

THE Energy Council News

FALL

2024

Darby Elected Chairman of The Energy Council for 2024 – 2025

Texas Representative Drew Darby was unanimously elected Chairman of The Energy Council for 2024-2025 at the Council's 2024 Annual Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Chairman Darby is a lifelong West Texan, a native of San Angelo, and attended San Angelo public schools. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas at Austin. Representative Darby serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Redistricting and is a member of the Committees on Criminal Jurisprudence and Energy Resources.

Representative Darby is the business owner of Surety Title, which has offices throughout West Texas. He is also Of Counsel to the Energy and Real Estate practice group at Jackson Walker, LLP law firm. Chairman Darby and his wife, Clarisa, have five children and twelve grandchildren.



Drew Darby
Texas Representative

The Energy Council Returns to Oklahoma for the 2024 Annual Meeting



Governor of Oklahoma, the Honorable Kevin Stitt highlighted Oklahoma's diverse energy portfolio at the Council's 2024 Annual Meeting held in Tulsa.

Energy Council attendees were warmly welcomed back to Tulsa, Oklahoma where the meeting was held September 12-14. The agenda covered topics ranging from international demand for LNG to grid reliability challenges and technological advances in reducing emissions to energy end-use.

Alaska Senator Bert Stedman, Chairman of The Energy Council, presided over the meeting and was assisted in leadership duties by Oklahoma Representative Ken Luttrell, Vice Chairman of the Center for Legislative Energy and Environmental Research (CLEER), and Oklahoma Representative Mark McBride, Vice President for the Annual Meeting.

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The Energy Council

The Energy Council News is the official publication of the Energy Council, a legislative organization comprised of 14 states and two international affiliates, drawn from the major energy producing regions of the United States and Canada. The Energy Council provides a forum for discussing government policies regarding energy and the environment.

For information regarding the *Energy Council News* or the Energy Council, please contact:

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Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Director

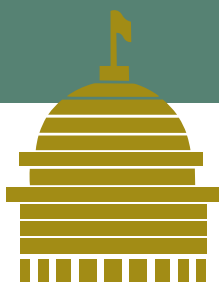
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Tell us what you think!

We welcome your suggestions and feedback. Please email erichards@theenergycouncil.org



Meet Us in UTAH

The Energy Council will hold its first-ever Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference at The Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The conference will begin on Thursday, December 5, with a welcome reception, followed by the distinct opportunity for conference participants and guests to attend a choir rehearsal with the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square.

Friday, December 6 the conference will begin with a Welcome Remarks from Wayne Harper, Utah Senate President Pro Tempore and Vice President for the Global Conference, followed by the Opening Address from the Governor of Utah, the Honorable Spencer J. Cox.

Among the discussion topics being considered at the 2024 Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference are:

- **Carbon Capture Utilization and Sequestration (CCUS)**
- **Class VI Well Primacy**
- **Electric Market Redesign and Performance-based Rates**
- **Consumer Focus Energy Systems**
- **UAB Seminar: The Energy-Water Nexus**
- **Spent Fuel Challenge**
- **The Role of Natural Gas in Electricity Generation, Chemical Manufacturing, and Refining**
- **Geothermal Energy**
- **Energy and Water Needs of the Coming Digital Age**
- **Super Capacitors**
- **The Role of Natural Gas in Electricity Generation, Chemical Manufacturing, and Refining**

Luttrell Elected Chairman of CLEER for 2024 – 2025

Oklahoma Representative Ken Luttrell was unanimously elected Chairman of the Center for Legislative Energy and Environmental Research (CLEER) during the CLEER Business Session at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Chairman Luttrell is a fifth-generation Oklahoman. His Cherokee ancestors survived the Trail of Tears to Indian Territory and settled near Grand Lake. Luttrell previously served in the Legislature from 2006-2010. Now serving his 10th year in the legislature he serves on the National Energy Council; the Governors One Oklahoma Task Force; the Executive Committee of the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators; and as Co-Chair of the Oklahoma House of Representatives Native American Caucus.



Ken Luttrell
Oklahoma
Representative

Representative Luttrell and his wife, Brenda, have two daughters, and four grandchildren and make their home in Ponca City.

2024 Annual Meeting in Tulsa

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The Governor of Oklahoma, the Honorable Kevin Stitt welcomed attendees back to the state and took an opportunity to highlight Oklahoma's diverse energy portfolio. Oklahoma is a significant energy producer in the United States, both in natural gas and crude oil production, Governor Stitt said. He also acknowledged that Oklahoma is one of the top natural gas-producing states in the U.S. He also discussed renewables, coal, and electricity generation. After he provided an overview of Oklahoma's energy resources, he opened the floor to a question-and-answer session before giving his closing remarks.

