

Meeting Minutes

April 21 – 22, 2026

GWAC Face to Face meeting

Hosted by Schneider Electric, Franklin, TN

Day 1, April 21

GWAC Members

Shawn Chander, GWAC Vice Chair, Executive Vice President, QGEMS Energy*

Ron Ambrosio, Independent Energy Transformation Professional*

Kay Aikin, Founder, CPO, Dynamic Grid/Introspective Systems

Mark Costa, Dir. Policy Planning, The Energy Coalition*

David Forfia, Principal Consultant, Utilicast*

Matt McDonnell, Current Energy Group, Managing Partner

Farrokh Rahimi, Executive Vice President, Open Access Technology International, Inc.

Mark Ortiz, Sr. Director & Chief Architect, Power & Grid, Schneider Electric*

Aaron Snyder, Dir. of Grid Technology Consulting, EnerNex*

GWAC Associates & Emeritus

Mark Knight, Emeritus

Leonard Tillman, Emeritus*

Lorenzo Kristov, Emeritus

Ken Wacks, Emeritus

GWAC Friends

Ben Ealey, EPRI*

Alaa Mahjoub, Independent Digital Business Advisor

Bruce Nordman, LBNL

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Chirath Pathiravasam

Ken Wacks, Emeritus

James Orenstein, Trinity River community Solar

Hayden Reeve, PNNL

Nicholas Domich, PG&E

David Wollman, Consultant

PNNL Support

Jaime Kolln, PNNL GWAC Administrator*

Grace Borland, PNNL, TSP Financial Coordinator

Susie McGuire, PNNL GWAC Coordinator

Vanessa Whitten, PNNL Protocol & Events

GWAC Vice Chair, Shawn Chandler gave an intro to the group focusing on the accomplishments of the GWAC.

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GRIDWISE Architecture Council

Welcome To the GridWise Architecture Council Meeting

Tuesday April 21, 2026 – Thursday April 23, 2026

GRIDWISE Architecture Council

Agenda

Call to Order and Roll Call

- Welcome

Opening Remarks

- Shawn Chandler
- Mark Ortiz

Schneider Electric Presentation

- Mark Ortiz

GWAC Administrative Business

- Minutes
- Upcoming events
- GWAC Accomplishments
- Action Items

Guest Speaker - Mark Costa, GWAC

Guest Speaker - Jaime Kolln, PNNL

Lunch Break – 11:30AM - 12:30PM

GWAC Future Topics

- Mark Ortiz
- Kay Aikin

Next Steps: Work Products Discussion

GWAC Workshop Readiness

GWAC Symposium Planning Setup

DAY 2

9AM Kickoff

- Shawn Chandler
- Jaime Kolln

Schneider Electric Presentation

- Mark Ortiz

Symposium Planning

- Audience/Topics
- Agenda
- Vanessa – support needs

Lunch Break 12:15PM – 1:15PM

Symposium Planning Continued

- Keynote
- Guest Speakers
- Partner Strategies
- Sponsorships

Next Steps: Symposium Assignments

Jamie Kolln reviewed the agenda for the Face to Face meeting and then introduced Mark Ortiz, meeting host who presented an overview of Schneider Electric.

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Our Host

Mark Ortiz, Schneider Electric, Sr. Director and Chief Architect Power & Grid



Opening Remarks

Mark is the lead architect for distributed energy systems at Schneider Electric. In this role, he leads the development of architectural and integration strategies for solutions, applications and data architectures associated with distributed energy platforms. Prior to his current role, Mark was the Grid Modernization Manager for Consumers Energy, a large electric and gas utility based in Michigan where he was responsible for several large Grid Modernization initiatives that included roadmap development, R&D demonstrations and deployment of grid management systems and distribution grid technologies. He also worked at a grid management data intelligence platform company and a system integration consulting company.



