



9:00 AM

### From Planning to Action: Applying Resilient Solutions to the Grid

- Dennis Garrett, Blue Lake (moderator)
- Jennie Potter, Strategen
- Mishal Thadani, Rhizome
- Cathy Ehli, Warms Springs Power
- Broderick Bagert, Together Louisiana
- Mike Brozek, Anterix

### Meeting Workforce Demand on a Modern Grid: Education, Skillsets, and Training

- Michael Jung, ICF (moderator)
- Allegra Hodges, Portland General
- Sika Gadzanku, NREL
- YC Zhang, Utilidata

10:30 AM

### Virtual Power Plants: Optimizing Customer Experience, Leveraging Data and More

- Avery McEvoy, RMI (moderator)
- Hilary Polis, Opinion Dynamics
- Sophie Janeway, Utilidata
- Franco Albi, Portland General Electric
- Meghan Nutting, Sunnova

### Cybersecurity in a Shifting Grid

- Hanna Grene, Microsoft (moderator)
- Paul Forney, Schneider Electric
- BJ Hattel, Flathead Electric
- Dan Legraffe, US DOE CESER Office

2:30 PM

### Case Studies in Grid-Edge Disruption and the Electrification of Everything

- Nathan Bingham, POWER Engineers (moderator)
- Tim Allen, PXiSE
- Gideon Katsh, National Grid
- Marguerite Behringer, Landis Gyr
- John Gibson, Avista

### Disruptive Retail Innovation: Redefining the Relationship Among Customers, Utilities and Solution Providers

- Josh Keeling, Generac (moderator)
- Nick Chaset, East Bay
- Jason Michaels, Leap
- Clare Doyle Dowd, Bloc Power
- Ed Gunn, Lunar Energy

All attendees are invited to a Networking Social in the River Pavilion outside the lodge, with inspiring views of the Columbia River and Gorge.







## WEDNESDAY OCT. 18 CONFERENCE SESSIONS

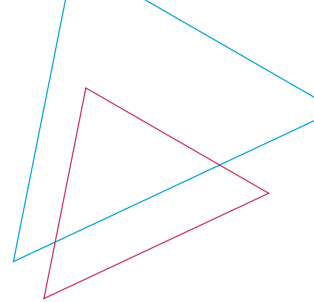
START	STEVENSON A/B SESSIONS	CASCADE A SESSIONS	CASCADE B TECH JAMS
8:00 AM	Breakfast & Networking in Riverview Pavilion		
8:30 AM	Opening Plenary Session in Riverview Pavilion with Jud Virden, Associate Lab Director, PNNL and Nick Brady, AI Product Leader, Microsoft		
9:00 AM	<b>Real-World Implications for AI and Grid Operations</b>	<b>Blindspotting - Successes and Limitations of Predictive Technologies</b>	<b>9:10 AM</b> – Initial Findings: SRP's EV Smart Charge Pilot Program <b>9:35 AM</b> – Advanced Monitoring of Transmission Assets
10:00 AM	Huddle Discussion Sessions		
10:45 AM	Skamania Networking Events		
12:15 PM	Lunch & Networking in Riverview Pavillion / Grid Innovation Pitch Contest Final in Riverview Pavilion Working Lunch with USDA and CESER in Cascade A		
1:00 PM	<b>Expanding Critical Transmission Capacity in the Region</b>	<b>Avoiding Disruptions: Securing the Grid from Increasing Cyberthreats</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b> – Breaking Down the Silos with a Digital Twin
2:00 PM	<b>Scaling Non-Wires Alternatives: Three Key Approaches</b>	<b>Pricing! Pricing! Pricing! in a Changing Energy Landscape</b>	
3:00 PM	Closing Plenary Session		

Full agenda and details will be available in the event app.