Mr. Ken McQueen, Oklahoma Secretary of Energy & Environment gave the "Keynote Address." He provided a comprehensive overview of Tulsa, highlighting its history, notable business leaders, cultural landmarks, and infrastructure. Some of his key points included: Tulsa's early history settled by the Muscogee Creek Nation in 1836; and incorporated in 1898, and the significant oil discoveries in the early 1900s spurred economic growth.

Mr. McQueen acknowledged some notable business leaders, such as Frank Abagnale, Cyrus Avery, and J. Paul Getty, who contributed to Tulsa's



The Oklahoma delegation was well represented at The Energy Council's 2024 Annual Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

development in various industries, particularly oil. Cultural landmarks, such as the Philbrook Museum of Art, and Gilcrease Museum. The Golden Driller attraction is a 75-foot statue symbolizing Tulsa's oil heritage. Overall, Mr. McQueen's presentation drew a picture of Tulsa as a city with a rich history, significant contributions to the oil industry, and a vibrant cultural and educational scene.

The Annual Meeting general session opened with a presentation entitled "International Demand for LNG" by Mr. Matt Barr, Vice President, State Government Affairs with Cheniere Energy.

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CLEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

ALASKA

Senator Cathy Giessel

Senator Giessel served in the Alaska Senate from 2011 to 2020; she was re-elected in 2023. She serves as Senate Bipartisan Coalition Majority Leader and Co-chair on the Senate Resources Committee and is a member of the Rules, Judiciary, Health, World Trade, and Community & Regional Affairs Committees.

Senator Giessel and her husband Richard have two adult children and seven grandchildren and live in Fairbanks.



Cathy Giessel
Alaska Senator

NEW MEXICO

Senator David Gallegos

Senator Gallegos served in the New Mexico House of Representatives from 2013-2021. He was elected to the Senate in 2021. He serves as a ranking member on the Senate Conservation Committee and a member on the Senate Education Committee. Senator Gallegos also serves as a Member of the Legislative Health & Human Services and Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Interim Committees.

Senator Gallegos and his wife Sonya have two daughters and one granddaughter and reside in Eunice.



David Gallegos
New Mexico Senator

WEST VIRGINIA

Delegate George Street

Delegate Street was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 2022. He is a member of the Energy & Manufacturing, Economic Development, and Agriculture Committees.

Delegate Street and his wife Deborah have two children and reside in Charleston.



George Street
West Virginia Delegate

ALBERTA

Minister Nathan Neudorf

Minister Neudorf was first elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in 2019 and was re-elected in 2023. He serves on the following Cabinet Committees: Treasury Board; Alberta First; Productivity Review; and Federal-Provincial Coordination.

Minister Neudorf, and his wife, Deane, and their five children live in Lethbridge.



Nathan Neudorf
Minister of Affordability
and Utilities

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Mr. Barr stated that earlier this year, Shell's Annual liquified natural gas (LNG) Outlook estimated global demand for LNG to rise by 50 percent by 2040 as China and countries in South and Southeast Asia use LNG to support their economic growth. At the same time, the Energy Information Administration estimates that North America's LNG export capacity is on track to more than double by 2028, from 11.4 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) in 2023 to 24.4 Bcf/d in 2028, if projects currently under construction begin operations as planned. In closing, Mr. Barr noted that the U.S. continues to be positioned to play a leading role in providing clean, secure, and affordable energy to the world for decades to come.

A panel session on "Hydrogen Partnerships and Low Carbon Hydrogen Production" was covered by the Honorable Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Affordability and Utilities for the Government of Alberta, and Mr. Kenneth Wagner, Attorney for Solatium Associates, LLC.

Mr. John Dabbar, Managing Director, Low Carbon Team at ConocoPhillips,



The Honorable Kim David, Commissioner of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission discussed "Rate Design" at The Energy Council's 2024 Annual Meeting.



The Honorable Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Affordability and Utilities of the Government of Alberta (right), and Mr. Kenneth Wagner, Attorney for Solatium Associates, LLC (left) held a Q&A session on the topic of "Hydrogen Partnerships and Low Carbon Hydrogen Production." The Energy Council Chairman and Alaska Senator Bert Stedman (center) thanked both for supporting The Energy Council's 2024 Annual Meeting.

reported on the "National Petroleum Council's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study." Mr. Dabbar explained that the National Petroleum Council conducted a comprehensive study on options to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions along the U.S. natural gas supply chain (NGSC). He stated that the U.S. has one of the largest natural gas resource bases, with resources expected to last over 100 years. Natural gas is the largest primary energy source, supplying 43 percent of U.S. primary energy production in 2022 and being the top source of electricity generation.