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Advancing energy
technology for a
sustainable future



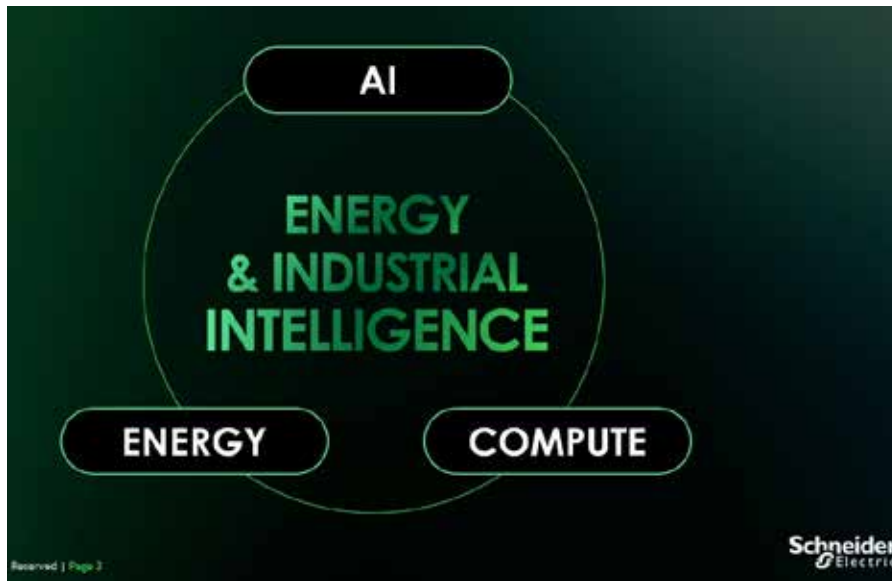
Mark was involved with GWAC as far back as 2008. He also was involved with SGIP.

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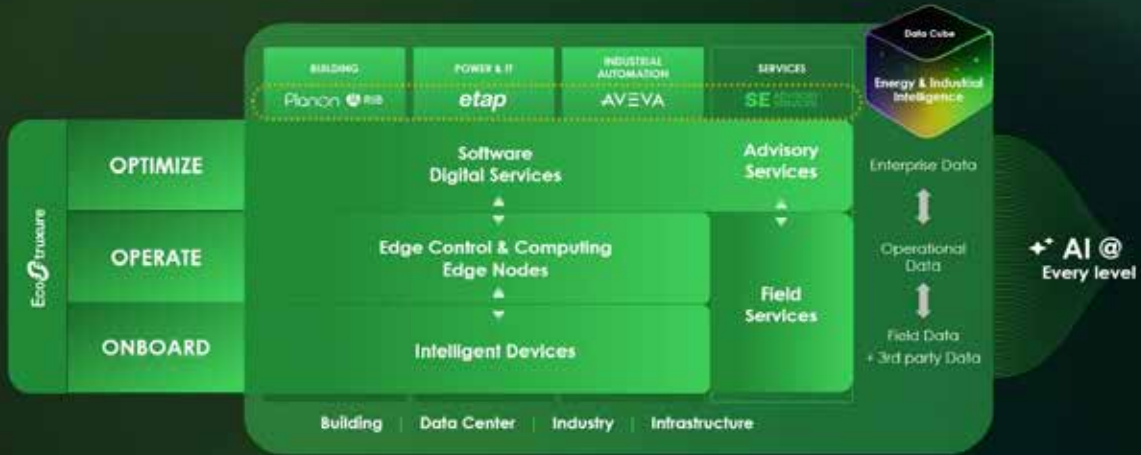
Schneider has 3 main pillars:



