



ISGF's flagship global conference on smart energy and smart mobility showcased cutting-edge technologies for future-ready utilities

The 12th edition of ISGF's flagship international conference and exhibition, India Smart Utility Week (ISUW) 2026, held from 10 to 14 March 2026 in New Delhi, concluded successfully with participation of over 2000 delegates, 230+ speakers and representatives from more than 40 electricity utilities in India and overseas.

INDIA SMART UTILITY WEEK 2026 HELD IN NEW DELHI WITH 2000+ DELEGATES, 230+ EXPERT SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPATION FROM 40+ UTILITIES



Inaugural Ceremony of India Smart Utility Week (ISUW) 2026

Organised by the India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF), ISUW has emerged as one of the world's leading platforms for discussions on smart grids, digitalization of utilities, energy transition, electric mobility and smart cities. The event brought together policymakers, regulators, utility leaders, technology providers, industry experts, researchers and innovators to deliberate on the future of the global energy ecosystem.

The weeklong event featured high-level plenary sessions, keynote addresses, bilateral workshops, technical sessions, roundtables, tutorials, technical paper presentations and technical tours, creating a vibrant platform for exchange of ideas, global best practices and emerging technologies.

The event received support from the Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Department of Science & Technology, NITI Aayog, and All India DISCOMs Association (AIDA). The Host Utilities for the event included BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES

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Yamuna Power Limited, The Tata Power Company Limited, Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited, and Noida Power Company Limited. The Platinum Partner of the event was Smart Energy Water, while the Knowledge Partner was Power Foundation of India.

Participants from several countries including USA, UK, Brazil, Indonesia, Netherlands, France, Australia, Slovenia, UAE, Africa and Korea joined ISUW 2026, highlighting the event's growing international importance as a hub for global energy dialogue and cooperation.

A key highlight of ISUW 2026 was the bilateral smart grid workshops with partner countries including the UK, Brazil and Indonesia, aimed at strengthening collaboration in areas such as grid modernisation, renewable energy integration, digitalisation of utilities, electric mobility and emerging energy technologies.

The event also hosted the 10th edition of ISGF Innovation Awards 2026, recognising outstanding innovations, projects and technologies that are accelerating transformation in the energy and utility sectors. Utilities, technology providers, startups and technology providers were honoured for their contributions towards building smarter and more resilient energy systems.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Reji Kumar Pillai, President, India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) said: "India Smart Utility Week has evolved as a globally recognised platform that brings together leaders from utilities, governments, technology companies and academia to accelerate the transformation of the power sector. India is rapidly advancing its energy transition journey with ambitious renewable energy targets, grid modernisation initiatives and electrification of mobility. ISUW continues to support this transformation by bringing global expertise, technologies and partnerships to the Indian power sector."

ISUW 2026 inaugural function was attended by following esteemed dignitaries: Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson, CEA; Alok Kumar, DG, All India DISCOMs Association; Ashish Goel, Chairman, UPPCL; Ashish Khanna, DG, International Solar Alliance; Amal Sinha, Director and Group CEO, BSES; Richard Schomberg, Special Envoy on Smart Electrification, IEC; Brian Motherway, Head-Energy Efficiency Division, IEA; Mashal Dhawan, CEO Asia, SEW.AI and General Secretary, ISGF; and Shivkumar Kalyanaraman, CEO, ANRF.

ISUW 2026 also featured an international exhibition, where leading global and Indian companies showcased advanced smart grid technologies, digital solutions, AI-based energy management platforms, energy storage solutions, electric mobility infrastructure and cybersecurity technologies for utilities.

