



Debbra Mamula  
Executive Director

13760 Noel Road  
Suite 1160  
Dallas, Texas 75240

energy@theenergycouncil.org  
www.theenergycouncil.org

Phone: (972) 243-7788  
Fax: (972) 243-7722

**Final Agenda**  
**The Energy Council™'s**  
**2025 Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference**  
December 4 - 6, 2025  
Centennial Plaza  
Gulfport, Mississippi

**Thursday, December 4, 2025**

5:30 p.m.      **Welcome Reception**  
*(The Club House)*

**Friday, December 5, 2025**

7:30 a.m.      **Welcome Breakfast and Welcome Remarks**  
*(The Chapel)*

The Honorable Chris Turner  
Louisiana House of Representatives and  
Chairman, The Energy Council™

The Honorable Ed Cooper  
Wyoming Senator and  
Chairman, CLEER

The Honorable Briggs Hopson  
Mississippi Senator and  
Vice President for Global Conference

8:15 a.m.      **Keynote Address**

The Honorable Tate Reeves  
Governor  
The State of Mississippi

8:45 a.m.      **Break**

9:00 a.m.      **Infrastructure Banks**

Mr. Clay Scofield  
President and CEO  
Energy Institute of Alabama

9:30 a.m.      **Grid Resiliency on the Gulf Coast**

Mr. Stephen C. Schruff, P.E.  
Transmission GM and Emergency Operations Manager  
Mississippi Power

10:00 a.m.      **Energy Needs of Data Centers**

Mr. Jeremy Vanderloo  
Vice President, Business Operations and Strategy  
Entergy Mississippi, L.L.C.

**Friday, December 5, 2025** (Cont'd)

- 10:30 a.m.      **Expansion of Natural Gas Transmission/Pipelines in North America**  
(The Chapel)
- Mr. Nick Hamilton  
Manager, Southeast Business Development and Marketing  
Enbridge
- 11:00 a.m.      Break
- 11:15 a.m.      **The Legal War on Energy: What it Means for Energy Producing States**
- Mr. David Morrell  
Partner  
Jones Day
- Dr. Donald Kochan  
Professor of Law and Executive Director, Law & Economic Center  
Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University
- Noon              **Permitting Reform**
- Mr. Chris Wells  
Executive Director  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- 12:30 p.m.      Adjourn
- 12:45 p.m.      **UAB Seminar: Powering Growth Through the Future Use of Technology**
- Mr. Bryan Farrell  
Director, Administration  
Raspel Flight Research Laboratory
- 4:30 p.m.      **Closing Night Sunset Cruise with a 3:30 p.m. departure time**

**Saturday, December 6, 2025**

- 7:30 a.m.      **Continental Breakfast Available**  
(The Chapel)
- 8:00 a.m.      **Disaster Preparedness – Lessons Learned from Hurricane Katrina**
- The Honorable Haley Barbour  
BGR Group, BarbourHurst  
Governor of Mississippi (2004 to 2012)
- 9:00 a.m.      Break

**Saturday, December 6, 2025** (Cont'd)

9:15 a.m.      **The North American Electric Reliability Corporation's Role in  
(The Chapel)      Grid Reliability**

Mr. Mark Olson, P.E.  
Manager, Reliability Assessments  
North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)

9:45 a.m.      **Liquified Natural Gas Export Projects and  
Long-term Market Viability**

MLA Shane Getson  
Executive Committee Member, The Energy Council™ and  
Government of Alberta

10:15 a.m.      Break

10:30 a.m.      **Economic Implications of Energy Projects**

Ms. Heather Exner-Pirot  
Director of Energy, Natural Resources and Environment  
Macdonald Laurier Institute

11:00 a.m.      **State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and the Limitations of the  
Clean Air Act**

Ms. Mandy Gunasekara  
Principal  
Section VII Strategies

11:30 a.m.      **Market Mechanics in the Electric Generation Dispatch  
Process**