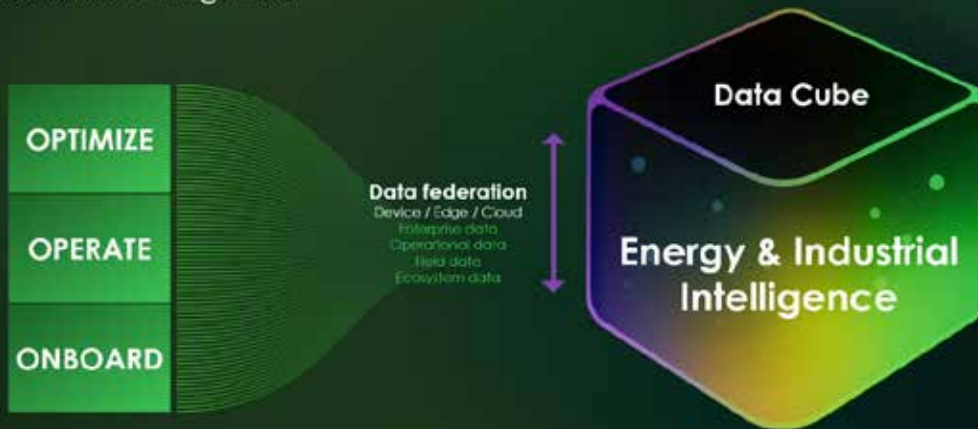
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EcoStruxure: Schneider Electric's AI-powered, software-defined platform creating energy and industrial intelligence



Data Cube providing the data ecosystem to deliver Energy & Industrial Intelligence



Mark started around 7:10 PST, and by 7:30am they started asking question.

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Conferences and Events



Date	Event	Location	Attend	Speaker	Topic/Notes
Apr. 28-30, 2026	V2G Forum	Los Angeles, CA	Jaime Kolln, James Mater		
May 4-7, 2026	IEEE PES T&D	Chicago, IL	Aaron Synder, Jaime Kolln, Yashar Kenarangui		Power Reliability Eng. Resilience
June 2-4, 2026	Energy Storage Safety and Reliability Forum	Albuquerque, NM	Jaime Kolln		
July 19-23, 2026	IEEE PES General Meeting	Montreal, Canada	Farrokh Rahimi,		Powering the Digital Era
July 19-22, 2026	NARUC Summer Policy Summit	Minneapolis, MN	Shawn, Kay	July 19-22, 2026	NARUC Summer Policy Summit
Aug. 12-13, 2026	RE+ Mid-Atlantic 2026	Philadelphia, PA	Jaime Kolln, Jeremy Roberts, Kay, Ron B.		
Sep. 1-4, 2026	Middle East Energy Leadership Summit	Abu Dhabi, UAE	Ron Bernstein	Ron Bernstein	Panel participant-Digital Strategies for Corp. Transformation
Sept. 1-3, 2026	T & D World	Orlando, FL			
Nov. 8-11, 2026	NARUC Annual Meeting & Education Conf	Puerto Rico			
Nov. 16-19, 2026	RE+	Las Vegas, NV			Renewing What's Possible
Nov. 19-21, 2026	Decentralized Energy Canada	Banff, Alberta	Kay Aikin	Kay Aikin	
Jan. 6 - 9, 2027	Consumer Technology Assoc.	Philadelphia, PA			
Jan. 25 – 27, 2027	AHR	Chicago			NRECA is a host
Feb. 14 – 17, 2027	Tech Advantage 2027/Power XChange	San Diego, CA			
Mar. 1-4, 2027	DTECH	Atlanta, GA	Aaron Snyder		

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Jaime Kolln noted that there will be a follow-on meeting to the V2G Forum in Los Angeles; it will be held in Detroit, Michigan in October 2026. There will be a 2030.5 Demo. It's a partnership with DTE.

Ken Wacks noted that he will be speaking at the Connections Conference in Santa Clara CA May 5 – 7, 2026. He will lead a discussion on Key Performance Indicators for AI-based Systems.

Matt McDonnell noted that he will be attending NARUC Summer meeting and NARUC WEST Albuquerque meeting.

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Action Items

- Send speaker ideas to Jaime Kolln and Ron Bernstein and copy Susie McGuire.
- Shawn Chandler hosted a GWAC meeting inspired by the elimination of Energy Star. Planning a kickoff meeting to a new meeting series. It will focus on the impact of energy efficiency.
- Kay Aikin, Aaron Synder and Ron Ambrosio participating. Shawn is looking for a few additional participants, please contact Shawn if interested. Plan to kick-off in Q3/26.
- GWAC to present at conferences. Participants? Which events?
- Action: Ron Ambrosio will lead a webinar for Back from the Future (Paterson/Aikin)
 - Ron A has presented it twice at student chapter meetings.
 - Update based on publication – Ron A and Rahul
- NARUC did not select GWAC Abstract – over 250 submissions.
- In Person Workshop - talking with Seemita Pal about a possible meeting in Portland, OR
 - Timing? Participant? Alternate location?