- ▶ **Plenary Sessions:** with leaders from industry, technology, and government
- ▶ **Main Conference Sessions:** interactive deep-dives led by today's practitioners – *Details on p. 3 & 5*
- ▶ **Huddles:** informal group discussions led by content experts, defined by participants – *Details on p. 7*
- ▶ **Networking:** catch up with long time contacts and make new ones multiple times each day – *Details on p. 8*
- ▶ **Pitch Competition:** Listen to the rapid fire overviews of grid innovation solutions – *Details on p. 9*
- ▶ **Tech Jam:** Case study presentations of promising advanced tech and programs – *Details on p. 6*

# Conference Sessions and Participants

## Wednesday, October 18



9:00 AM

### Real-World Implications for AI and Grid Operations

- Christina Park, Skydio (moderator)
- Kaitlyn Albertoli, Buzz Solutions
- Dave Boundy, Innowatts

### Blindspotting - Successes and Limitations of Predictive Technologies

- Martha Symko Davies, NREL (moderator)
- Roz Jenkins, Seattle City Light
- Matt Piper, Esri
- Marcelo Elizondo, PNNL

1:00 PM

### Expanding Critical Transmission Capacity in the Region

- Robert Cromwell, Umatilla (moderator)
- Jeff Cook, BPA
- Paul Denholm, NREL
- Kwatuuma Cole Sayers, Clean Energy BC

### Evolving Architectures for Control Coordination and the Steps to a DSO

- Jim Ogle, PNNL (moderator)
- Young Ngo, Survalent
- Brodie OBrien, EnergyHub
- Rachel Huang, SMUD

2:15 PM

### Scaling Non-Wires Alternatives: Three Key Approaches

- Amanda Welch, BNEF (moderator)
- David Landers, Puget Sound Energy
- Kristiana Lockman, GE Digital
- Matthew Futch, Black & Veatch

### Pricing! Pricing! Pricing! in a Changing Energy Landscape

- Ron Nelson, Stratgen (moderator)
- Mark Kolesar, Former AUC
- Sanem Sergici, Brattle
- Melissa Whited, Synapse Energy



**More speakers will be announced soon.**  
*Register soon to reserve your space!*



The event app is your best source for last-minute details and changes. To use the app, see your registration confirmation email or go to [gridforward.org](https://gridforward.org).

# Introducing Disruptive Tech Jams

## Fast-paced case studies of new solutions for grid modernization in an age of energy disruptions

Grid Forward members and event attendees are always looking for new techniques, technologies and results for dealing with the fast-changing energy landscape.

To make more of these case studies readily available, Grid Forward is introducing Disruptive Tech Jams at GridFWD 2023. These 30-minute sessions provide an in-depth look at recent projects across the grid, jointly presented by a utility or energy company and a technology solution provider. Attendees will get “just the facts” and have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of each session—or at the networking events during the event.

TUESDAY OCT. 17	WEDNESDAY OCT. 18
<b>9:10 AM — Synthetic Inertia and Grid Forming Inverters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yashen Lin, NREL</li><li>• Fausto Perez, PXiSE</li></ul>	<b>9:10 AM — Initial Findings: SRP’s EV Smart Charge Pilot Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geoff Garinger, WeaveGrid</li><li>• Eamonn Urey, Salt River Project</li></ul>
<b>9:35 AM — Embedded Intelligence Making Smart Meters Sexy Again</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Colin Gibbs, Sense</li><li>• Darren Murtaugh, Portland General Electric</li></ul>	<b>9:35 AM — Advanced Monitoring of Transmission Assets</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tim Stelzer, LineVision</li><li>• Alexina Jackson, AES</li></ul>
<b>10:40 AM — Accelerated Power Delivery Through Innovative Solutions and Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jason Green, Delta Star</li><li>• Cole Bode, Umatilla Electric</li></ul>	<b>1:00 PM — Breaking Down the Silos with a Digital Twin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lisa Stannis, Sharper Shape</li><li>• Dan Flihan, SDGE</li></ul>
<b>11:05 AM — Super High Frequency Measurement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sean Murphy, PingThings</li><li>• Dominion Energy</li></ul>	
<b>2:40 PM — Fiber to the Device, Alabama Power’s Communication Program for Grid Modernization – ENTRUST &amp; Alabama Power</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steve Maederer, ENTRUST</li><li>• Geoff Garinger, WeaveGrid</li></ul>	
<b>3:05 PM — Accelerating and Optimizing DER Interconnections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hiro Hiraiwa, Clean Power Research</li><li>• Laree St Onge, Trico Electric</li></ul>	

Tech Jam attendees will be able to engage with the presenters and provide feedback during the sessions. Don’t miss your favorite topic and please provide feedback!



