



Jim Saber
President & CEO
NextEnergy

Our team is looking forward to a busy spring full of excellent opportunities to engage with other industry professionals and share our thoughts and knowledge on topics that are important within our mission to accelerate smarter, cleaner more accessible solutions for communities and cities.

On Tuesday, April 23, we will moderate two panels at the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council's annual meeting in East Lansing. Nathalie Osborn, our director of smart grid initiatives will moderate *"Convergence of Disruptive Distributed Technologies"* and I will moderate *"Fix the Damn Roads: The Crossroads of Energy and Mobility in Michigan."* We feel both of these discussions will help to move Michigan in the right direction in its efforts to improve its energy and mobility infrastructure. Read [more](#).

NextEnergy Blog



Tim Slusser
Director, Smart Mobility Initiatives
NextEnergy

[Evaluating the Case for Hydrogen](#)

As Director of Smart Mobility Initiatives at NextEnergy, I feel that it is important for us to understand various technologies and how they each can contribute to the future overall mobility solution. One technology that has regained steam in the past few years is hydrogen fuel cells (HFC). The growth of battery electric vehicles (BEVs), fueled by falling technology costs and increased consumer awareness, has overshadowed HFC development during the last decade. So while BEVs seem poised to dominate the car and crossover utility vehicle markets, there are significant challenges battery technology faces with larger heavy duty vehicles (HDVs) such as long range buses, semi-trucks, and fire trucks. It is within markets like these that hydrogen has an opportunity to provide a long-term sustainable solution. In addition, HFCs are showing promise as a stationary solution for grid infrastructure.

To learn more about our view on this topic, we invite you to [download](#) our new white paper, "Evaluating the Case for Hydrogen."

If your organization would like to collaborate with NextEnergy on hydrogen projects or other smart mobility solutions please reach out to me at 313.833.0100 ext. 120 or tims@nextenergy.org

Michigan Energy Events

[MI Energy Innovation Business Council - 7th Annual Member Meeting](#)

Apr. 23 | East Lansing

Open to both [Michigan EIBC](#) members and non-members, this full-day conference will provide the opportunity to hear from industry leaders about the latest innovations and topics in the advanced energy sector. [Register](#) today!

[Michigan PACE Summit](#)

May 2 | Detroit

[Lean & Green Michigan](#) will host the first Michigan PACE Summit! Hear from leaders in Detroit as they address the many routes to help Michigan achieve its clean energy goals and to envision a more sustainable future. [Register](#) today!

Juicing the EV Ecosystem...A Thought Leadership Breakfast hosted by SBD Automotive

May 1 | 8:00a.m.-10:00a.m. | Detroit

A complimentary two hour [breakfast and networking event](#) open to all industry and media professionals! Join [SBD Automotive](#) as well as leading experts from [NextEnergy](#), [PlanetM](#), [Navya](#), [BlueEnergy](#), [EVgo](#) and [greenlots](#) as they provide thoughtful dialogue on the current state and future of the EV industry.

Upcoming Events

[View our full list here](#)

[IoT TechConnect](#)

Apr. 29 | Michigan Science Center

This one-day event will focus on Internet of Things (IoT) companies, experts and training in Michigan--featuring content tracks to provide attendees with greater familiarity about the opportunities and threats posed by IoT.



[Forum on Connected and Automated Vehicles: Energy Impacts](#)

May 6 | Washington, DC

At this unique one-day event, attendees will identify the drivers of the energy impacts and explore CAV policy options to improve the energy efficiency and sustainability of transportation.



[NREL Industry Growth Forum](#)

May 9-10 | Denver

In its 21st year, the Industry Growth Forum is the premier event for cleantech entrepreneurs, investors, and industry experts to build relationships, showcase innovative technologies, and explore disruptive business solutions.



[Grid Modernization Forum](#)

May 20-22 | Chicago

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.



[Mackinac Policy Conference](#)

May 28-31 | Mackinac Island

The conference will focus on uniting the state as *One Michigan* under the following pillars:



- *Prepare* - education and talent
- *Grow* - economic development and entrepreneurship
- *Love* - sustainability and stewardship

TU Automotive E-Mobility Detroit

June 4-6 | Novi

Meet the most innovative minds in connected cars, mobility & autonomous vehicles under one roof! Network with autonomous and automotive executives driving innovation. Don't miss [Startup Elevate](#) where start-ups, dynamic pitches & key investors are looking to expand their portfolio in the mobility industry.