Shawn Chandler noted the new work group that he is planning will be focused on energy efficiency, particularly with regard to the electric grid.

Jaime said they will talk more about it this afternoon in the future work products discussions.

Kay Aikin gave a brief update on the Future Back paper and noted that the cartoon on the draft will be replaced with one that is original.

Jaime said he recently spoke with Seemita Pal at PGE about hosting a GWAC meeting in the Portland, Oregon area. The date is still uncertain.

Jaime asked GWAC for suggestions for other potential regional workshops.

David Wollman noted an article in Physics Today about NIST's new limits on Foreign Guest Researchers. This change could have an impact on postdoc positions. The new limits may not allow enough time for researchers to complete their studies in the US.

Farrokh Rahimi noted that the IEEE PES Grid Edge meeting will feature a panel on the blockchain technical community. The Blockchain technical group has moved to the 2.0 version, and the group is responsible for their own revenues and expenses.

Ken Wacks noted that the ISO/IEC has two weeks of virtual meetings coming up starting May 19 which will run into the next week and possibly into June if needed. A safety framework guideline and control document has been approved. It was published two weeks ago as an international standard.

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There is another standard that will be out soon focused on electric vehicles, chargers, and controls. Also, there is a similar standard also about to be published. When they were in Japan in 2024, they saw a demo on this and now it is being implemented. Both standards began in Japan and are being published internationally probably in June.

Ken commented on a new standard from CTA –R7.8 which is developed from the 3rd generation modular generation interface (MCI) standard. It is mandated for water heaters in WA and OR. They have already published a guide for implementing the 2nd generation of the standard. ANSI CTA – 2045 versions B is now out in the field.

IREC – Ken Wacks said there have been no meetings recently for Customer Grid Edge. DOE has cut grants and so there is less funding.

Ron Ambrosio – SEPA: There will be a meeting in Washington DC in two weeks and a research advisory council meeting. He is on one of the working groups.

Matt McDonnell mentioned the NARUC Summery Policy Summit to be held in Minneapolis in July and other regional NARUC meetings. He also mentioned a NARUC West meeting to be held in Albuquerque.

Shawn Chandler has been attending Gridwise alliance meetings. They have been supporting the rate payer protection pledge. The current administration is pushing hyperscalers to bring their own resources to connect to the grid. However, in some cases that is against state laws. So, this can be a state issue. Regulators need to figure out how to enact the pledge if contrary to state law.

Another piece of legislation on their topics of discussion is the Energy Bills Relief Act. Shawn has a copy. It repeals many administration actions to stop low-cost renewable power.

Intermission break

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Guest Speaker

Marc Costa, Director of Policy & Planning, the Energy Coalition

Recent Publication

Marc has more than ten years of experience in the building industry focusing on areas ranging from advanced energy community planning, to federal energy data standards and software development, to state and local government energy policy. Marc is a board member of the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC), a Policy Advisory Committee member of the California Technical Forum, and an Advisory Board member of the Decarbonization Coalition. He has been an advisor to the CEC on AB 802 data regulations and machine learning GIS data efforts, a member of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Task Force to create and implement data exchange standards, and was on the triennial DOE Solar Energy Technology Office investment proposal review team to award National Research Laboratories 2018-2020 funding. He holds a B.S. in Management Science from UCSD, a B.S. in Construction Engineering from CSULB, and is a LEED AP, CGBP, and BOC Level II.



