



# Strategies

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## Letter from the Chair



**Carol White, AESP Chair**

### Energy Efficiency – the Evolution Continues

Energy efficiency efforts continue to gain traction as a credible and cost-effective way to stimulate the economy and mitigate the effects of climate change. Additionally, energy efficiency serves as a means to reduce our reliance on imported fuels which contributes to improving our national security. Our collective efforts deliver benefits in new areas throughout the U.S. and even beyond our borders, but we need to know that the potential benefits are fully realized. Moving forward, how can we ensure that we are receiving the best possible outcome from our efforts?

We, as energy professionals, have the unique ability to help consumers adopt meaningful energy efficient measures and practices as well as renewable energy technologies and other distributed resources. All of us support these endeavors in a variety of ways. Some of us conduct market research, or design and implement programs. Others perform program evaluations and report the results. Some raise awareness and distribute practical information. However, are we doing all we can for consumers when we limit our focus on energy efficiency to a single fuel? Are we hindering our ability to obtain even better results if we promote renewable energy technologies without first exploiting energy efficiency investment opportunities? I submit that we can do more. I challenge all of you to help maximize our coordinated efforts. This means that electric and gas program administrators need to integrate their efforts along with the efforts of renewable energy and distributed resource providers. It also means that we need to get smarter about how we market these services. Integrated efforts will require policy innovations and, in some cases, shifts in an organization's culture. As these combined efforts continue to emerge and garner more recognition, consumers and the energy industry will reap significant savings in terms of energy and costs.

AESP provides you with valuable tools to help in this evolution. For example, AESP's [Topic Committees](#) and [Local Chapters](#) offer an extensive network of professionals with whom you can partner and learn. The possibilities of connecting with your peers and sharing your expertise are endless. Perhaps even more intriguing is that you have the opportunity to help shape the industry as it continues to evolve. I encourage all of you to become actively involved in one or more [Topic Committees](#) and in a [Local Chapter](#). I promise your participation will be meaningful and rewarding as we all forge ahead in this remarkable evolution.

## Headlines

### Stimulus News

"Austin Seeks a New Blueprint for Power Utilities"  
"Ohio Power Utilities Test Futuristic Technologies"

## May 2010

Please email feedback on Strategies to [kisha@aesp.org](mailto:kisha@aesp.org)

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### Upcoming Events

#### Brown Bags

*May 20, 2010*  
Making Energy Efficiency Affordable: New Strategies Targeting the Rental Market

*May 27, 2010*  
California's Demand Response Portfolio—Overview of Findings from the Most Recent Load Impact Evaluations

*June 17, 2010*  
California's Self-Generation Incentive Program

If you would like to organize a Brown Bag, please contact Kisha Gresham at [kisha@aesp.org](mailto:kisha@aesp.org).

### AESP Training Courses

If you would like to schedule an onsite training please contact Suzanne Jones at (480) 704-5900 or [suzanne@aesp.org](mailto:suzanne@aesp.org). For more information about the AESP Institute, [click here](#).

### Conferences

*October 4-6, 2010*

AESP's Fall Conference: Bridging the "Gap" between Demand Response and Energy Efficiency Programs:

## Industry News

"Lawmakers, Obama Administration Seek To Boost Energy Efficiency"  
"Study Sees Jobs If Tennessee Cuts Energy Demand"  
"Financing Offered for Saving Energy"  
"A 'Smart' Electrical Grid Could Secure the Energy Supply"  
"NM Regulators Approve Energy Efficiency Rule"  
"U.S. Utilities Increase Energy Efficiency Programs 43 Percent to \$5.3B"  
"A Quantum Leap for Lighting"  
"Energy Loan Programs in State Help Spread Out Costs"  
"Utilities Offer Free Upgrades"

## AESP News

Featured Article  
Updates from Local Chapters, Topic Committees and Members  
AESP Welcomes...  
News Releases and Announcements

## Stimulus News

*The following executive summaries of current news items were written for Strategies after being compiled from various news sources.*