"Grid Resiliency" was covered by Mr. Jim Reese, Director, of Government and Regulatory Affairs at the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives. The presentation at the 2024 Energy Council on Grid Resiliency highlighted the following key points:

Mr. Reese stated that Oklahoma's Electric Cooperatives power more than 1.1 million Oklahomans; serve over 527,000 in-state meters and

134,000 meters in surrounding states; and maintain 118,210 miles of distribution lines, covering 93 percent of Oklahoma's landmass. He feels that grid resiliency at its most basic level is impacted by ice, due to its impact on infrastructure, wind can cause damage to electric poles, and fire brings threats to the grid. Mr. Reese identified natural gas and wind are primary sources of Oklahoma's energy generation and a new generation of projects includes gas, wind, and solar units. He maintained that the U.S. aims for a carbon pollution-free utilities sector by 2035 and states like Texas, California, and Oklahoma are significant contributors to renewable energy production.

"Rate Design" was covered by Chairman Kim David, Commissioner of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC). Commissioner David began her presentation with a

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Strengthening alliances as Canadian representatives from the Government of Alberta, the Government of Ontario, Canada's private business sector and academia were in attendance for a "Canadian Energy Showcase Discussion" at the Council's 2024 Annual Meeting. Leadership from CLEER Oklahoma Representative and Vice Chairman Ken Luttrell (fourth, left) and The Energy Council Chairman and Alaska Senator Bert Stedman (center) thanked the delegation for their long-time participation and membership.

brief overview of the OCC. The OCC was established in 1907 to regulate transportation, oil and gas, petroleum storage tanks, and public utilities. OCC covers entities, such as oil and gas well operators, utility companies, pipeline operators, railroads, motor carriers, and wind power companies. Key components of rate design include:

- Customer Charge: A fixed monthly amount independent of usage, also known as a basic charge, standing charge, or meter charge;
- Energy Charges: A price per kWh of usage, which may vary by time, block, or season;
- Demand Charges: A monthly fee based on the highest instantaneous usage rate during the month or year, typically applied to commercial customers.

Rate design involves categorizing customers into classes such

as residential, industrial, and commercial, and ensuring that each class pays rates that reflect the cost of serving them. "The main goals of rate design are to ensure fairness, avoid undue price discrimination among customer classes, and create pricing



A delegation from The Energy Council attended a site visit on Friday afternoon to the ONEOK West Tulsa Terminal.

signals that encourage efficient use of system capacity," Commissioner David concluded.

The CLEER University Advisory Board (UAB) Seminar on "The Span of Oklahoma State University Research: Basic Science for the Future and Applied Solutions for the Now" was presented by panelists from Oklahoma State University: Dr. Kenneth Sewell, Vice President for Research; Dr. Jeffery L. White, Professor and BP Chair School of Chemical Engineering; and Dr. Daniel E. Fisher, Professor and Can Weathers Chair, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Dr. Sewell described how Oklahoma State University (OSU) is engaged in a wide range of energy research, spanning from basic science to applied solutions. This research, he maintained, is crucial for future innovations and current technological advancements. The university's efforts are showcased through various projects and centers, focusing on both fundamental and applied research in the energy sector, he told attendees. The span of OSU Energy Research covers basic science, use-inspired research, technology evaluation, applied R&D, and full-scale

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commercialization. Some of the key projects highlighted include CO₂ storage evaluation, photosynthesis research, gasifier waste to energy technology, and dissolved gas behavior in compressor lubricants. In closing, Dr. Sewell stated that fundamental research is curiosity-driven and publishable, serving as seed corn for future innovation. Technology evaluation assesses commercial viability, protectability, and necessary research and development.

Dr. White expanded on the topic by reporting on OSU's Energy Research Basic Science for the Future. He emphasized the importance of mastering fundamentals for technological advances. He highlighted Bell Labs as a model for combining fundamental science with technological innovation. Research in catalysis aims to control molecular structures for benefits like fuels, pharmaceuticals, and pollutant reduction. In his closing, he stated that some of the key findings in the research include the activity and stability of catalysts with unique Al-2 sites in the presence of moisture.

