



**Jim Saber**  
President & CEO  
NextEnergy

The past month has been full of activity and travel for our team to visit with clients and attend various events including Schneider Electric's Powerlogic Summit, the [National Shared Mobility Summit](#) and the Detroit Policy Conference. One of the highlights for me was having the opportunity to serve as a judge for the [2019 GAMIC \(Global Automotive and Mobility Innovation Challenge\)](#) semifinals competition on Feb. 26 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. In one day, we saw 22 talented innovators pitch their technology solutions. You can see the [12 finalists](#) compete for the grand prize on Apr. 9 during [SAE WCX](#). Read [more](#).

## NextEnergy Blog



**Wayne Snyder**  
Director, Technology Development  
NextEnergy

### 10 Recommendations for Building the Internet of Trusted Things (IoTT)

Everything is becoming connected. The digital transformation is well under way and arguably, for better or worse, is changing the ways in which we live, move, work and play. [Emerging technologies in 2019](#) such as 5G, edge computing, artificial intelligence, blockchain and 3D printing continue to develop in maturity and scale. However, there are a myriad of sources [such as this one](#) reporting a slow down to the Internet of Things (IoT) adoption. Read [more](#).

## Upcoming Events

View our full list [here](#)

### [Advancing Women in Energy \(Members-Only Lunch\)](#)

Mar. 22 | 11:30a.m.-1:00p.m. | Lansing

AWE members are invited to participate in a lunch and a discussion on *Perspectives on the Energy Landscape in Michigan*. Learn [more](#) on becoming a member!



*Congratulations to **Nathalie Osborn**, Director, Smart Grid Initiatives, NextEnergy recently nominated member of the AWE Board of Directors!*

### [Michigan Battle of the Buildings](#)

**Application deadline is March 31!**

This an awards and recognition program for energy use reduction open to all Michigan area commercial, industrial & multi-family buildings to encourage energy-efficient practices.



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### [21st Century Energy 2019 Transition](#)

**Apr. 1-2 | Denver**

Four Collaboratory partners will gather to help the public understand energy-related transitions occurring in Colorado, the West, the US and internationally--addressing issues in energy sources, environmental, and more.



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### [Smart Cities Connect Conference](#)

**Apr. 1-4 | Denver**

Don't miss the most comprehensive conference, exposition and accelerator of smart city innovation in North America, delivering premium networking and educational opportunities with a focus on city leaders and their priorities.



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### [Michigan EIBC 7th Annual Member Meeting](#)

**Apr. 23 | East Lansing**

Attendees will have an opportunity to learn about innovations in advanced energy and an overview on the latest policy developments. Nathalie Osborn, Director, Smart Grid Initiatives at NextEnergy will be moderating the panel on *Convergence of Disruptive Distributed Technologies*.



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### [Grid Modernization Forum](#)

**May 20-22 | Chicago**

The conference will drill down into the hottest topics shaping the future of the automotive space--from vehicle electrification and infrastructure to the evolution of ADAS and vehicle automation to enhanced connectivity and new mobility models.



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#### [Microgrid Global Innovation Forum](#)

**Mar. 18-20 | Washington, DC**

#### [SAE WCX](#)

**Apr. 9-11 | Detroit**

#### [DTX Launch Detroit](#)

**Mar. 20 | Info Session @ Techtown**

**Applications close Apr. 5!**

#### [Michigan Energy Summit](#)

**Apr. 25 | Grand Rapids**

#### [ADAS Sensors](#)

**Mar. 20-21 | Detroit**

#### [eMerge Americas](#)

**Apr. 29-30 | Miami**

#### [Startup Story Night 2019](#)

**Mar. 21 | Detroit**

#### [Michigan Celebrates Small Business](#)

**May 8 | East Lansing**

#### [Automotive Cybersecurity-Detroit](#)

**Mar. 27-29 | Novi**

#### [Smart Cities New York](#)

**May 13-15 | New York**

#### [Pitch Club](#)

**Mar. 27 | Grand Rapids**

#### [IEEE Transportation Electrification](#)

**Conference and Expo**

**Jun. 19-21 | Novi**

#### [Global Automotive & Mobility Innovation Challenge](#)

#### [Plugvolt Battery Seminar](#)

**Jul. 16-18 | Plymouth**

## Funding Opportunities

View our full list [here](#)

### <<<Active>>>

#### Grid Optimization (GO) Competition

**Deadline:** Apr. 1, 2019

**Awards:** Up to \$4M

The GO Competition is a series of challenges to develop software management solutions for a resilient and secure American electricity grid. Consisting of multiple challenge rounds, the first will focus on the problem of Security Constrained Optimal Power Flow (SCOPF), wherein competitors must use software to route power to customers across a simulated grid in a reliable and cost-effective way.