### Austin Seeks a New Blueprint for Power Utilities

The Pecan Street Project, a planned community in Austin, Texas' Mueller neighborhood financed by a \$10.4 million Smart Grid grant from the Department of Energy, will test whether Austin Energy - the municipal utility for the city - can survive a fundamental operational shift. Instead of catering to the power industry's historic goal of selling an ever-increasing supply of electrons, Austin Energy will experiment with an unprecedented business model that promotes energy conservation and efficiency while still maximizing profit. As they follow through with their plans, Austin officials believe they are fabricating a blueprint for the country in how green energy development can be implemented. "Technologies are developing that are starting to integrate the major energy systems of utilities, buildings, the transportation sector and communications," says Roger Duncan, former Austin Energy general manager and current board president of the Pecan Street Project, a diverse nonprofit consortium of green energy advocates. "That's going to fundamentally change the way people generate, use and think about energy. There are a lot of elements of this project dealing with that bigger picture."

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From "Austin Seeks a New Blueprint for Power Utilities"  
*New York Times (04/07/10) Behr, Peter*

### Ohio Power Utilities Test Futuristic Technologies

With the advent of technologies such as plug-in hybrid cars and wind farms, power companies will need to move away from their old electric grids to new, information technology-based "smart grids." Testing on such smart grids — which are more capable of handling the strain caused by thousands of plug-in hybrid vehicles being recharged every night and the sudden bursts of electricity created by wind farms — already has begun, thanks to \$3.5 billion in grants from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Among the electric companies that are testing smart grid technology is Ohio's FirstEnergy. With the help of a \$57 million grant from the DOE, FirstEnergy is launching a pilot project to test smart meters (which provide more detail about customers' energy usage and send that information back to the utility) in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Meanwhile, American Electric Power, which also is based in Ohio, is using a \$75 million grant from DOE to conduct a demonstration of the smart meters in 110,000 homes in the Columbus area. In addition, the project will involve the use of "smart appliances" and battery storage packs deployed throughout

Technologies, and the  
Smart Grid  
Portland, OR

January 17-21, 2011  
AESP's 21st National  
Conference & Expo  
Orlando, FL

May 16-19, 2011  
AESP's Spring Conference:  
Program Implementation and  
Marketing  
Atlanta, GA

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AESP is a member-based association dedicated to improving the delivery and implementation of energy efficiency, energy management and distributed renewable resources. AESP provides professional development programs, a network of energy practitioners, and promotes the transfer of knowledge and experience.

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### Editorial Staff

Meg Matt, President & CEO

Carol White, Board Chair

Katherine Johnson, Vice Chair,  
Publications

### Editorial Committee

Tracy Narel, Board Member

neighborhoods to prevent homes from losing power in the event of an outage. However, it could be difficult to get consumers to buy into using the smart grid system since they will likely not be able to understand how it works at first. One way to convince consumers to use the technology is to provide them with electronic coupons in exchange for their participation, says Booz and Co. analyst Christian Grant.

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From "Ohio Power Utilities Test Futuristic Technologies"  
*Cleveland Plain Dealer (OH) (04/07/10) Funk, John*

## Industry News

*The following executive summaries of current news items were written for Strategies after being compiled from various news sources.*

### Lawmakers, Obama Administration Seek To Boost Energy Efficiency

The Obama administration and members of Congress are attempting to increase building and appliance energy efficiency as part of an effort to curb greenhouse gas emissions and stimulate a low carbon economy. Democratic members of the House of Representatives have unveiled legislation for more than \$6 billion in rebates for efficiency investments. The "Home Star" program would offer rebates up to \$3,000 for investments into building improvements such as insulation, window sealing, and more efficient water heaters, and additional rebates for higher energy savings. Supporters of the bill say it would create 170,000 jobs and save families nearly \$10 billion in energy bills, not including the cost of investments. Meanwhile, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have announced changes to make the "Energy Star" efficiency certification process more stringent. The EPA says companies seeking to certify their appliances, computers, and other electric products under the "Energy Star" program would have to submit lab reports for review.

