Engage & Learn

Annual GridFWD Conference
Participate in our industry-leading GridFWD annual event, the premier conference on grid modernization in the western U.S. and Canada. Every fall, GridFWD plays host to our member’s top executives, as well as officials from the federal government, national organizations, technology innovators, state offices and regional operators. By receiving advanced notice, members play an outsized role in defining the speakers, content and activities at the event. They also receive a discount.

Annual Membership Meeting
All members have free attendance to our Annual Meeting, during which we review our achievements, discuss continued improvements to our services, and highlight contributions within our community. Typically held in early summer, the Annual Meeting is more intimate than GridFWD, and is often held in conjunction with a special event or symposium.

Utility Working Group and Roundtables
We co-host the Utility Business Model Working Group with EPRI, GridWise Alliance, and SEPA. We also host roundtables for utility members when urgent topics arise. Be sure your staff are on the invites for these gatherings.

Educational Summits and Webinars
When we see the opportunity to bring key resources to our community, we can quickly arrange virtual gatherings and town halls. Examples include webinars with the U.S. DOE, USDA and U.S. Treasury, as well as our EV-to-Grid and Decarbonization Summits.

Partner Events
We partner with many regional and national organizations on their gatherings and have access to discounts. We'd enjoy meeting up with you at events including DISTRIBUTECH, the EPRI Summit, and meetings of NARUC and the NWPPA.

GridFWD is the Premier Grid Modernization Event

Reach out to Mary Jo (maryjo@gridforward.org) to share topic ideas, learn about upcoming gatherings and make sure you are on the invitations.

Results of GridFWD 2023 exit survey.

- 100% said it was a good use of their time
- 63% said it was better than other energy events
- 94% said they would attend again
Influence Regional Grid Modernization

Grid Modernization Policy Input and Engagement
We interact regularly with federal and state-level offices and regulators. Our members work with us to gain access, educate and influence policymakers to create pathways for planning, approving, funding and scaling grid innovation efforts.

Regional Collaboration for Federal Resources
Grid Forward played a central role in the enactment of both the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). By surveying our membership, we provided key information to Congressional offices working on this once-in-a-lifetime energy legislation. Grid Forward is playing a key role in building coalitions largely from our member base to take advantage of these fund opportunities.

Support for Industry Development Efforts
We provide guidance and expertise on solutions that help bring grid innovation to life, such as meetings with congressional offices about the importance of grid modernization and how it naturally supports infrastructure projects; advising members on their innovation efforts or go-to-market strategies; or sharing results of regional initiatives.

Member-Only Professional Services
Grid Forward Professional Services can offer guidance and expertise to help your organization achieve its grid modernization goals. Members can tap into our network of grid experts, policy leaders, advanced energy resource providers, technology specialists, and thought leaders to advance your objectives.

Grid Forward Helps to Organize U.S. DOE GRIP Award Submissions

GRIP Round 1 investments awarded
- Advanced Solutions For Wildfire Mitigation – Federal Cost Share $38M
- Reducing Wildfires And Increasing Resilience In Central And Western States – Federal Cost Share: $99M

GRIP Round 2 topic proposals submitted
- Regional VPP projects to leverage DER assets across a six-state collaboration
- Advanced grid flexibility resources at data centers across at least four states
- Advanced data and situational awareness of extreme threats to grid operations and community safety across a six-state collaboration

Email Kelly (kelly@gridforward.org) to hear about the latest policy-shaping efforts.
Expand Your Connections

Diverse Member Network
Our member network of over 150 active organizations includes the most diverse stakeholder audience in the region, bringing together utilities, regulators, technology providers, equipment vendors, implementers, government entities, evaluators, educators, and municipalities. Our members have capitalized on this breadth to initiate new collaborations and to increase visibility for their organizations.

Social Media Amplification
Let us know about your exciting development and we can help amplify awareness for your goals, projects and successes through LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram.

Facilitated Introductions
Our team can work to identify other community members who would find a mutual benefit in connecting with your organization, and we can find ways to facilitate introductions. Many of our members have built partnerships that have led to exciting projects.

Check in with Sam (sam@gridforward.org) to find out more on linking up with members of our community.

Grid Forward creates impactful moments for creating strong connections.
Stay Informed

Monthly Newsletter
The Forward Thinking newsletter features curated industry highlights including member community updates, job postings, events, innovative projects, and policy developments. Also receive monthly invitations to our hosted activities and alerts for critical industry actions.

Federal and Regional Policy Updates and Briefings
Grid Forward has been on the front lines of regional and federal policy development and will continue to keep members updated on these efforts. Members receive notices on governmental and regulatory actions as well as summaries and briefings from activities and events that we host. Make sure your team is tuned into these timely and impactful resources.

Grid Forward Chats Podcasts
Throughout the year, we record frank discussions with the leaders driving grid modernization and energy innovation ahead and discuss current topics. We look for ideas and recommendations from members, and alert them when new episodes are available. Listen to Grid Forward Chats wherever you get podcasts.

Content Sharing and Programming
Share your recent case studies, white papers and other thought leadership publications and resources about lessons from projects and insights for the future of the industry. We feature these in our online, social and newsletter channels.

Email David (david@gridforward.org) to ensure all your team members are on the communications and getting relevant materials.
Shape Our Future

**Board of Directors and Advisory Committee**
Members can apply to serve on our Board of Directors or Advisory Committee to have a deeper impact on the direction of the organization and our mission.

**Working Groups and Steering Committees**
Grid Forward does not maintain continual committees; however we stand up working groups to help support key efforts such as federal investments in the grid, regional energy plans, and the agendas of our main events.

**Staying Engaged**
We regularly check in with our members about their own activities and feedback on the direction of the organization. From surveys, to one-on-one catch up conversations, to monthly member-only emails we seek your input on what is important to accelerate advancement of the grid.

Take the next step in Grid Forward membership

Contact Mary Jo Nye to learn how to maximize a Grid Forward membership: maryjo@gridforward.org

Other questions, contact Executive Director Bryce Yonker: bryce@gridforward.org

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.