# Dig into Urgent Topics in Huddle Discussions

## Led by industry experts, yet informed by all participants

At GridFWD 2023 we continue one of our most popular event experiences: interactive huddle discussions across a range of timely and important topics. Each one is led by one or more industry experts, but the ultimate value is the give and take among the members of the huddle. Find your topic, roll up your sleeves and get ready to share and to learn.

TUESDAY OCT. 17 – 11:30 AM	WEDNESDAY OCT. 18 – 10:00 AM
<b>DERs for Rapid Restoration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Hannegan, Holy Cross Energy</li> <li>• Anne Hoskins, Generac</li> </ul>	<b>Curing Pilotitis - Getting Beyond Death by Pilot</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kirsten Millar, Virtual Peaker</li> <li>• Charlie Buck, SMUD</li> </ul>
<b>Social Vulnerability and Resilience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Hennessy, SEPA</li> <li>• James Lester, State of Colorado</li> </ul>	<b>Short-Term Steps to Accelerate Transmission Capacity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julia Selker, Grid Strategies</li> <li>• Kris Raper, WECC</li> </ul>
<b>Year-Round Demand Flexibility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Folks, Opinion Dynamics</li> <li>• Marie Steele, NV Energy</li> </ul>	<b>Managing Risk with AI</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morgan Harvey, Amperon</li> <li>• Christine Hertzog, EPRI</li> <li>• Andrew Braeger, Tacoma Public Utilities</li> </ul>
<b>Culture of Innovation and Dealing with Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Piper, Esri</li> <li>• Uzma Siddiqi, SCL</li> </ul>	
TUESDAY OCT. 17 – 4:00 PM	
<b>The Future Distribution Grid is Here Now</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raj Raheja, Camus</li> <li>• Tom Plant, Colorado PUC</li> </ul>	
<b>How to Fulfill Justice 40 Requirements in GETs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rob Del Mar, Oregon DOE</li> <li>• James Strange, US DOE</li> </ul>	
<b>Accelerating Advanced Rate Design: Bringing the Customer Along for the Journey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alex Lopez, Uplight</li> <li>• Dan Forman, Copper Labs</li> </ul>	
<b>Lessons from Recent Wildfire Season</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madison Stebbins, Overstory</li> </ul>	

Huddle discussions are very participatory, so get ready to share your experiences while you learn.





# Build Relationships with Unique Socials at Skamania Lodge

GridFWD 2023 will offer unique opportunities to make new connections and see old industry friends. Space will be limited for the activities during the October 17th and 18th event so confirm your registration and grab your place for these options:



**Mini-Golf hosted by POWER Engineers** - A beautiful outdoor 18 hole course is fun for beginners and experts alike.



**Par 3 Golf hosted by Copper Labs and Esri** - A newly designed par 3 golf course in the gorge evergreen forest will be a memorable round.



**E-Bike Tour with Utilidata** - Ride down the Columbia River Gorge on assisted electric bikes.



**Wilderness Hikes hosted by PXiSE and PNNL** - Enjoy a walk through the lush forested area surrounding the lodge.



**Aerial Adventure Course with Generac and UtilityAPI** - Strap in for a serious adventure as you guide yourself through the tree canopy on a variety of obstacles.