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From "Lawmakers, Obama Administration Seek To Boost Energy Efficiency"  
*Dow Jones Newswires (04/14/10) Talley, Ian*

### Study Sees Jobs If Tennessee Cuts Energy Demand

A study co-authored by Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) board appointee Marilyn Brown shows that lowering Tennessee's expected 15 percent increase in residential, commercial, and industrial power demand in the next 20 years can produce 21,500 jobs. The profile of the state shows that the region has high residential demand compared to other states. Stricter building codes, improved appliance standards, and spreading the Weatherization Assistance Program are included in the energy saving policies. Boosting the energy savings features in commercial buildings, plant utility upgrades, and improving combined heat and power standards also are on the list. The Tennessee Valley has had below average power costs in the past, and has not needed customers to become energy efficient. However, that is going to change because of population growth and demand. The report states that existing energy demand can be lowered by about 6 percent by 2020, and by about 12 percent in 2030, which is equal to seven power plants. Boosting energy efficiency also would create 15,600 jobs by 2020 and an additional 5,900 jobs by 2030. "It is really important to look at the number of jobs," says Clean Energy Economy co-founder Susan Richardson Williams. "Look at what a clean energy economy can do for Tennessee."

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From "Study Sees Jobs If Tennessee Cuts Energy Demand"  
*Associated Press (04/13/10) Poovey, Bill*

Elizabeth Titus, Board Member

Sara Van de Grift, Board Member

Kisha Gresham,  
Strategies Managing Editor

## Financing Offered for Saving Energy

The GreenFinanceSF program, just launched in San Francisco, is one of the largest and most ambitious home retrofit and alternative energy efforts in the nation. The \$150 million, privately funded program enables San Francisco property owners to have money-saving energy efficiency measures installed in their homes and businesses. The costs, which will be attached to property tax bills, are payable over 10 to 20 years. San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom says the program "will save property owners money on monthly utility bills, increase property value, and will help the city meet its aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals." Renewable Funding LLC, an Oakland company that works in partnership with other financial firms to raise money for the clean energy programs primarily through bond measures. "This is an opportunity to do something transformative," says company president Cisco De-Vries. "It can set the model for green retrofits all over the country."

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From "Financing Offered for Saving Energy"  
*San Francisco Chronicle (04/08/10) Ross, Andrew*

## A 'Smart' Electrical Grid Could Secure the Energy Supply

The power grid in the United States has become dangerously antiquated over the past few decades, and aging technology means colossal inefficiency. As part of the economic stimulus package, the Obama administration has pledged \$3.4 billion toward "smart grid" technology - the next generation of infrastructure, meant to stabilize the grid in the event of a failure, incorporate green technology, and vastly improve efficiency. However, bringing the entire national grid up to speed could take decades and cost upwards of \$100 billion. Two-way movement of power is critical to a smart grid, enabling homes equipped with solar panels or wind turbines to be able to push power into the grid as well. "In the more distant future, smart power grids may be able to coordinate the use of electricity in the home - for instance, turning on an appliance like a washing machine at a time of day when there is ample power on the grid and electrical prices are low," says Massoud Amin, an electrical engineering professor at the University of Minnesota. Increasing the public's knowledge on energy efficiency is as critical as smartening the grid itself. Individual smart meters that replace the traditional power meters installed on homes can show consumers how much power their home is using at given times of the day and how much that power is costing. Policymakers and utilities are hoping that giving people the true costs of their electric appliance use will naturally change their behavior and give them an incentive to make cheaper choices.