Mr. Jake Dubbs  
Lead Advisor, External Affairs and Tribal Relations  
Southwest Power Pool

Noon              Adjourn

12:15 p.m.      **CLEER Business and Program Advisory Board Meetings**

1:30 p.m.      Adjourn

**2025 Annual Meeting**  
**December 4-6, 2025**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**

Participants Name			Title	Affiliation	City, State	
Hon.	Gerald	Allen	Senator	Alabama Senate	Montgomery	AL
<b>Gov.</b>	<b>Haley</b>	<b>Barbour</b>	<b>BGR Group, BarbourHurst</b>	<b>Governor of Mississippi (2004 to 2012)</b>	<b>Gulfport</b>	<b>MS</b>
Mrs.	Charisse	Barry				
Hon.	Jeff	Barry	Representative	Texas House of Representatives	Austin	TX
Mrs.	Rebecca	Beasley				
Hon.	William	Beasley	Senator	Alabama Senate	Montgomery	AL
Hon.	Rick	Beck	Representative	Arkansas House of Representatives	Center Ridge	AR
Mr.	Jim	Beckett	Executive Director	Mississippi Public Utilities Staff	Jackson	MS
Mrs.	Susan	Beckett				
Ms.	Liane	Bell		Government of Alberta		AB, CN
Mr.	Ron	Berg				
Hon.	Rick	Billinger	Senator	Kansas Senate	Goodland	KS
Mrs.	Rita	Billinger				
Ms.	Anne	Billingsley	Director, Government Relations	ONEOK, Inc.	Austin	TX
Hon.	Bo	Biteman	Senate President	Wyoming Senate	Ranchester	WY
Hon.	Mary	Boren	Senator	Oklahoma Senate	Oklahoma City	OK
Hon.	Glenn	Bosch	Representative	North Dakota House of Representatives	Bismarck	ND
Hon.	Cale	Case	Senator	Wyoming Senate	Lander	WY
Hon.	Joel	Carter	Senator	Mississippi Senate	Jackson	MS
Mr.	Fred	Clark	President/CEO	Energy Southeast	Montgomery	AL
Hon.	Ed	Cooper	Chairman, CLEER	Wyoming Senate	Ten Sleep	WY
Dr.	Missi	Currier	President & CEO	NMOGA	Santa Fe	NM
	Cayden	Diamond				
	Reece	Diamond				
Hon.	Crystal	Diamond-Brand	Senator	New Mexico Senate	Elephant Butte	NM
Hon.	Dan	Dockstader	Senator	Wyoming Senate	Afton	WY
Mrs.	Kim	Dockstader				
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Jake</b>	<b>Dubbs</b>	<b>Lead Advisor, External Affairs &amp; Tribal Relations</b>	<b>Southwest Power Pool</b>	<b>Spokane</b>	<b>WA</b>
Mr.	John	Eick	Senior Manager, State & Local Outreach	American Fuel & Petrochemical Mafr.	Washington	DC
<b>Ms.</b>	<b>Heather</b>	<b>Exner-Pirot</b>	<b>Director of Energy, Natural &amp; Environment</b>	<b>Mcdonald-Laurier Institute</b>	<b>Bragg Creek</b>	<b>AB, CN</b>
Hon.	Mike	Fagg	Senator	Kansas Senate	El Dorado	KS