**Most spots for our sponsored socials have been reserved, but there are some left.  
Register quickly for remaining opportunities.**

**Registration is Now Open  
Get Your Tickets**





# Attend the 2023 Grid Innovation Pitch Competition



## Catch the Excitement:

- **Round 1, 10 AM,**  
Tuesday October 17
- **Round 2, 3:30 PM**  
Tuesday October 17
- **Final round, 12:15PM,**  
Wednesday October 18

## These experts will be judges for the competition:

- Ankush Agarwal, *Director Innovation R&D, Exelon*
- Mark Hormann, *Managing Partner Accurant International*
- Bobby Kandaswamy, *Sr Investment Director, National Grid Partners*
- Mira Inbar, *Partner, ArcTern Ventures*

**WHO WILL WIN \$50,000 of Business Advisory Services and \$250,000 equity investment from Accurant International?**

## GridFWD 2023 will host our next annual Grid Innovation Pitch Competition on October 17-18.

Get a front-row seat to witness innovative technologies and services for advancing grid modernization in this age of disruptions. This competition challenges early-stage companies who are working on grid modernization to come share their innovation with our judges and the GridFWD 2023 attendees.

## Selected companies will be competing for these prizes:

- **\$50,000 of Business Advisory Services** from utility solution commercialization experts with Accurant International
- **\$250,000 equity investment** from Accurant International after confirmatory diligence. *Conditions apply. Accurant International can provide additional information.*
- **Project and partnership consideration** from additional Grid Innovation Pitch Competition supporters



*Lead Pitch Competition Supporter*



*Exodigo was our Grid Innovation Pitch winner at GridFWD 2022 in Denver.*



Power Engineers has helped with registration fees for all the contestants in the Grid Innovation Pitch Competition.

# Tour Nearby BPA Grid and Energy Assets on October 16

On October 16, GridFWD 2023 attendees will have the chance to join unique tours at BPA grid facilities near Skamania Lodge.

**BPA Celilo Converter Station** - Get an intimate and behind the scenes look at the modernization efforts and operations of the northern terminal of the Pacific DC Intertie to Southern California.



**BPA Corps of Engineers Bonneville Dam** - The lowest of the main stream Columbia River dams tour various aspects, including the powerhouse and hear from the agency about efforts to modernize and maintain these grid resources.

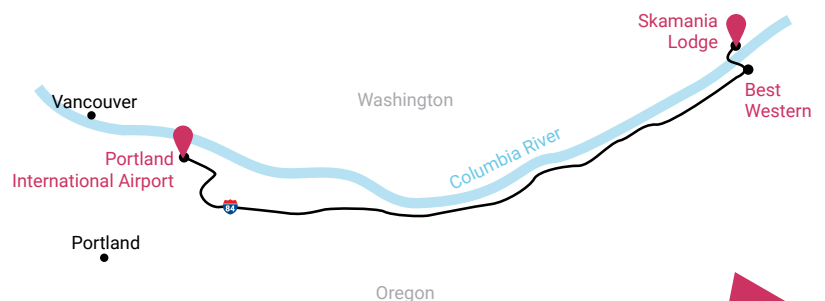


GridFWD 2023 registrants will have the opportunity to sign up for these tours.



## Enjoy Shuttle Bus Service from PDX and Skamania Lodge

Skamania Lodge is about 45 minutes from Portland International Airport, and within 30 minutes of both of our tours. Grid Forward will be running shuttle buses during GridFWD 2023, so you won't need a car to take advantage of all the event has to offer. We are sending the shuttle schedule to all registered attendees.



# Get Your Hotel Reservations Today

## Skamania Lodge has no more rooms available.

What's so special about this year's GridFWD? Our venue - in a forested area so familiar across the U.S. West - will provide us with unique ways to explore new ideas, forge new connections, and become invigorated to tackle the challenges and opportunities of this unusual time in our industry.

Skamania Lodge is positioned in the heart of the Columbia Gorge, nestled amongst lush towering timbers. It combines a traditional relaxing mountain environment with modern services and amenities.

