

A New Season for Resiliency, Smart Energy and Mobility

Greetings!

Happy Spring!

We have made it through another winter and are looking forward to longer days and warmer weather. In Michigan like many other northern states, spring means the start of another construction season. Not only construction within our homes and buildings, but new construction on our roads and infrastructure.



Jim Saber
President & CEO

Infrastructure today is a hot topic. It is the subject of considerable interest and debate at the federal, state, and local levels. What infrastructure should we be investing in to help achieve climate goals, increase resiliency, and support greater access to economic growth?

The NextEnergy team is working with partners to help create strategies and implement plans for smart energy and mobility at the city, community and campus levels to develop cleaner, smarter and more accessible communities

Please stay tuned for updates on our work and activities via our [website](#) and [social media platforms](#). As always, please feel free to connect with our [team](#) to learn how we can support your strategy, planning and implementation.

- Jim

Viewpoints



Three Emerging Trends and Applications to Accelerate Our Path to a Carbon-free Future

By | Jim Saber, President & CEO, NextEnergy

NextEnergy envisions a future where the energy that powers our homes, businesses and vehicles is 100 percent carbon free. To achieve this vision, we help our partners test new solutions and develop sustainable business models to create a better quality of life for all.

Currently, 65 percent of our electricity is generated from fossil fuels. While the remaining 35 percent originates from carbon-free sources, such as nuclear and renewable energy, the transportation and mobility sectors are more than 90 percent fossil-fuel based. These sectors especially have a significant opportunity to implement renewable technologies. Today, electricity only makes up one percent of our transportation energy. Though this figure is expected to increase considerably in the coming years, as electric vehicles and other technologies are brought to market, we have a long way to go.

So, what emerging technologies and trends will help us get there faster? The NextEnergy team has identified three such approaches, with scalable solutions, that can accelerate our path toward a carbon-free future.

[Read More](#)

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.](#)



Latonya Binford, Senior Accountant

What she's reading: [Electric dreams: Accelerated by recent actions in California and Massachusetts, the transition from gas-powered cars to electric vehicles is coming more quickly than many thought possible](#)

Media: Environment America

What makes it interesting: The history of California's journey to self-steering its own clean air/car emissions standards, which are higher than the rest of the country, is interesting. Even more interesting is the recent declaration of more states to follow in California's footsteps with their own regulations. I expect to see more (we have heard one already) "hard" timelines from US automobile manufacturers for converting some or all of its products from fossil fuel driven to electric charged in very near future.

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News & Events

[Energy Tech Summit](#)

Dates: April 27-29 2021

This exclusive hybrid event (virtual & physical) is bringing the latest developments in energy and mobility convergence theme, debated by global industry leaders across 9 conference tracks and focuses on quality content, context, and in-depth discussions accompanied with vast opportunities to network in a group of peers. [Learn more.](#)

[Grid Modernization Forum](#)

Dates: May 11-12, 2021

The 6th Annual Grid Modernization Virtual Forum will examine lessons learned to date by industry leaders pushing the frontiers of grid modernization and reliability. Key technology innovators and executives will share perspectives on how best to leverage smart grid investment, effectively engage customers, and meet the challenges of the changing energy

investment, effectively engage customers, and meet the challenges of the changing energy ecosystem. [Learn more.](#)

Climate Leadership Exchange

Dates: May 25, 2021

The virtual Climate Leadership Exchange is an opportunity to engage and connect with North America's most influential community of climate leaders from business, government, academia, and the non-profit sector. [Learn more.](#)

Funding Opportunities

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Active

Advancing Electricity-Conducting Materials Manufacturing

Deadline: June 8, 2021

Awards: \$4.5M

Enhancing Flow Battery Systems Manufacturing

Deadline: June 30, 2021

Awards: \$5M

Transportation Demonstration Program

Deadline: June 25, 2021

Awards: \$100,000

Upcoming

NOI: Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) FY 2021 Multi Topic FOA

Deadline: May 10, 2021

Awards: TBD

Low Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Vehicle Technologies Research, Development,

Demonstration and Deployment

Deadline: TBD

Awards: TBD

Rolling

- Business Accelerator Fund
- Energy Foundation Grants
- The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Loans for Michigan Businesses

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