THE ENERGY COALITION

GridWise Architecture Council

Prosumer Networks in Disadvantaged Communities

Lessons from a Real-World Transactive Energy Simulation in Bassett–Avocado Heights, Los Angeles County

9.04%

Avg. bill savings simulated across 11 prosumer homes

11

Prosumer homes in a disadvantaged community

Marc Costa | The Energy Coalition

GridWise Architecture Council | April 21, 2026

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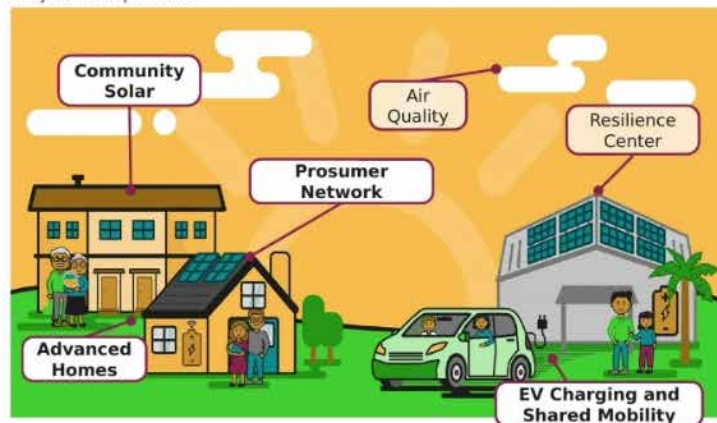
Bassett Avocado Heights Advanced Energy Community (BAAEC)

Aug 2020 -
June 2026

A team of local nonprofits, community organizations, and energy technology leaders bringing equity to the clean energy transition of low-income and disadvantaged communities



Project Components



Source: TEC BAAEC Symposium Slides, Feb 2026 | Original team design — reused

Working definition

Prosumer Network:

A downscaled version of the CAISO open access transmission network: one that allows prosumers to transact energy in new distribution system operator day-ahead futures markets, using dynamic pricing tariffs to reflect customer and local grid needs simultaneously

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Prosumer Network Context

- BAAEC Prosumers: 11 homes with DERs, EE, weatherization and electrification measures
- Transactive energy and prosumer networks had few examples world-wide
- Researched and engaged international experts
 - International Energy Agency
 - GridWise Architecture Council
 - California Dynamic Rate Pilots
 - EU and South America Pilots
- A single solution did not exist in one firm
- Equity focused pilots were even less common



Key Takeaways

- 01** Conceptual feasibility proven: 9.04% avg. bill savings (every home except one) demonstrates prosumer market value is real, even for low-income households.
- 02** The four data barriers (device APIs, utility data, tariff design, grid data) are solvable — but require coordinated regulatory and standards action, not project-level workarounds.
- 03** Distribution voltages below ANSI standards (112V observed vs. 114V floor) were found in this DAC — an invisible problem that interoperability data standards could help surface and address.
- 04** Equity requires intentional design: disadvantaged communities face additional friction at every layer — legacy housing, limited device access, participant fatigue. Standards must account for this.
- 05** California needs a DSO market framework. GridWise members are uniquely positioned to define the architecture that makes community-scale transactive energy markets possible.

Break

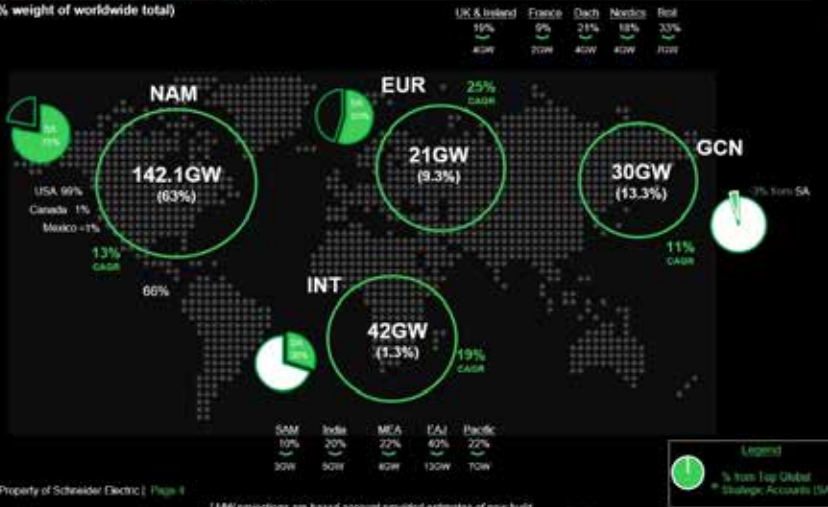
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Market continues to be strong.