<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Bryan</b>	<b>Farrell</b>	<b>Director, Administration</b>	<b>Raspet Flight Research Laboratory</b>	<b>Starkville</b>	<b>MS</b>
Mrs.	Annette	Fehrenbacher				
Hon.	Bob	Fehrenbacher	Delegate	West Virginia House of Delegates	Vienna	WV
Mr.	Leland	Frost	Chief of Staff	EPA		
Mrs.	Carol	Garrett				
Hon.	Danny	Garrett	Representative	Alabama House of Representatives	Montgomery	AL
Mr.	Joe	Gehrdes	Director, External Affairs	Huntsville Utilities	Huntsville	AL
<b>MLA</b>	<b>Shane</b>	<b>Getson</b>	<b>Member, Legislative Assembly of Alberta</b>	<b>Government of Alberta</b>	<b>Onoway</b>	<b>AB, CN</b>
Hon.	Brett	Geymann	Representative	Louisiana House of Representatives	Lake Charles	LA
Mr.	Tim	Gibbs	CEO	Four Corners Economic Development	Farmington	NM
Hon.	Sam	Givhan	Senator	Alabama Senate	Montgomery	AL
Mrs.	Dora Ann	Gostecnik				
Mrs.	Carol	Guidry				
Mr.	George	Guidry	Director, State Government Affairs	Koch Government Affairs*	Baton Rouge	LA
<b>Ms.</b>	<b>Mandy</b>	<b>Gunasekara</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Section VII Strategies</b>	<b>Oxford</b>	<b>MS</b>
	Surya	Gunasekara				
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Nick</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>Mgr., Southeast Business Devl. &amp; Marketing</b>	<b>Enbridge</b>	<b>Tampa</b>	<b>FL</b>
Hon.	Wayne	Harper	President Pro Tempore	Utah Senate	Taylorsville	UT
Mr.	Logan	Harrell	General Counsel & Director of Regulatory Affairs	Texas Chemistry Council	Austin	TX
Hon.	Scott	Heiner	Representative	Wyoming House of Representatives	Green River	WY
Mr.	Jeremiah	Herman	Senior External Affairs Liaison	Southwest Power Pool, Inc.	Little Rock	AR
Hon.	Kyle	Hoffman	Assistant Majority Leader	Kansas House of Representatives	Coldwater	KS
Hon.	W. Briggs	Hopson	Vice President for Global Conference	Mississippi Senate	Vicksburg	MS
Mr.	Horace	Horn	Sr. Vice President, External Affairs	PowerSouth Energy Cooperative	Montgomery	AL
Mrs.	Linda	Horn				
Ms.	Evonne	Hudson	Financial Manager	The Energy Council	Dallas	TX
Hon.	Colin	Jack	Representative	Utah House of Representatives	St. George	UT
Mrs.	Catherine	Johnson				
Hon.	Mark	Johnson	Senator	Arkansas Senate	Little Rock	AR
Ms.	Shana	Joyce	Director, State Government Affairs	Koch Government Affairs, LLC*	Austin	TX
Ms.	Ashley	Juergens	Director of Government Affair	Vistra Corporation	Irving	TX
Hon.	Greg	Kessel	Senator	North Dakota Senate	Belfield	ND
Hon.	Stan	Kitzman	Representative	Texas House of Representatives	Bellville	TX
<b>Dr.</b>	<b>Donald</b>	<b>Kochan</b>	<b>Professor of Law and Executive Director, Law &amp; Economic Center</b>	<b>Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University</b>	<b>Arlington</b>	<b>VA</b>
Mr.	Matthew	Lemke	Admin	Koch Industries*	Inver Grove Hei	MN
Hon.	Steve	Livingston	Majority Leader	Alabama Senate	Montgomery	AL