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From "A 'Smart' Electrical Grid Could Secure the Energy Supply"  
*U.S. News & World Report (04/10) Kingsbury, Alex*

## NM Regulators Approve Energy Efficiency Rule

The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission has approved a new rule that gives utilities incentives to urge their customers to conserve through energy efficiency programs. New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and environmentalists support the program because it will lower the number of power plants that need to be built, as well as provide utilities with the ability to offer rebates and incentives to energy saving customers. Proponents argue that the rule is necessary in order to push utilities to promote energy efficient appliances and other measures because energy companies are afraid these incentives would lower demand for energy. "New Mexico now joins the group of states that sees the inherent disconnect between a utility profiting from energy sales and simultaneously encouraging its customers to use less energy," says Don Brown with the Public Service Company of New Mexico. "What this begins to do is reward utilities for aggressively pushing energy efficiency." California, New York, and other states have tried to address the disincentives that utilities face in promoting energy efficiency. Many do it through a process known as "decoupling," which allows utilities to separate sales of electricity or natural gas from the revenues needed to maintain distribution systems. The new rule in New Mexico will allow utilities to recover lost fixed costs through a rate increase. An implementation plan

will be submitted in June, and if it is approved, about 52 cents would be added to residential energy bills. Experts estimate that efficiency programs could save over \$400 million in customer savings and almost 2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions over the next two decades.

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From "NM Regulators Approve Energy Efficiency Rule"  
*Associated Press (04/14/10) Bryan, Susan Montoya*

### **U.S. Utilities Increase Energy Efficiency Programs 43 Percent to \$5.3B**

The nonprofit Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) reports that U.S. utilities spent 43 percent more on energy efficiency programs in 2009 than the previous year. U.S. businesses received a portion of the \$5.3 billion dedicated to utility energy efficiency programs, including \$4.4 billion for electric energy efficiency programs, which is a 38 percent increase from the previous year, and \$930 million for natural gas programs, a 79 percent increase. In 2008, CEE member efficiency programs saved about 93,000 GWh of electricity, and more than 343 million therms of gas, according to the report, which prevented the production of more than 55 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. The "2009 CEE Annual Report and Efficiency Program Report" finds that in 2008, carbon dioxide emissions prevented were equal to the annual emissions of almost 12 coal-fired power plants, and that electric energy savings were equal to the electricity needed to power 7.4 million homes for a year. Utility energy efficiency programs also grew geographically, to 46 states, up from 37 states in 2008. Bloomberg New Energy Finance reports that energy efficiency programs will control U.S. greenhouse gas emissions over the next 20 years, but long-term costs have been underestimated, and more aggressive policies will be needed to drive energy technology improvements and lower long-term abatement costs. An ACEEE report states that implementing energy efficiency programs are cheaper for utilities and their customers than adding new sources of electricity.

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From "U.S. Utilities Increase Energy Efficiency Programs 43 Percent to \$5.3B"  
*Environmental Leader (03/25/10)*

### **A Quantum Leap for Lighting**

Many people are replacing incandescent bulbs with compact florescent (CFL) bulbs, which require less energy. However, CFLs may soon be replaced by light emitting diodes (LEDs), which are even more energy efficient and can instantly be at full brightness, unlike CFLs. LED supporters say that the technology is versatile enough to work in any situation, ranging from large-scale stadium lighting to the small lights used in phones. Even more impressive is the fact that another lighting technology beyond LEDs is on the horizon, offering even greater power efficiency, softer, warmer light and precision color control. The technology uses quantum dots, tiny crystals of semiconducting material only a few nanometers, or billionths of a meter, in size. Quantum-dot lighting allows the color of the light to be precisely controlled. The first quantum dot products can produce warm, white light from blue LEDs, which are the brightest, most energy efficient light. By attaching a film embedded with quantum dots of different sizes in carefully chosen ratios, QD Vision and Nexxus Lighting were able to take blue light LEDs, which project less red light than natural light and look cold, and emit light in a range of colors that combine to form white light. Quantum-dots also can be used in displays by arranging quantum dots capable of emitting light themselves in a grid-like pattern of red, green and blue light. In comparison, LCD displays filter light from a backlight through colored filters and liquid-crystal shutters, with only 10 percent to 20 percent of light passing through the display. An "emissive" display that emits light directly could be five to ten times more energy efficient.

