



## Maximizing the Benefits of Grid Modernization

June 13, 2017 – Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square

*To promote a deeper understanding and dialogue about the benefits of grid modernization among policymakers, regulators, industrial consumers, and academia.*

**7:30am Registration & Coffee**

**8:30am Welcome**

- Josh Knights, The Nature Conservancy in Ohio

**8:40am Opening Remarks**

- Rolf Nordstrom, Great Plains Institute

**9:00am Opportunities Panel**

By providing the bigger picture on grid modernization efforts by states both nationally and in the region, this panel will focus on the multiple benefits that grid modernization can enable. Among the topics that the panel will cover are:

- What is the full menu of benefits from grid modernization?
- Will some segments of the electricity system be winners and some be losers?
- How does grid modernization enable clean energy? Are there barriers standing in the way?
- Will consumers be savvy enough to reap the full benefits of a modern grid?

**Moderator:** Jimmie Powell, The Nature Conservancy

**Panelists:**

- Patti Austin, Columbus Power
- Rolf Nordstrom, Great Plains Institute
- Ted Ford, Advanced Energy Economy

**10:15am Break**

**10:45am Technology Panel**

The injection of new technologies is creating new opportunities for optimizing the planning, design and operation of the grid, and resulting in new potential for increasing efficiency, reducing costs, supporting clean energy and creating new benefits for electricity consumers. Among the topics that the panel will cover are:

- Examples of the types of technologies that are modernizing the grid such as smart meters, storage and microgrids.
- How those technologies are allowing the grid to be operated with greater reliability and resilience, especially when supporting increased amounts of clean energy such as solar and wind.
- How technologies and practices on the “customer-side” of the meter will help the grid while yielding new benefits to consumers.

**Moderator:** Dan Delurey, Wedgemere

**Panelists:**

- Scott Osterholt, American Electric Power
- Linda Richardson, Enbala
- Don Wingate, Schneider Electric
- Raj Vaswani, Silver Spring

**12:00pm** Lunch

**1:00pm** Featured Speaker

- The Honorable Larry Obhof, President of the Ohio Senate

**1:15pm** Keynote Speaker

- Chairman Asim Haque, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

**1:45pm** Policy Panel

This panel will explore policies that would help finance the installation of smart meters and advanced electricity infrastructure, increase the system's efficiency through voltage optimization, and empower consumers with access to the enormous amounts of data from their smart meters. These policies would also improve the connectivity of intermittent power sources like wind and solar to the growing number of Ohio consumers desiring clean energy.

- How does Ohio and the region provide accurate price signals and markets for energy?
- How does Ohio and the region ensure its electricity markets are sufficiently transparent to attract private capital?
- How does Ohio and the region create a nimble platform for electricity and energy-service transactions?

**Moderator:** Dick Munson, Environmental Defense Fund

**Panelists:**

- Cheryl Roberto, Twenty First Century Utilities and former PUCO commissioner
- Robert King, Whisker Labs
- Representative Kent Smith, 8<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District
- John Seryak, Ohio Manufacturers' Association

**3:00pm** Forum Ends