Hon.	Patricia	Lundstrom	Representative	New Mexico House of Representatives	Gallup	NM
Mrs.	Brenda	Luttrell				
Hon.	Ken	Luttrell	Representative	Oklahoma House of Representatives	Ponca City	OK
Ms.	Deb	Mamula	Executive Director	The Energy Council	Dallas	TX
Ms.	Madeline	MacDevette	State Engagement Lead	Envoy Public Labs	Tulsa	OK
Mrs.	Debbie	McGrew				
Hon.	Richard	McGrew	Representative	Arkansas House of Representatives	Hot Springs	AR
Ms.	Carlee	McLeod	External Affairs Representative	Minnkota Power Cooperatives	Grand Forks	ND
Mr.	Kevin	McOmber	Region 4 Administrator	EPA	Atlanta	GA
Mrs.	Beth	Michel				
Hon.	Walter	Michel	Senator	Mississippi Senate	Jackson	MS
Ms.	Maddie	Milam	Sr. Director of State Affairs	Consumer Energy Alliance	Houston	TX
Mr.	Ash	Miller	Senior Political & Economic Relations Officer	Consulate General of Canada in Atlanta	Atlanta	GA
Hon.	Ann	Millner	Senator	Utah State Senate	Salt Lake City	UT
Hon.	Alisa	Mitskog	Representative	North Dakota House of Representatives	Wahpeton	ND
Hon.	Beth	Mizell	Senator	Louisiana Senate	Franklinton	LA
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Morrell</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>Jones Day</b>	<b>Washington</b>	<b>DC</b>
Mr.	Lawrence	Morris	Foreign Policy Officer	Consulate General of Canada in Dallas	Dallas	TX
Comm.	Greg	Nibert	Commissioner	New Mexico Public Regulation Commission	Santa Fe	NM
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Olson, P.E.</b>	<b>Manager, Reliability Assessments</b>	<b>North American Electric Reliability Corp.</b>	<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>GA</b>
Hon.	Dale	Patten	Senator	North Dakota Senate	Watford City	ND
Ms.	Joy	Perry				
Mrs.	Mary	Pettus				
Hon.	Phillip	Pettus	Representative	Alabama House of Representatives	Killen	AL
Hon.	Todd	Porter	Representative	North Dakota House of Representatives	Mandan	ND
Hon.	Dave	Rader	Senator	Oklahoma Senate	Oklahoma City	OK
Mr.	James	Rajotte	Ambassador Plenipotentiary	Government of Alberta	Edmonton	AB, CN
Hon.	George	Rauscher	Representative	Alaska House of Representatives	Wasilla	AK
<b>Gov.</b>	<b>Tate</b>	<b>Reeves</b>	<b>Governor</b>	<b>The State of Mississippi</b>	<b>Jackson</b>	<b>MS</b>
Ms.	Evya	Richards	Meeting Manager	The Energy Council	Dallas	TX
Ms.	Michele	Richmond	President & CEO	Texas Competitive Power Advocates (TCPA)*	Pflugerville	TX
Hon.	Neil	Riser	Representative	Louisiana House of Representatives	Columbia	LA
Hon.	Joseph	Sanchez	State Rep	New Mexico House of Representatives	Alcalde	NM
Mr.	Thomas	Saunders	General Counsel	Alabama Forestry Association	Montgomery	AL
Hon.	Donald	Schaible	Senator	North Dakota Senate	Mott	ND
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Clay</b>	<b>Scofield</b>	<b>President and CEO</b>	<b>Energy Institute of Alabama</b>	<b>Montgomery</b>	<b>AL</b>
Mrs.	Jessie	Scott				