Market growth & total market estimates continue to be upgraded

Incremental Growth ~225GW¹ '24-'30
(% weight of worldwide total)



- AI workloads are being implemented in NAM first
- Need to learn lessons globally based on durability of NAM demand
 - Long contemplated projects expected to begin moving in Europe, e.g. Nordics, Portugal, etc.
 - Growth in many zones in EAJ / International driven by local players
 - Many new players not even contemplated in these growth figures

GWAC Face to Face meeting Hosted by Schneider Electric, Franklin, TN Day 2, April 22

In person attendees: Mark Ortiz, Jaime Kolln, Aaron Snyder David Forfia, Shawn Chandler, Matt McDonnell, Ron Ambrosio

Online

Kay Aikin

Peter Fitzgerald

Mark Knight

Susie McGuire

Farrokh Rahimi


Vanessa Whitten

Ken Wacks

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Symposium Discussion

Topics	Track Type	Track Number	Issues	Track Lead	Story	Workshop Objective	Influence/Target Audience	Notes
Systems Thinking for ()								
Interoperability								
Bridging Back From the Future								
Consumer Driven Innovation								
					Increased Demand + Disruptive Infrastructure			
Interoperability	Technical, Policy and regulatory	7/8	cross-sector implications, new future energy landscape, how to get there, building back approach	Aaron, Shawn	New (Future) Energy Landscape, how to get there, building back approach Issues to get there: problems; risks		Engage - Young Engineers, University, IEEE Student, Young Professional	TE
Transactive Energy			Infrastructure				Policy - Entry Level	
Future Grid State	Technical, Policy and regulatory	3	Cost	Kay/Marc Costa	Here is a framework to follow			Consumer Advocate
New Energy Landscape	Policy and regulatory	5	Energy Transition, Increased Demand + Disruptive, Supply Chain, Infrastructure	Ron Cl, Andrew		Use OWAC tools/methodologies		Commissions + Staff, NAC/CEO
3D Future	Policy and regulatory	1	Workforce Gap (Skillsets), regulatory policy, interconnection and coordination, AI, situational awareness	David F, Xahar				Training
Operations	Technical	4		Farooq, Matt				IEEE PES, TE
Grid Architecture	Technical	2		Ron A *David Fortia				TechAdvantage
Digital Twins	Technical	6	System modeling, dataset creation and analytics, AI	Mark Ortiz, Andrew			Technology Providers End Users (beneficiary)	ASHRAE Utility Building P&L Planning

Jaime said key sessions tied to workshops would be Interoperability, Bridging Back and Customer Driven Information.

3D future energy transition was put forward and Jaime asked for a definition and the group agreed it was 3D with AI. However, Jaime said energy transition seems similar to bridging and would fit in the Bridging Back session.

But the group also thought that Bridging Back could fit under Systems Thinking as a high level technical topic.

It was suggested that Bridging Back is more technical and systems thinking is more about regulatory policy.

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	9-Mar-27	10-Mar	11-Mar
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Council meeting	GROUP SESSION Day 1 Keynote	GROUP SESSION Day 2 Keynote
	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
	Optional pre-conference tutorial	3 Ds Future Grid Architecture	New Energy Landscape Digital Twins
	3-4 hours additional cost	Session 1 Session 3	Session 9 Session 11
		Session 2 Session 4	Session 10 Session 12
12:00		BREAK Lunch/Sponsor Keynote	BREAK Lunch/Sponsor Keynote
		Future Grid State Operations	Interoperability Interoperability
		Session 5 Session 7	Session 13 ↕ Session 14
		Session 6 Session 8	
		GROUP SESSION Report Out	GROUP SESSION: Report Out CALL TO ACTION
5:00		NETWORKING RECEPTION	END

Jaime said he would like the lunch hour to be a chance to network with colleagues.