The conference sessions covered a wide range of themes including:

- Agentic AI – How to Build and Deploy AI Agents
- 10 million Solar Rooftop Systems and Management of Reverse Power Flows on Distribution Feeders
- Regulations for Digital Grids
- Digital Grids on Unified Energy Interface (UEI) Architecture
- Square-Mile-Size AI Data Centers Requiring GW-scale Power Connections
- Rise of "Flexumers" and Digital Tools for DER Management and Grid Integration
- Smart Metering and Smart Meter Data Analytics
- Role of Small Modular Reactors (SMR) in the Net Zero Power Systems
- The Cooling Challenge: Accelerating District Cooling System (DCS) Adoption in India
- Resiliency of the Power Systems Against Extreme Weather Events
- Data Governance Framework and Data Management in Utilities
- New Technologies: AI-ML-VR-AR and Robotics Applications and Reliable Communications for Utilities
- Electric Vehicles – A \$200 Billion Opportunity in India to be Unlocked
- Electrification of Agricultural Sector and Charging of EVs with Green Electricity
- Power Markets and Carbon Markets
- Emerging Solutions for Power System Flexibility
- Future of Work: Working with Digital Colleagues and Humanoid Robots
- Gender Balance in the Energy Sector

ISGF expressed its gratitude to all ministries, partners, speakers, delegates, exhibitors and supporting organisations for their contribution in making ISUW 2026 a grand success.

WE3 ASIA Held in Conjunction with ISUW 2026

The WE3 Asia Summit, held alongside India Smart Utility Week 2026, brought together global leaders, policymakers, and industry experts to explore the role of AI in energy and utilities. Organized with support from India Smart Grid Forum, it featured sessions like the Global CXO Forum on Vertical AI and discussions on connected, customer-centric utilities. Speakers including Reji Kr. Pillai, President ISGF and Kapil Dev, Legendary Cricketer and Former Captain, Indian National Team shared insights on transformation and innovation. The summit concluded with the WE3 Awards and a networking dinner, fostering collaboration for a smarter energy future.



GLOBAL NEWS MARCH 2026

Egypt Explores USD 1 Billion Data Centre and Green Hydrogen Project with Renergy Group

Egypt is set to develop a USD 1 billion hyperscale data center with the Renergy Group alliance and a large-scale green hydrogen project in South Sinai. The proposed hydrogen facility at El-Tor is planned to produce up to 400,000 tonnes per year, with an initial phase targeting 160,000 tonnes annually for export to Europe. The proposed data centre will be powered by renewable energy from the hydrogen project and is planned to be developed with an initial area of 10,000 square metres, expandable to 500,000 square metres. The projects form part of Egypt's broader push to attract investment in clean energy and digital infrastructure.

Read More: <https://shorturl.at/Ne95J>

VinFast Extends Free EV Charging Programme in India, Indonesia and the Philippines until 2029

VinFast has extended its free electric vehicle (EV) charging programme across India, Indonesia and the Philippines until March 31, 2029. The initiative allows VinFast customers to access complimentary charging, helping reduce ownership costs and address charging-related barriers to adoption. The extension forms part of the company's broader push to expand its charging ecosystem through subsidiary V-GREEN and partnerships aimed at strengthening charging infrastructure in key markets.

Read More: <https://shorturl.at/KZuMF>

Taiwan Launches Subsidy Scheme for Behind-the-Meter Energy Storage Systems

Taiwan's Energy Administration has launched a subsidy scheme for behind-the-meter energy storage systems, under which eligible businesses will receive NT USD 5 million per MWh. The scheme will primarily cover storage equipment using locally manufactured lithium-based battery cells. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection will support implementation through testing and certification programmes, with the regulatory framework being expanded from battery-level requirements to system-level integration. Further, the National Centre for Energy Storage System Technology is expected to begin providing testing services in 2026 to address earlier capacity constraints.

Read More: <https://shorturl.at/QE1xC>

Singapore Upgrades EV Charging Framework with New National Standard

The Government of Singapore has upgraded its electric vehicle (EV) charging framework by elevating Technical Reference 25 to a full national standard. The revised standard introduces tighter technical requirements to improve the safety, reliability and consistency of EV charging infrastructure across the country. It expands the regulatory scope to cover wireless power transfer, mobile charging systems and battery swapping for two-wheelers, four-wheelers and heavy goods vehicles. The framework also brings in stricter electrical safety norms, enhanced temperature controls, stronger cable integrity checks for direct current charging systems, cybersecurity provisions and guidelines for smart grid integration and smart charging.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/fra5h4m7>

