



Item 4.3: ERCOT Innovation Summit Update

Venkat Tirupati

Vice President, DevOps and Grid Transformation

Technology and Security Committee Meeting

ERCOT Public

April 22, 2024

Overview

- **Purpose**

Provide an update on the inaugural ERCOT Innovation Summit

- **Voting Items / Requests**

No action is requested of the Technology and Security (T&S) Committee or Board; for discussion only

- **Key Takeaways**

- Hilton Austin Airport in the new venue
 - Capacity increased from 190 to 440
- Keynote speaker confirmed (Dr. Stephen Ashby – PNNL Director)
- Live Streaming option announced
- Actively working to get speakers confirmed for the six panel sessions

ERCOT Innovation Summit

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

9 AM – 5 PM CDT

Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 Hotel Dr, Austin, TX 78719

<https://www.ercot.com/summit>

AGENDA

09:00 AM – 09:15 AM Welcome and Introduction

- Pablo Vegas, President, and CEO of ERCOT

09:20 AM – 09:50 AM Keynote Presentation

- Dr. Steven Ashby, Director - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)

ERCOT Innovation Summit - Agenda

09:55 AM – 10:45 AM Panel Discussion - the **Essential Reliability Services** panel will focus on the impact to the essential reliability services during rapid grid transformation

- Moderator - Fred Huang, Director – Operations Support, ERCOT
- Panelist : Julia Matevosyan, Chief Engineer, Energy System Integration Group
- Panelist : Deepak Ramasubramanian, Senior Technical Leader, Electric Power Research Institute
- Panelist : Sirajul Chowdhury, Principal – Power Systems Technology, California Independent System Operator

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM **Break**

ERCOT Innovation Summit - Agenda

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM Panel Discussion - The **Demand Flexibility** panel will focus on innovations around engaging end-use customers and harnessing their flexibility for providing support to the grid.

- Moderator - Dave Maggio, Principal – Commercial Operations, ERCOT
- Panelist : Michael Lee, CEO, Octopus Energy NA
- Panelist : Dr. Le Xie, Professor, Texas A & M University
- Panelist : Maria Belenky, Lead Market Design Specialist, PJM
- Panelist : Jesse Aragon de Galvez, Staff Technical Program Manager, Tesla

11:50 PM – 01:00 PM **Lunch Break**

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01:00 PM – 01:50 PM Panel Discussion - The **Energy Storage** panel will focus on the integration challenges and opportunities for energy storage resources as they evolve and as the grid transformation continues.

- Moderator - Kenneth Ragsdale, Principal – Market Design, ERCOT
- Panelist : Erik Ela, Technical Executive and Program Manager, Electric Power Research Institute
- Panelist : Jason Houck, Senior Manager - Policy Strategy, Form Energy
- Panelist : Daniel Johnson, Market Design Sector Manager, California Independent System Operator

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01:55 PM – 02:45 PM Panel Discussion - The **Uncertainty Management** panel will explore operating practices and innovations regarding increasing grid variability and uncertainty.

- Moderator - Jeff Billo, Director – Operations Planning, ERCOT
- Panelist : Garret Crowson, Manager - Uncertainty Response, Southwest Power Pool
- Panelist : Jason Howard, Director - Operations Risk Management, Midcontinent Independent System Operator
- Panelist : Guillermo Bautista Alderete, Director - Market Analysis and Forecasting, California Independent System Operator

02:45 PM – 03:00 PM **Break**

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03:00 PM – 03:50 PM Panel Discussion – The **Transmission Planning** panel will explore Challenges to planning in a rapidly evolving grid and associated uncertainty.

- Moderator - Prabhu Gnanam, Director – Planning, ERCOT
- Panelist : Kamran Ali, Vice President – Transmission Planning & Analysis, AEP
- Panelist : Dr. Thomas Overbye, Professor, Texas A & M University
- Panelist : TBD

ERCOT Innovation Summit - Agenda

03:55 PM – 04:45 PM Panel Discussion - The **Technology Trends** panel will focus on the innovations around Cloud Computing, Data & Analytics, AI/ML, etc. and ways to harness these capabilities for the future of the Energy Grid.

- Moderator - Ajay Mannepalli, Director – IT Architecture & Strategy, ERCOT
- Panelist : Xing Wang, Global Leader – Energy & Utilities, AWS
- Panelist : Dag Boye, Industry Advisor - Energy & Utilities, Microsoft
- Panelist : Achalesh Pandey, Vice President – Innovation, GE
- Panelist : Ravi Pradhan, Vice President – Technology Strategy, Siemens

04:45 PM – 05:00 PM Closing Remarks & wrap-up

- Venkat Tirupati, Vice President – DevOps and Grid Transformation, ERCOT

ERCOT Innovation Summit - Communications

- Market Notices sent on [February 8, 2024](#), and [April 1, 2024](#)
- News release published on [April 1, 2024](#)
- Social Media announcement
- Live Streaming Option - [Register here](#)
- ERCOT intranet for employees