The sessions will be tied to workshops – will they tie to work products or to a more technical topic perhaps related to Guest Speakers.

Systems Thinking

They discussed key topics -

- Interoperability
- Bridging Back (applied grid architecture)
- Systems thinking
- Energy transition – this would fit under bridging back

Kay asked them to be careful of parallel talks - putting things like technical and high level competing at the same time because some will want to attend all the most technical talks.

Kay thinks Bridging Back and Systems Thinking are two topics that should not be held at the same time.

Shawn suggested people are hoping to hear “what does this mean to me” so they can apply it to their needs. It’s hard for people to chart their interests. People want to hear what they can apply.

Jaime wants to focus on what is the future of the industry.

The group reviewed what should be discussed in the Fireside Chat, which will be the final session on March 10.

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The group discussed the Symposium agenda and time allocations.

Regarding the fireside chat, Jaime said he sees this as more of a session with the community talking about issues that were addressed in the sessions.

There was some discussion about sponsorship for sessions and various levels of sponsor support. Four levels of sponsorship was agreed on.

Vanessa Whitten asked about recording and Jaime said they would like to record the sessions if possible or at least have the slide deck for posting. This will be a topic for discussion at the University of Utah call.

Shawn Chandler questioned if a registration will discourage people from attending.

Jaime replied that without a registration people will sign up and then not show up without having made an investment. But he noted that the event will need sponsors to cover or supplement the food and beverage cost. He said that the registration should at least cover the audio visual service costs.

Final

Last Updated 4/22/2026

9-Mar-27	10-Mar	11-Mar	Symposium Overview
	8:30 GROUP SESSION Day 1 Keynote	8:30 GROUP SESSION Day 2 Keynote	Tracks 6
9:00 Council meeting	9:30 BREAK	9:30 BREAK	Sessions 11
	9:45 Bridging Back Systems Thinking	9:45 Coordination Governance	Group Sessions 3
	10:45 P1: Ron A., David F. P2: Lorenzo, Matt	10:45 P3: Mark, Jaime P4: Kay, Marc C.	Keynotes 2
12:00 BREAK	10:45 Workshop 1 Workshop2	10:45 Workshop 3 Workshop 4	Sponsors Tracks - 8
1:00 Optional pre-conference tutorial 3-4 hours additional cost	12:00 BREAK Lunch/Sponsor Customer Driven Innovation	12:00 BREAK Lunch/Sponsor Cross-sector Dependencies	Lunch - 2
	1:00 GS1: Ron B., Shawn, Ron Ch.	1:00 GS3: Shawn, Aaron	Reception - 4
	2:30 BREAK	2:30 Closing Remarks (Ron B.) CALL TO ACTION	
	2:45 GS2: Andy, Yashar, Farrokh	3:30 END	Work Products
	4:30 Closing remarks (Shawn)		Bridging Back
	5:00 NETWORKING RECEPTION		Systems Thinking
			New Work Product
			Governance
			Cross-sector Dependencies
			Coordination

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Chat:

David Forfia  8:08 AM

DF from my antropic marketing department:

Edge of the Grid: Aligning Transmission-Era Policy with a Customer-Centered Energy System

Beyond the Substation: Building Policy and Regulatory Structures for the Customer-Driven Grid

Two Grids, One System: Bridging the Operational and Policy Divide Between Bulk Power and the Distribution Edge

Coordination at the Seams: Operational and Policy Challenges Where Bulk Power Meets the Distributed Energy Frontier"

Kay Aikin  8:11 AM



Inverting the Pyramid: How Customer and Distribution Resources Are Forcing a Rethink of Energy Regulation and Planning

The New Utility Compact: Renegotiating the Policy and Operational Relationship Between Utilities, Regulators, and Energy Customers

Signal and Noise: Operational Coordination Challenges in a Grid Where Everyone Is a Resource

Whose Grid Is It? Untangling Jurisdictional and Operational Responsibility in the Age of Distributed Energy



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