#### FY2019 Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program

**Deadline:** Apr. 4, 2019

**Awards:** \$1.05M

EDA is soliciting applications for two separate competitions, as follows:

1. [FY19 i6 Challenge](#) — catalyzing high-growth entrepreneurship throughout the country, the i6 Challenge awards up to \$750K for projects that increase regional capacity to accelerate the translation of innovations, ideas, intellectual property, and research into products, services, companies, and jobs.
2. [FY19 Seed Fund Support \(SFS\) Grant Competition](#) — unlocking risk capital for entrepreneurs and startups to grow, SFS grants provide up to \$300,000 for projects that create, launch, or expand equity-based seed funds or that create networks and tools that enable capital to flow into high-growth startups in all parts of the U.S.

#### H2@Scale

**Deadline:** Concept papers due Apr. 8, 2019

Full applications are due May 29, 2019

**Awards:** Up to \$31M

The DOE announced the H2@Scale concept with the focus to enable affordable and reliable large-scale hydrogen generation, transport, storage, and utilization in the United States across multiple sectors.

#### Battery Recycling Prize and Battery Recycling R&D Center

**Deadline:** TBD

**Awards:** \$5.5M

The DOE seeks entries for the Battery Recycling Prize and the establishment of an associated Battery Recycling R&D Center. The goal is to develop technologies to profitably capture 90% of all lithium-based battery technologies in the United States. Currently, lithium-ion batteries are collected and recycled at a rate of less than 5%.

#### Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program Phase I

**Deadline:** Apr. 19, 2019

**Awards:** \$1.2M

The purpose of the SBIR Program is to strengthen the role of innovative small business concerns (SBCs) in Federally-funded research or research and development (R/R&D). Specific program goals are to: (1) stimulate technological innovation; (2) use small business to meet Federal R/R&D needs; (3) foster and encourage participation by socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses and by women-owned small businesses in technological innovation; and (4) increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from Federal R/R&D, thereby increasing competition, productivity, and economic growth.

#### OPEN +

ARPA-E announced \$12M in funding for five projects as part of its first-ever OPEN+ program.

Inspired by the high quality of applicants in the agency's recent [OPEN 2018](#) funding opportunity, this first cohort will focus on ways to advance nuclear power by overcoming challenges in high performance materials science.

### [Advanced Manufacturing](#)

**Deadline:** Proposals accepted anytime

**Awards:** TBD

The NSF seeks proposals that address issues related to national prosperity and security and advancing knowledge to sustain global leadership. Areas of research include manufacturing systems, materials processing, manufacturing machines, methodologies, and manufacturing across the length scales.

### [Smart and Connected Communities](#)

**Deadline:** Sep. 6, 2019

**Awards:** \$43M

The goal of the NSF Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) program solicitation is to accelerate the creation of the scientific and engineering foundations that will enable smart and connected communities to bring about new levels of economic opportunity and growth, safety and security, health and wellness, and overall quality of life. F

### [Solicitation on Topics Informing New Program Areas](#)

**Deadline:** Dec. 19, 2019

**Awards:** \$18M

This announcement is purposely broad in scope, and will cover a wide range of topics to encourage the submission of the most innovative and unconventional ideas in energy technology. The objective of this solicitation is to support high-risk R&D leading to the development of potentially disruptive new technologies across the full spectrum of energy applications.

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### [Business Accelerator Fund](#)

#### [The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Loans for Michigan Businesses](#)

#### [Energy Foundation Grants](#)

#### [Invest Michigan](#)

#### [Michigan Emerging Technologies Fund](#)

#### [Motor City Match](#)

#### [The Scherman Foundation Rosin Fund—Environment](#)

#### [Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Loans](#)

## Energy Solutions & Funding Programs



The [Lighting Technology Energy Solutions \(LITES\)](#) program aims to reduce the energy footprint in small and medium commercial buildings by accelerating the adoption of advanced lighting controls solutions through training and technology deployment.



Administered by NextEnergy and funded by the MEDC, [MATch Energy Grant](#) provides cost-share and/or commercialization funds to eligible Michigan small businesses and university researchers applying for advanced energy- or transportation-related, non-SBIR/STTR federal funding from the DOE, DoD, NSF, DOT, etc.

## Stay Connected



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