**TU-Automotive
E-Mobility
Detroit**

ITS America

June 4-7 | Washington, DC

The event will highlight seamless mobility around the movement of people, data and freight. Be a part of the conversation that will shape an environment for safe deployment of connected and automated mobility.



June 17-21

A five day celebration of entrepreneurship, hosted by a unified community in spaces that you love! Participate in a new type of conference, led by entrepreneurs dedicated to building momentum and opportunity in Detroit.

IEEE Transportation Electrification Conference and Expo

June 19-21 | Novi

The conference is focused on components, systems, standards, and grid interface technologies, related to efficient power conversion for all types of electrified transportation, including EVs, HEVs, PHEVs and more.



2019 Innovation & Impact Symposium: Transforming California with Clean Technology

June 19 | Zero Net Energy Center | San Leandro, CA

The event will feature the latest developments in *Advanced Mobility and Energy and the Built Environment*. The region's leaders from the startup, corporate, public and research communities will discuss what it takes to implement these ideas for maximum impact. Purchase your tickets by [clicking here](#). Save 30% off the ticket price by using the event code: *innovate*



Michigan Energy Summit-
Battle of the Buildings
Apr. 25 | Grand Rapids

Michigan Celebrates Small
Business
May 8 | East Lansing

eMerge Americas
Apr. 29-30 | Miami

Internet of Things World
May 13-16 | Santa Clara

Michigan Energy Efficiency
Conference & Exhibition
May 7 | Novi

Smart Cities New York
May 13-15 | New York

Michigan Tech Mobile Lab
Open House
May 7 & May 9

A2 Tech Trek
June 7 | Ann Arbor

Merit Member Conference
May 8 | Dearborn

Plugvolt Battery Seminar
July 16-18 | Plymouth

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Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program Phase I

Deadline: Apr. 19, 2019

Awards: \$1.2M

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.

FY19 High Priority Program – Innovative Technology Deployment (HP-ITD)

Deadline: Apr. 26, 2019

Awards: \$20M

The DOT has funding available for the support of innovative projects that improve safety and compliance with commercial motor vehicles (CMV) regulations, are national in scope, demonstrate new technologies, and reduce the number of CMV crashes. These activities are supported in alignment with the U.S. DOT's strategic goals of: Safety, Infrastructure, Innovation, Accountability

National Cyber Security Awareness

Deadline: May 9, 2019

Awards: \$549,996

DHS/CISA seeks support in coordinating and collaborating with appropriate private-sector and nonprofit organizations as well as federal, state, and local government entities to facilitate a comprehensive national cybersecurity awareness campaign. This campaign intends to execute a research-driven strategy focused on implementing specific programs, activities, materials, and outreach efforts, building on its established national cybersecurity awareness campaign to include activities and initiatives associated with National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October.

Design Intelligence Fostering Formidable Energy Reduction and Enabling Novel Totally Impactful Advanced Technology Enhancements (DIFFERENTIATE)

Concept Paper Deadline: May 20, 2019

Awards: \$15M

The ARPA-E DIFFERENTIATE program seeks to enhance the pace of energy innovation by incorporating machine learning into energy technology development processes. By doing so, this program aims to enhance the productivity of energy engineers in helping them to develop next-generation energy technologies.

FY19 H2@Scale

Deadline: May 29, 2019

Awards: \$31M

Key challenges include: affordability, reliability, and performance of emerging hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. Topic 1: Advanced hydrogen storage and infrastructure R&D including novel materials or hydrogen carriers for transporting and storing hydrogen, and materials for hydrogen infrastructure components. Topic 2: Innovative concepts for hydrogen production and utilization including advanced water splitting materials, affordable domestic hydrogen production technologies, co-production of hydrogen for additional sources of revenue, and reversible fuel cell technologies. Topic 3: H2@Scale Pilot – integrated production, storage, and fueling systems including innovative approaches that successfully integrate and optimize the complete system encompassing hydrogen production, storage, distribution, and use.

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.

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%.

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.

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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