

January 2020



Monthly Update

Jim Saber, President & CEO

Happy New Year! I hope that you all have enjoyed your holiday season and time with family and friends. 2020 is off to a fast start for the NextEnergy team with new activities which I want to share with you.

On January 22nd, we are hosting a Great Lakes Circular Economy Workshop with the United States Business Council for Sustainable Development. Tim Slusser, our Director of Smart Mobility Initiatives is presenting on repurposing and recycling of electric vehicle batteries. [Read more.](#)

Join our Network!

Whether you are an innovator offering smart mobility or smart grid technology solutions, or a community, city or organization in need of solutions to address your most pressing challenges; our established network can provide opportunities and connections to help you achieve your goals.

[Learn more and apply!](#)

NextEnergy Blog



Five Predictions for Shared Use and Micromobility in 2020

Tim Slusser

Director, Smart Mobility Initiatives

Calendar year 2019 raised a lot of questions about the profitability, and therefore sustainability, of many shared-use and micromobility business models. Uber and Lyft both saw their stock prices drop from their initial public offering price by more than 27 and 38 percent, respectively, at the time this posting was written. The pathway to profitability for privately held electric scooter-sharing businesses was put to question numerous times as well, and European electric scooter-sharing business Coup, owned by Bosch, announced it was shuttering its operations due to an extremely competitive market and other economic reasons.

Is now the time for shared mobility users to panic? I don't believe so. However, I do believe the landscape will see some significant changes in 2020. Here are a few of my predictions: [Read more.](#)

Upcoming Events

LiTES Program Findings Webinar

February 4th 2:00 PM EST

Join us for a webinar to present the key findings from the DOE-funded [Lighting Technology Energy Solutions \(LiTES\) Program](#). A collaborative effort between

NextEnergy, Consumers Energy, DTE Energy and the Detroit Joint Apprenticeship Training Center (DJATC), the LiTES Program sought to evaluate customer and contractor experiences deploying advanced/networked lighting controls system demonstration projects in Michigan.



This webinar will explore survey results and M&V data analysis findings on energy savings, GHG emissions reductions, impacts of utility incentives and recommendations for overcoming market barriers to accelerate the adoption of advanced lighting controls in small and medium commercial buildings.

[Register Now!](#)

[Microgrid Global Innovation Forum](#)
March 10-11 | Chicago, IL



11th Edition
MICROGRID
GLOBAL INNOVATION FORUM
& VPP-DERMS SUMMIT • NORTH AMERICA

Join **NextEnergy** at the 11th Microgrid Global Innovation Forum in Chicago on March 10-11, 2020, where our Director of Smart Grid Initiatives, Nathalie Osborn, will be moderating a panel on "How Utilities are Leveraging Energy Storage & Microgrids."

This session will explore how utilities are looking to the future, including ways both investor-owned and municipal utilities are exploring the role energy storage and microgrid projects will play in their portfolios. Southern Company will share lessons learned from their Birmingham Smart Neighborhoods® Initiative which incorporates a community-scale microgrid, rooftop solar, battery storage, energy efficiency and smart home technologies. Xcel Energy will provide an overview of their Peña Station NEXT connected community powered by a microgrid, renewables and enhanced mobility solutions. Finally, the Lansing Board of Water & Light will provide the municipal utility perspective on how they are investing in community solar and energy storage projects.

[Climate Leadership Conference](#)
March 4-6 | Detroit, MI



**CLIMATE
LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE**

The annual Climate Leadership Conference is North America's premier event dedicated to addressing the climate crisis through policy, innovation, and business solutions. The conference brings together forward-thinking leaders from business, government, academia, and the non-profit community to explore energy and climate solutions and opportunities, and to showcase climate leadership.

Join us in Detroit to build strategic connections across diverse sectors, gain key insights and best practices, celebrate the organizations and individuals who are making a difference, and collaborate with local and national decision-makers.

[Use code CLC-Next-15 for 15% off registration!](#)

[2020 Lighting R&D Workshop](#)
Jan. 28-30 | San Diego, CA

[Midwest Energy Solutions Conference](#)
Feb. 26-28 | Chicago, IL

What we're reading

We've asked the NextEnergy team to share the industry-related news, stories and information that have grabbed their attention this month. We hope you find it useful! For more recommendations you can explore past editions on our [website](#).



Jim Saber, CEO

What he's reading: [Teslas still go much farther on a single charge than their competitors. But the strategy carries risks](#)

Media: Washington Post

What makes it interesting: Interesting take on how Tesla and others are addressing driving range with their EVs.



Angella Durkin, COO

What she's reading: [Project Kinetic: Making Inclusive Mobility a Reality in Detroit and Michigan](#)

Media: PlanetM

What makes it interesting: This article contains some great insights from our partner PlanetM on what it takes to develop successful public-private-philanthropic initiatives.