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From "A Quantum Leap for Lighting"  
*Economist Technology Quarterly (03/10)*

## Energy Loan Programs in State Help Spread Out Costs

Financing movements for renewable energy and conservation are becoming more popular in Wisconsin, as city officials and utilities push residents to be more energy efficient. Milwaukee has developed a new solar loan program that will provide revolving loans that homeowners can repay on their property taxes. The city will provide \$135,000 for the initial loans to Milwaukee Shines, the city's solar project. Qualified residents will receive loans between \$5,000 and \$20,000 with an interest rate of 5.25 percent, which is two percentage points higher than the prime rate. "The big barrier to entry for people has been the significant upfront cost, and that's the strongest part of this package," says Alderman Tony Zielinski. "For as little as \$300, they can have a solar system installed on their homes and they have 15 years to pay back the city. The money they save on reduced costs for energy, those dollars can be used to pay back the city." Other initiatives also are being announced, with River Falls Municipal Utilities allowing residents in Pierce County to extend payments for renewable energy upgrades. Residents would see a decrease in their electric bill similar to the loan payment. In Racine, residents will be allowed to fund energy efficient retrofits in the Retrofit Racine program. Focusing on older buildings allows residents to see that older buildings are so inefficient that they pay too much on their utility bills. Studies have shown in Wisconsin and elsewhere that energy efficiency is the cheapest way to lower emissions of carbon dioxide.

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From "Energy Loan Programs in State Help Spread Out Costs"  
*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (WI) (03/21/10) P. D1; Content, Thomas*

## Utilities Offer Free Upgrades

The Arizona Corporation Commission has approved a plan to enable homeowners in the state to finance home improvements by paying for them over time with the natural gas saved and the heat not wasted. Unisource Gas will invest up to \$1 million statewide in residential energy efficiency upgrades to reduce consumption of gas - and thus lower future customer bills. The Coconino County Sustainable Economic Development Initiative (SEDI) had argued that with Unisource Gas increasing rates to the tune of \$1.65 per month per customer, it should also start a fund to help customers to fix up their homes. The group has long called on the gas company to set aside the money for customers statewide to make gas-saving improvements to their homes, in line with new energy efficiency requirements. "I think it's a very big deal," says Kris Mayes, chairwoman of the Arizona Corporation Commission. "You have a group of people in SEDI that forced the issue," she says. "And I think that's great. This is an ... idea that's probably going to benefit all of Arizona." Ratepayers can apply to the gas company and get approval to spend \$1,500 for a new and more efficient furnace. The gas company will pay for the \$1,500 furnace up front, and the money saved in gas bills per month will be directed to paying off that furnace over the span of 2.5 years. After that time period, residents will end up with a new furnace, and a lower bill, without needing to pay \$1,500 in the beginning. "It gives the average person a real shot at making their house more energy efficient" Mayes says.

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From "Utilities Offer Free Upgrades"  
*Arizona Daily Sun (04/03/10) Cole, Cyndy*

Featured Article



Kathy Hart

**Technology Turns School Kids Into "Dream Green Team"**

*By: Kathy Hart, Apogee Interactive, Inc.*

A lively energy challenge among 11 Georgia schools shows what cutting-edge technology and a little healthy competition can accomplish.

The "Save-A-Watt, Save-A-Lot" program in Marietta City Schools (MCS) outside Atlanta announced its first-place results just in time for Earth Day, April 22. The winning school, Sawyer Road Elementary, shaved a remarkable 27 percent from its electricity consumption over two semesters compared to last year. The top five schools saved an average 14 percent for the full school year.

"Save-A-Watt" was a joint project by MCS along with Marietta Power & Water and Apogee Interactive, Inc. Smart meters were provided by ITRON, the leading meter manufacturer in the United States. Apogee of Atlanta developed the online data tracking tool and dedicated Web site, and coordinated the data feeds from ITRON's meters and Marietta Power & Water.



Kids from Sawyer Road Elementary

The site enabled students and teachers to log on and check their schools' energy use 24/7. Energy use was displayed by school, by week, and by month, with a "report card" showing the overall performance of all 11 schools.



Save-A-Watt Web site

"They could see their usage online, noting if they were leaving things on over the weekends or at night," explained Joel Gilbert, Apogee founder and chief software architect.