Dr. Daniel E. Fisher focused on OSU's Energy Research Applied Solutions for the Now. He stated that applied research in the energy sector, particularly in building systems. He reported on some of the school's research projects, such as The Center for Integrated Building Systems (CIBS) delivers software tools, data, and codebases for the HVAC&R industry; the Great Plains Center of Excellence (GPCE) performs energy audits and recommends energy-saving technologies; research on heat pumps including high-efficiency components, low GWP refrigerants, and the use of propane; ground-source heat pumps that are optimized through design tools for ground heat exchangers; and the GPCE research portfolio aims for optimal performance, high energy efficiency, and low carbon footprint in new technologies.



Incoming Energy Council Chairman and Texas Representative Drew Darby (left) thanked The Energy Council Chairman Alaska Senator Bert Stedman for his steady leadership during his term.

In summary, Dr. Fisher feels that CIBS applies basic research results to create better building systems and GPCE applies better building systems to the industrial sector, moreover, OSU's energy research efforts are supported by regional awards and funding opportunities.

Saturday morning business session began with a Breakfast Panel Q&A entitled "Canadian Energy Showcase." Mr. David Weiner, Regional Vice President of Export Development Canada moderated the session. Panelists included Ms. Susan Harper, Consul General, Consulate General of Canada in Dallas; Mr. James Rajotte, Alberta's Senior Representative to the United States for the Government of Alberta; and Mr. Jag Badwal, Agent General, Government of Ontario.

Before answering questions from meeting attendees, each panelist highlighted the long-time relationship between Canada and the United States. The Canada-U.S. energy relationship, with a two-way trade of \$198.2 billion in 2023, remains fundamental to the health

of the North American economy, its competitiveness, and to the effectiveness of the energy transition. A transboundary network of more than 70 oil and gas pipelines, and over 35 clean electricity transmission lines move vast quantities of energy back and forth daily. Canada is the number one international source of energy for the U.S. (oil, natural gas, hydroelectricity, and uranium for U.S. reactors) and the U.S. is Canada's number one international source of energy.

Nuclear energy was also covered and was defined as the backbone of Ontario, Canada's clean electricity supply and provides more than half of the power used by Ontarians. Ontario is leading the way on SMR development, including plans to deploy Canada's, and G7's, first grid-scale small modular reactor (SMR) project at Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington new nuclear site. The Honorable Chuck DeVore, Chief National Initiatives Officer of the Texas Public Policy Foundation briefed attendees on the "Challenges of Scale in Energy Transformation." Scaling the energy transition is practically impossible, absent nuclear power, a modern economy cannot forgo the use of hydrocarbons. He stated that practical roadblocks include the massive increase in mining required, growing energy requirements for artificial intelligence, and the massive scale involved in converting transportation and other industrial activities to electricity.

"Technological Advances in Reducing Emissions" was a panel discussion covered by Mr. Eric Honeyman, Vice President of Renewables Operations and Low Carbon Fuels for Valero Energy Corporation, and Ms. Emily Lindley, Principal, of Gray Cardinal Strategies. According to Mr. Honeyman, Valero is currently the

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largest producer of renewable fuels globally. The company leverages its expertise in traditional refining to meet market demand and policy targets for renewables both domestically and internationally. Current production includes renewable diesel, renewable naphtha, and ethanol, with sustainable aviation fuel and renewable hydrogen projects in development based on demand for these fuels and ongoing policy support.

Speaking next on the panel, Ms. Lindley focused on various initiatives and programs aimed at reducing emissions in Texas. She highlighted key topics such as the Texas Emissions Reduction Program (TERP) which was established in 2001, TERP aims to reduce nitrogen oxides emissions by providing financial incentives to upgrade or replace older, high-emission vehicles and equipment. TERP offers various grant programs, including Diesel Emission Reduction Incentive Rebate Grants, Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Grants, and the Texas Clean School Bus Program. This initiative addressed the increase in emissions events reported from oil and gas facilities in the Permian Basin. In her closing, she highlighted the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, an act that offers privileges and immunities for documents and information gathered during environmental self-audits, encouraging voluntary disclosure and correction of violations.

Mr. Daniel Simmons, Principal of Simons Energy and Environmental Strategies covered the topic of "Energy End Use." Prior to 2005, the history of electricity use in the United States was constant growth; however, in 2005 electricity demand leveled off for multiple reasons such as increased energy efficiency and a more service-oriented economy instead of an energy-intensive industry. Since 2005, electricity demand in the United States has been

stagnant, even as the economy has grown. According to Mr. Simmons, electricity demand has started to grow again, led by the massive electricity demands from artificial intelligence. In fact, electricity demand from data centers is projected by more than double by 2030, he maintained. There are other potential drivers of electricity demand growth, such as electric vehicles (though demand appears to have plateaued for a little while for electric vehicles). There are multiple challenges for meeting electricity demand growth including the difficulty of building new transmission and generation.

