

Increasing Resiliency While Creating Carbon Free Energy Solutions

Greetings!

In Michigan, we are used to grinding through another winter with snow and freezing temperatures. What's different this year is the cold and snow which has gripped much of the southern portion of the US and the strain it has placed on our energy grid. How we protect our energy grid and systems from future weather-related events across the country while investing in carbon free energy generation and systems will continue to be topics for research and discussion.



Jim Saber
President & CEO

Our team at NextEnergy explores how carbon-free heating solutions — which are efficient in cold weather climates — are critical to our goals of a carbon free energy future. [Eric McDonald's latest blog on electrifying heating](#) provides insight into solutions which can accelerate this transition.

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](#).

- Jim

Viewpoints



Electrifying Heating

By: Eric McDonald | Director, Facilities & Infrastructure Development at NextEnergy

By 2050, both Governor Whitmer and President Biden hope to achieve carbon neutrality in Michigan and the United States, respectively. To become carbon neutral, Michigan and the U.S. must balance carbon dioxide absorption with the reduction or elimination of carbon dioxide emissions until achieving net zero. Accomplishing these goals will require leveraging new and existing technologies to meet our energy needs.

Furnaces for heating are a major source of emissions and account for up to 40% of greenhouse gas emissions, mostly from natural gas and fuel oil furnaces. To move toward carbon neutrality, we must decrease or eliminate natural gas and fuel oil furnaces and increase the use of electric furnace heating. Though the current electric grid is mostly supplied from natural gas and fossil fuel sources, the expectation is that, due to demand and regulation, electricity generators will have to convert to renewable and zero-carbon sources of electricity, eventually rendering electric heating a carbon-neutral option. [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.](#)

Tim Slusser, Director, Smart Mobility

What he's reading: [Roseville, Ann Arbor schools receive electric buses to help students amid pandemic](#)

Media: Detroit Free Press

What makes it interesting: The State of Michigan and NextEnergy's local utility DTE Energy recently launched a





NextEnergy's local utility, DTE Energy, recently launched a demonstration to understand how EV buses could support local school districts, provide cleaner transportation choices, improve local air quality and provide grid benefits.

[View our full list](#)

News & Events

[Smart Energy Summit 2021](#)

Dates: February 23-24th, 2021

Smart Energy Summit will host virtual sessions and will feature leaders from utilities, state and national regulators, telecom and security companies, retailers, and OEMs. Impact of COVID-19: Consumer Behavior and Energy Management & Energy Management Platforms Accelerating Growth are 2 of the topics to be discussed. [Learn more.](#)

[Carnegie Mellon Energy Week 2021](#)

Dates: March 22-26th 2021

Virtual informative sessions designed to engage thought leadership on critically important topics for our nation's energy and cleantech innovation future. [Learn more.](#)

[2021 IEEE Green Technologies Conference](#)

Dates: April 7-9th 2021

The Annual IEEE GreenTech Conference was conceived to address the challenges of securing green and clean energy sources for the 21st century and building a more resilient and secure power grid to protect the environment. [Learn more.](#)

Funding Opportunities

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

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