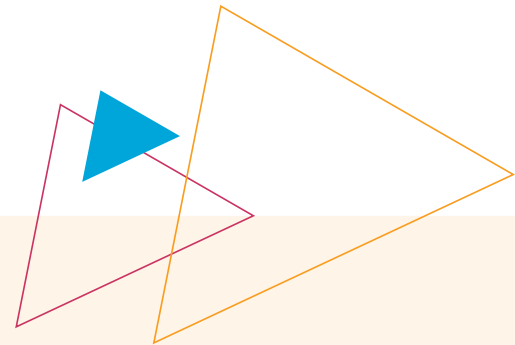


## Enjoy the Best Western across the Columbia River

Our other recommended hotel, Best Western Plus Columbia River Inn, is just 3 miles from Skamania Lodge in the town of Cascade Locks, located off Interstate-84 by the Bridge of the Gods. This hotel is very close to nearby waterfalls, trails and scenic routes, as well as BPA's Bonneville Dam. Many of the rooms have great views of the Columbia River.



**Contact Best Western reservations at  
(541) 374-8777**



## Contacts for taking part in GridFWD 2023

We're glad you are interested in participating in GridFWD 2023. If you have questions, please contact one of our staff:

**Sponsors:** [MaryJo@gridforward.org](mailto:MaryJo@gridforward.org)

**Registration:** [Maryann@westsidesec.com](mailto:Maryann@westsidesec.com)

**Media:** [David@gridforward.org](mailto:David@gridforward.org)

**Operations & volunteers:** [Kelly@gridforward.org](mailto:Kelly@gridforward.org)

**App contact:** [Isla@gridforward.org](mailto:Isla@gridforward.org)

**General:** [Bryce@gridforward.org](mailto:Bryce@gridforward.org)

# Our Thanks to the Sponsors of GridFWD 2023

## Lead



GridFWD Sponsor details will be provided by Mary Jo Nye. Contact her at [maryjo@gridforward.org](mailto:maryjo@gridforward.org)

## Presenting



## Premier



## Supporting



We look forward to seeing many of you and others in the industry at GridFWD 2023

#GridFWD



# Grid Forward and Our Community Stand with Maui



## Consider joining us in providing help for Lahaina to rebuild

Grid Forward and our community are heartbroken by the wildfire devastation in Maui. Our friends in Hawaii were amazing hosts for our annual meeting last year and we look forward to continued partnership on their modernization efforts. We would encourage any people and organizations in our network to join us and contribute toward the long road ahead for Lahaina recovery.

Please consider contributions to:

[Hawaii Community Foundation](#)

[Maui United Way](#)

[Lahaina Salvation Army](#)

[Global Empowerment Movement / Trilogy Maui Fire Fund](#)

## Recent podcast on wildfires, the grid and a firsthand account from Lahaina

In this Season 4 of Grid Forward Chats, one recent episode concerns [Wildfire & The Grid and Firsthand Account of Lahaina Fires](#). It starts with a conversation with Katherine Blunt, a reporter from the Wall Street Journal. Her recently published book California Burning covers PG&E in regard to the devastating California wildfires.

In the second part of the episode Bryce talks with LiAnne Drissen of Trilogy Excursions, one of the largest companies in Lahaina, who saw firsthand the devastation from the recent Maui wildfires. LiAnne recounts the impact of the wildfires on her family, the company and the wider community.



Thanks to our partners who help promote GridFWD 2023



# Grid FWD

**Embracing  
Disruption**

**2023**

Presented by:



Grid Forward is a 501(c)(6) non-profit, member-driven trade association dedicated to promoting and accelerating innovation on the regional electric system. We deliver community, expertise and resources for leaders who are working to modernize the grid. Learn more and become a member at [GridForward.org](http://GridForward.org).

## We look forward to having you join us at GridFWD 2023

- Connecting and reconnecting with industry leaders face-to-face
- Expert perspectives from across the U.S West and beyond
- Updates and discussion on federal policy opportunities for the regional grid
- New case studies in our Disruptive Tech Jams
- Deep-dive small-group huddle discussions
- Unique sponsored networking opportunities

**Register Here**

Register right away, we expect this event to sell out early.

### Contact:

Bryce Yonker  
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CEO, Grid Forward  
Producer of GridFWD  
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