"We know from experience that timely feedback is essential to impacting long-term habits and actions that save energy," said Gilbert, a 30-year utility industry veteran.

With the technology in place, the kids jumped headfirst into the competition.

Much of the energy savings came from actions like turning off lights, electronic white boards, and computers. "What was surprising was that the winning school already had the lowest power consumption per square foot to start," Gilbert said. "We were expecting maybe a 5 to 10 percent savings at some of the schools. To surpass 14 percent savings was phenomenal. It speaks to what people can do when they have robust and timely data combined with a little healthy competition. And during these challenging times, every dollar saved is extremely important, too," Gilbert observed.

Early on, Apogee engineers spotted a striking anomaly in one school. Demand had spiked suddenly and significantly for the first time in a year. Checking revealed that the school had begun using a pottery kiln for the first time. "Watching interval data like this allowed them to catch irregular events and decide whether to adjust the usage patterns to save on demand charges," Gilbert said.

The idea for Save-A-Watt had originated after MCS official Thomas Algarin left a budget meeting where dwindling funds again dominated the conversation. He wondered, "Why not an energy challenge in the schools to help save on energy costs?"

Algarin enlisted Marietta Power & Water executives Bob Lewis and Barry Echols, who tapped Apogee's Gilbert for the technical design.

A project team, including teachers from all 11 schools (teachers were key to participation), set out a communications approach (posters were a must), program name, and scoring rules. The focus would be on no-cost student/teacher behavior, not expensive equipment retrofits.

As early as November the top three schools were hitting the high teens for energy savings. "I first thought my math must be wrong," said Gilbert. "But they proved it could be done. And I bet their energy-saving habits have spilled over into their homes, after school, too."



Save-A-Watt Flyers

### Best Practices

Considering a school energy challenge? Here are takeaways from Save-A-Watt:

- Engender early input and buy-in among all players.
- Provide strong communications to all participating schools.
- Allow localized school incentives to keep interest high.
- Obtain the proper technology and software to gather and present the performance data.
- Create a dedicated Web site that's easy to access, easy to understand, and fun to use.

For more details on the Save-A-Watt, Save-A-Lot challenge, contact Barry Echols at Marietta Power & Water at [BEchols@mariettaga.gov](mailto:BEchols@mariettaga.gov) or 770-794-4992.

### Additional Resources:

See Save-A-Watt Web site at [www.mp.apogee.net/schools](http://www.mp.apogee.net/schools).  
View a three-minute video at <http://www.apogee.net/saveAWattVideo.aspx>.



Dan Tarrence

### Implementation Committee Takes On Hot Issues

*By: Dan Tarrence, Chair of the Program Implementation Topic Committee*

The 120 members of the 2010 AESP Program Design and Implementation Committee are taking on the hot issues in today's energy efficiency industry. It started on May 4 and 5 in Boston at the AESP Spring Conference, where experts in energy efficiency implementation discussed topics such as moving beyond rebates to move the market and hosted a panel discussion on community-based approaches. One session gave us an opportunity to hear from the implementation award winners from earlier this year, including NEEP, PEI, PG&E, and ComEd. Close to 300 industry professionals attended this event.

Subcommittee activities provide opportunities for members to participate in the discussion. We are adding two new subcommittees in 2010, one on building codes and another on community initiatives. Both are topics of high interest and have been developed to gather information to share with all AESP members. Community Initiatives is a subcommittee that is a joint effort with the Marketing Topic Committee. The Codes subcommittee will be creating a white paper titled "Policies for Integrating Building Codes into Energy Efficiency Portfolios". In addition, the efforts of four other subcommittees will continue into 2010: Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Natural Gas, and Tracking Systems. All are planning various Brown Bag events and discussion issues for quarterly conference calls.

At the national conference in February, a brainstorming activity identified the issues and topics of interest to our members. A number of the issues revolve around the coordination of efforts such as integrating natural gas and electric utility programs, how evaluators and implementers can work together better, managing the relationship between the utility and the vendor, and how policy affects implementation.