Hon.	Larry	Scott	Senator	New Mexico Senate	Hobbs	NM
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>Schruff, P.E.</b>	<b>Transmission GM, Emergency Operations Mgr.</b>	<b>Mississippi Power*</b>	<b>Gulfport</b>	<b>MS</b>
Hon.	Joe	Seiwert	Representative	Kansas House of Representatives	Pretty Prairie	KS
Hon.	David	Sessions	Alabama Senator	Alabama Senate	Montgomery	AL
Mrs.	Lisa	Sessions				
Mr.	Ashish	Sharma	Director - U.S. South	Government of Alberta Dallas Office	Dallas	TX
Mr.	Jay	Smith	Associate General Counsel	Koch Capabilities, LLC*	Alpharetta	GA
Mr.	Todd	Staples	Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs	Texas Oil and Gas Association	Austin	TX
Hon.	Bert	Stedman	Senator	Alaska Senate	Juneau	AK
Mrs.	Lureen	Stedman				
Ms.	Jordyn	Steinberger	State Government Affairs Manager	Constellation	Austin	TX
Mr.	Stephen	Stiglets	Governmental and Community Affairs Manager	Southern Company-Mississippi Power*	Gulfport	MS
Mrs.	Kristin	Tedford				
Hon.	Mark	Tedford	Representative	Oklahoma House of Representatives	Claremore	OK
Hon.	Tammy	Townley	Representative	Oklahoma House of Representatives	Oklahoma City	OK
Hon.	James	Townsend	Senator	New Mexico Senate	Artesia	NM
Mrs.	Paula	Townsend				
Hon.	Christopher	Turner	Chairman, The Energy Council and	Louisiana House of Representatives	Ruston	LA
Mrs.	Nancy	Turner				
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Jeremy</b>	<b>Vanderloo</b>	<b>V.P., Business Operations and Strategy</b>	<b>Entergy Mississippi, L.L.C.</b>	<b>Jackson</b>	<b>MS</b>
Ms.	Isela	Vera	Chief of Staff	The Energy Council	Dallas	TX
Mr.	Juan	Vera				
Mr.	Hunter	Walters	Director, Government Relations	Cooperative Energy*	Hattiesburg	MS
Ms.	Karen	Ward	Director, Government & Public Affairs	Plains		
<b>Mr.</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Wells</b>	<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality</b>	<b>Jackson</b>	<b>MS</b>
Ms.	Danette	Welsh	Director, Government Relations	ONEOK, Inc.	Bismarck	ND
Ms.	Elizabeth	West				
Mr.	Taylor	Williams	Vice Presidet, External Affairs	PowerSouth Energy Cooperative	Montgomery	AL
Hon.	Ronald "Ron	Winterton	Senator	Utah Senate	Roosevelt	UT
Hon.	Mark	Wright	Representative	Louisiana House of Representatives	Covington	LA
Ms.	Michelle	Wynn	Deputy Secretary	Oklahoma Secretary of Energy & Envi.	Oklahoma City	OK
Mr.	Mance	Zachary	Sr. Director of Government Affairs	Vistra Corporation	Irving	TX

**Spkrs. in Bold**

\*Conference Sponsor

**Speaker Synopsis  
The Energy Council  
2025 Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference  
December 4-6, 2025  
Centennial Plaza  
Gulfport, Mississippi**

**Infrastructure Banks**

Mr. Clay Scofield  
President and CEO  
Energy Institute of Alabama

With the rise of artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing, the demands on our energy infrastructure will only continue to increase. How energy infrastructure banks can assist your state in partnering with electric providers and financial institutions to help speed up electrical infrastructure development for industrial projects.

**Grid Resiliency on the Gulf Coast**

Mr. Stephen C. Schruff, P.E.  
Transmission GM and Emergency Operations Manager  
Mississippi Power

Learning from previous catastrophic storm events, Mississippi Power has spent the last two decades making strategic investments in its power delivery system to increase reliability and resiliency for customers. The company continues its grid investment strategy as the state of Mississippi and the southeast region as a whole is in a period of unprecedented growth and development. Mississippi Power remains in a strong position to serve its customers through large load additions, extreme weather and storms.

**Energy Needs of Data Centers**

Mr. Jeremy Vanderloo  
Vice President, Business Operations and Strategy  
Entergy Mississippi, L.L.C.

Data center energy needs are highly uncertain, but electric utilities can take steps to both ensure their ability to serve data centers while also ensuring data centers benefit existing customers.

**Expansion of Natural Gas Transmission/Pipelines in North America**

Mr. Nick Hamilton  
Manager, Southeast Business Development and Marketing  
Enbridge

To discuss the Expansion of Natural Gas Transmission/Pipelines in North America to support the growing electric market. To educate how Enbridge is assisting the growing demand by building on our existing footprint and the challenges associated with these long-term investments.