Eric McDonald, Director, Facilities & Infrastructure Development

What he's reading: [Wearable Cooling and Heating Patch Could Serve as Personal Thermostat and Save Energy](#)

Media: UC San Diego

What makes it interesting: UC San Diego researchers have developed a lightweight device which can be sewn or integrated into clothing which cools the skin regardless of the surrounding ambient temperature. The researchers expect this "smart clothing" could cut building cooling costs by 70 percent.



Nathalie Osborn, Director, Smart Grid Initiatives

What she's reading: [Microgrid in a Box: A Plug-and-Play Microgrid for Rooftop Solar](#)

Media: IEEE Spectrum

What makes it interesting: Interesting read on the role residential microgrids have and the findings of the EnergySwitch system installed on a home in Austin, TX. The project was a cooperation between the DOE SunShot Initiative, Pecan Street; a non-profit clean energy research firm and Concurrent Design; a technology development firm.



Tim Slusser, Director, Smart Mobility Initiatives

What he's reading: [Ryder, ABB, and In-Charge Jointly Unveil Industry-First Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Solution for Fleet Operators](#)

Media: Bloomberg

What makes it interesting: Ryder, ABB, and In-Charge are the next set of partners announcing a plan to support the conversion of vehicles to electrification. While this announcement on its own is important, the greater takeaway is that the industry clearly believes there is a need to provide more options for turnkey solutions to their customers.

Wayne Snyder, Director, Technology Department

What he's reading: [The Best of CES 2020](#)



Media: Wired

What makes it interesting: The Consumer Electronics Show is over and there's no shortage of media articles sharing the latest and greatest gadgets. I personally am curious about a blast from the past, Segway. Now introducing Segway Ninebot T60, this electric scooter can be summoned from a user's mobile app! You don't walk to the scooter; instead, the scooter automatically finds its way to you. What do you think?

Funding Opportunities

[View our full list here](#)

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Funding Opportunities

[Scalable, Adaptive, and Resilient Autonomy \(SARA\)](#)

Deadline: Feb. 14, 2020

Awards: \$3M

The Scalable, Adaptive, and Resilient Autonomy (SARA) program is focused on developing and experimentally accelerating emerging research in autonomous mobility and maneuverability, scalable heterogeneous and collaborative behaviors, and human agent teaming to realize adaptive and resilient Intelligent Systems that can reason about the environment, work in distributed and collaborative heterogeneous teams, and make op-tempo decisions to enable Autonomous Maneuver in complex and contested environments.

Tags: Active Funding Opportunities

[Energy Storage Grand Challenge](#)

Deadline: TBD

Awards: \$158M

The vision for the Energy Storage Grand Challenge is to create and sustain global leadership in energy storage utilization and exports, with a secure domestic manufacturing supply chain that does not depend on foreign sources of critical materials, by 2030. While research and development is the foundation of advancing energy storage technologies, the Department recognizes that goal leadership requires addressing associated scale up challenges, including manufacturing, workforce development, valuation, and technology transfer.

Tags: Active Funding Opportunities

[Fiscal Year 2020 High Priority Program – Innovative Technology Deployment \(HP-ITD\)](#)

Deadline: Feb. 24, 2020

Awards: \$20M

The HP-ITD program is a key component of FMCSA's drive to improve commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety. The HP-ITD program supports this safety mission by providing grant funds to States for: improving safety and productivity of motor carriers, CMVs, and their drivers; improving efficiency and effectiveness of CMV safety programs through targeted enforcement; improving CMV data sharing among States and between States and FMCSA; and reducing Federal, State, and industry regulatory and administrative costs.

Tags: Active Funding Opportunities

[Fiscal Year 2020 High Priority-Commercial Motor Vehicle Grant Program \(HP-CMV\)](#)

Deadline: Feb. 21, 2020

Awards: \$25.2M

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announces the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 High Priority-Commercial Motor Vehicle (HP-CMV) program Notice of Funding Opportunity

(NOFO) to solicit applications from eligible entities to support the HP-CMV program activities. As the lead government agency responsible for the regulation and safety oversight of commercial motor vehicles (CMV), FMCSA may award HP-CMV funds to support innovative and impactful projects that advance its mission to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses. Funding is available for the support of enforcement projects that improve safety and compliance with FMCSA's regulations, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses. Funding is available for the support of enforcement projects that improve safety and compliance with FMCSA's regulations for projects that are national in scope, increase public awareness and education, demonstrate new technologies, and reduce the number/rate of CMV crashes.

Tags: Active Funding Opportunities

<<Rolling>>

[Business Accelerator Fund](#)

[Critical Aspects of Sustainability](#)

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

[Energy Foundation Grants](#)

[Invest Michigan](#)

[Michigan Emerging Technologies Fund](#)

[Motor City Match](#)

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