Another key issue in our industry is the ability to attract talent and to be able to provide the training necessary to have new employees quickly contribute to successful program implementation in a meaningful way. Creating new curriculums in our colleges and universities is one way to develop the next generation and makes it easier to swiftly staff new programs with trained personnel. Other areas for us to consider are internships, mentoring programs, training seminars (like the ones AESP has already created), specific technology training, creating a source of reference materials, and having a list of experts by topic who are willing to take calls from other members to answer questions or discuss issues.

Over the remainder of 2010, watch for Brown Bag events and newsletter articles from the Implementation Committee that address these hot topics. If you would like to participate in the discussion, contact me at [dantarrence@franklinenergy.com](mailto:dantarrence@franklinenergy.com) and we can add you to the distribution list and get you on a subcommittee of your choice. We are looking forward to another spectacular year.

Let us know if any of these topics spark your interest: retrocommissioning processes, developing metrics to compare successful programs, QA/QC best practices for implementers to address issues before evaluation finds problems, developing and creating a strong trade ally network, and CRM plus project-tracking systems. Get involved and help take the discussion to the next level.



Meg Matt

### **Point, Click, Connect!**

*By: Meg Matt, AESP President & CEO*

*In a recent member survey, many members indicated they were not aware of some of the features and benefits available from AESP. In the next few issues, we will highlight some of these features and where they are located at [www.aesp.org](http://www.aesp.org). Information is power!*

### **Local Chapters**

#### **What is a Local Chapter**

AESP Local Chapters provide AESP members with an opportunity to meet on a regular basis to discuss industry-related activities that are specific to their geographic region.

#### **Who can join?**

All members of AESP are welcome and we encourage you to join a Local Chapter.

#### **How do I join a Local Chapter?**

Contact the Chapter Leader to join. For a complete list of available Chapters and contact information, [click here](#).

#### **Why should join?**

Joining a Local Chapter is a great way to get involved in AESP on a local level.

Join a [Local Chapter](#) and discover the power of AESP!

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### **Updates from Local Chapters, Topic Committees and Members**

#### **Update from the Southeast Chapter**

The Southeast Chapter is open for business! Many thanks to Carol Sabo for organizing this effort, and the new officers:

President  
James Linder, TVA

Vice Presidents  
Chris Edge, Progress Energy  
Dean Harless, Georgia Power

Treasurer  
Bruce Doueck, JEA

Secretary  
Carol Sabo, PA Consulting

Members in the southeast should watch their inbox for an upcoming Webinar to learn about plans and your opportunities to participate in our newest local chapter. Initial plans are for Web meetings and an annual regional meeting.

#### **Update from the Rocky Mountain Chapter**

The Rocky Mountain Chapter has been active! Robin Maslowski, of Navigant Consulting, is now a part of the Chapter's leadership team. Robin has organized events and presented on Smart Grid stimulus funding for the local chapter. She is currently providing support on grant projects and several energy efficiency market evaluation projects.

In early June, the Rocky Mountain Chapter will feature a discussion on Boulder's future energy strategy. For more information, contact Stuart Schare at [stuart.schare@navigantconsulting.com](mailto:stuart.schare@navigantconsulting.com).

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### **AESP Welcomes...**

#### ***New Individual Members***

[\*Click here to view a list of new members\*](#)

#### ***New Group Members***

ECO-FITT Corp

#### ***Renewing Group Members***

ARCA  
CLEAResult Consulting  
ComEd  
Energy Trust of OR  
LIPA  
Manitoba Hydro  
Resource Action Programs  
Staples Energy & Marketing Services  
U.S. Dept of Energy

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### **News Releases and Announcements**

[AESP President & CEO, Meg Matt, featured in article in \*Electric Energy Online\*](#)

[Apogee Interactive Adds New Talent to Atlanta Headquarters Staff](#)

[Debra Hancher Joins Energy Services Firm CSG as Mid-Atlantic Operations Director](#)

[CLEAResult Consulting Reaches Energy Efficiency Milestone](#)

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