## **The Legal War on Energy: What it Means for Energy Producing States**

Mr. David Morrell  
Partner  
Jones Day

Environmental activists have grown dissatisfied with the refusal of state and federal governments to prohibit fossil fuels and have instead turned to litigation to advance their policy objectives. State and local governments around the country have filed dozens of suits under state tort and consumer-protection laws, seeking billions in damages from U.S. energy companies for their alleged contribution to climate change. Their ultimate goal is to bankrupt the industry and decarbonize the economy. While many courts have rejected the plaintiffs' claims, even one successful case could significantly damage the industry, with serious consequences for oil-and-gas producing states, American consumers, and U.S. economic and national security.

Dr. Donald Kochan  
Professor of Law and Executive Director, Law & Economic Center  
Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University

There are growing efforts to use the courts and legislatures to impose creatively-structured and retroactive liabilities for past and future energy production based on alleged contributions to climate change. These are based on novel liability theories that lack legal basis and are not grounded in good law or economics. On the legislative front, the New York and Vermont so-called "climate superfund" laws lead the way. Bills like these have also sometimes been called "polluter pays" laws. This presentation will explain why neither label is accurate, and explain the problems with these legislative efforts. Issues to be addressed include: Due Process; Retroactive Liability and the Rule of Law; Federal Preemption; Dormant Commerce Clause; problems with Traceability, Causation, Allocability, and Attribution; and Energy Security, National Security, and Foreign Affairs, among others. Furthermore, the presentation will explain why claims that these bills are costless are based on bad economic analysis. Not only will energy prices go up harming consumers, shareholders will be directly negatively impacted.

### **Permitting Reform**

Mr. Chris Wells  
Executive Director  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Permitting streamlining efforts at the state and federal level.

### **The North American Electric Reliability Corporation's Role in Grid Reliability**

Mr. Mark Olson  
Manager of Reliability Assessments  
North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)

The electric power sector in North America faces a severe shortage of resources as electricity demand is skyrocketing from new data centers, industrial development, and electrification. NERC's annual long-term reliability assessment examines industry's projections in planned resources, generator retirements, and forecasted demand over the next 10 years and increasingly finds that resource adequacy is falling below reliability thresholds. Addressing the urgent need for more electricity supplies will require a diverse mix of resource additions that include natural gas-fired generators and supporting fuel infrastructure, and expeditious wind, solar, and battery resources along with electric transmission infrastructure.

## **Economic Implications of Energy Projects**

Ms. Heather Exner-Pirot  
Director of Energy, Natural Resources and Environment  
Macdonald Laurier Institute

While energy demand is surging, the nature of the industry changing, with important implications for employment and labour needs. Oil, natural gas and electricity are presenting disparate and evolving trendlines, and geopolitics are influencing global energy markets in meaningful ways. From a state/provincial perspective, how are flows in revenues, investment and job growth likely to change? What kinds of disruption or political tension can we anticipate from new or different energy infrastructure build out? This forward-looking presentation will evaluate different scenarios for risks and opportunities.

## **State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and the Limitations of the Clean Air Act**

Ms. Mandy Gunasekara  
Principal  
Section VII Strategies

The Clean Air Act's "cooperative federalism" assigns states the lead in achieving environmental goals through State Implementation Plans (SIPs). In line with President Trump's directives, Administrator Lee Zeldin has prioritized clearing the SIP backlog and strengthening state partnerships to advance EPA's mission of protecting public health and the environment. Even after a government shutdown, endless legal challenges, and numerous Reductions in Force, the agency is on track to review pending SIPs and improve the process altogether.

## **Market Mechanics in the Electric Generation Dispatch Process**

Mr. Jake Dubbs  
Lead Advisor, External Affairs and Tribal Relations  
Southwest Power Pool

Organized wholesale markets that serve to simplify the buying and selling of electric power have evolved immensely over the past decade. Markets reduce barriers to solving generation challenges and simultaneously improve access to a more diverse array of resources.