The final presenter of the conference was Mr. Daniel Sullivan, President and CEO, Grand River Dam Authority. Mr. Sullivan explained The Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) was established in 1935 by the Oklahoma legislature to manage the waters of the Grand River for hydroelectricity and flood control. GRDA's mission focuses on delivering affordable, reliable electricity with an emphasis on efficiency, environmental steward-

ship, and economic development. GRDA operates a diverse generation portfolio, including:

- Combined cycle gas (495MW) and coal (492MW) at the Grand River Energy Center
- Salina Pumped Storage Project (260MW)
- Hydro at Pensacola Dam (126MW) and Robert S. Kerr Dam (128MW)
- Wind power (385MW) across four projects

In his closing, Mr. Sullivan stated that the Salina Pumped Storage Project, completed in stages between 1968 and 1971, was Oklahoma's first pumped storage project. It has a 260MW capacity with six hydroelectric pump/turbines and provides benefits such as energy storage, grid stability, rapid peaking power, and firming capacity.

Thank you to ALL Sponsors of The Energy Council's 2024 Annual Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



The Energy Council's 2024 Annual Meeting

September 12-14, 2024
Hyatt Regency Tulsa
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Welcome Breakfast and Opening Address

The Honorable Bert Stedman
Alaska Senate and
Chairman, The Energy Council

The Honorable Ken Luttrell
Oklahoma House of
Representatives and
Vice Chairman, CLEER

The Honorable Mark McBride
Oklahoma House of
Representative and
Vice President for The Energy
Council's Annual Meeting

The Honorable Kevin Stitt
Governor of Oklahoma

Keynote Speaker
Mr. Ken McQueen
Secretary
Oklahoma Secretary of Energy &
Environment

International Demand for LNG

Mr. Matt Barr
Vice President, State Gov't. Affairs
Cheniere Energy

Hydrogen Partnerships and Low Carbon Hydrogen Production

The Honorable Nathan Neudorf
Minister of Affordability & Utilities
Government of Alberta

Mr. Kenneth E. Wagner
Attorney | Consultant | Counselor
Solatium Associates, LLC

The National Petroleum Council's Report of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study

Mr. John Dabbar
Managing Director,
Low Carbon Team
ConocoPhillips

Grid Reliability Challenges

Mr. Jim Reese
Director, Government and Regulatory
Affairs
Oklahoma Association of Electric
Cooperatives

Rate Design

The Honorable Kim David
Commissioner
Oklahoma Corporation Commission

UAB Seminar: The Span of OSU Energy Research: Basic Science for the Future and Applied Solutions for the Now

Dr. Kenneth Sewell
Vice President for Research
Oklahoma State University

Dr. Jeffery L. White
Professor and BP Chair
School of Chemical Engineering
Oklahoma State University

Dr. Daniel E. Fisher
Professor and Van Weathers Chair
Director, Zink Center for Competitive
Innovation
Interim Director, Center for Integrated
Building Systems
Mechanical and Aerospace
Engineering
Oklahoma State University

Closing Night Dinner "End of Summer Daze" (The Rematch!)

Canadian Energy Showcase Breakfast Panel

Mr. David Weiner, Moderator
Regional Vice President, United States
Export Development Canada

Ms. Susan Harper
Consul General
Consulate General of Canada in
Dallas

Mr. James Rajotte
Alberta's Senior Representative to
the United States
Government of Alberta

Mr. Jag Badwal
Agent General
Government of Ontario

Challenges of Scale in Energy Transformation

The Honorable Chuck DeVore
Chief National Initiatives Officer
Texas Public Policy Foundation

Technological Advances in Reducing Emissions

Mr. Eric Honeyman
Vice President Renewables
Operations & Low Carbon Fuels
Valero Energy Corporation

Ms. Emily Lindley
Principal
Gray Cardinal Strategies

Energy End Use

Mr. Daniel Simmons
Principal
Simons Energy and Environmental
Strategies

Pumped Storage Hydropower

Mr. Daniel Sullivan
President and CEO
Grand River Dam Authority

Energy Council and CLEER Business Meetings and CLEER Program Advisory Board Meeting