Assessing the influence of smart grids policy and regulatory framework on electricity revenue generation: The case of South Africa

As the world transitions toward a low-carbon economy using digital technologies. Smart grid technologies have been deployed in countries around the world by integrating renewable energy, digital monitoring, and intelligent control systems in a bid to meet the net-zero carbon emission goal while enhancing operational efficiency and revenue collection. This study gives a comprehensive review of the strides made by the South Africa energy sector towards the realization of a smart energy sector. It further investigates the influence of smart grid (SG) policies and regulatory frameworks on electricity revenue generation in South Africa.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/5yh56p64>



GLOBAL NEWS MARCH 2026

Google, Tesla and Others Form 'Utilize' Coalition for Smarter Grid Use

Google joined forces with Tesla, Verrus, Carrier, Sparkfund, Renew Home, and Span to launch 'Utilize', a coalition aimed at promoting smarter, faster, and more affordable use of existing grid infrastructure. The group highlights that the U.S. grid may operate at as little as 18% of its potential, with over 200 GW of power lost to inefficiencies. Utilize plans to work with states, policymakers, and utilities to unlock hidden grid capacity through batteries, virtual power plants, and advanced grid management technologies.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/44nds3t2>

NVIDIA and Emerald AI Pioneer Flexible AI Factories as Grid Assets

At CERAWeek, NVIDIA and Emerald AI announced collaboration with AES, Constellation, Invenergy, NextEra Energy, and Vistra to develop AI factories that operate as flexible energy assets supporting the grid. The initiative uses NVIDIA's Vera Rubin DSX AI Factory reference design with DSX Flex software for connecting AI data centres to power-grid services. These facilities can use co-located energy generation and storage as bridge power and flexibly supply the grid, transforming data centres from passive energy consumers into active grid resources.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/yuvn8kct>

BAIC Achieves Sodium-Ion EV Battery Breakthrough: 11-Minute Charging, 450 km Range

BAIC Group had completed a sodium-ion battery prototype and established a mass-production method for prismatic batteries. The sodium-ion EV battery achieves a CLTC driving range of 450 km with an energy density of over 170 Wh/kg. Featuring 4C ultra-fast charging, the battery fully recharges in about 11 minutes and operates across an extreme temperature range of -40°C to 60°C, retaining over 92% energy at -20°C.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/43cavtse>

Google-Xcel Energy Announce World's Largest Battery: 300 MW / 30 GWh Iron-Air System

Google and Xcel Energy announced a landmark agreement to deploy a 300 MW / 30 GWh iron-air battery system by Form Energy in Pine Island, Minnesota — the largest battery by energy capacity ever announced globally. The 100-hour battery will support a Google data center powered by 1.6 GW of renewables. The project includes 1,400 MW of wind, 200 MW of solar, and a \$50 million investment in grid reliability, with Google covering all infrastructure costs.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/ycyekv6u>

CEA Mandates Grid-Forming Inverter Standards for High Renewable Penetration

India's Central Electricity Authority (CEA) signalled a new focus on grid-forming inverter technology, indicating tighter grid codes ahead as the country prepares for high rooftop solar penetration. Grid-forming inverters, unlike conventional grid-following inverters, can independently establish voltage and frequency references, enabling stable operation of grids with very high shares of inverter-based renewable energy. This is a critical technological requirement as India targets 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/5736jpvh>

Google Secured Discom License for Vizag Data Centre Hub

Google has secured a power distribution licence for its upcoming 1 GW data centre hub in

Visakhapatnam, a significant step for the \$15 billion project. This licence makes Google the first private company to directly procure and distribute electricity in Andhra Pradesh, offering cost efficiencies and tighter control over its substantial energy needs.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/4c7GRHU>



THE COST OF GLOBAL WARMING IS CALLING US FOR MORE DECARBONIZATION



At a time when the oil crisis is drawing everyone's attention to prices and the geopolitical situation, the newspaper "Le Monde" is highlighting the work of a young economist on global warming, through its Best Young Economist Prize. It has been awarded this year 2026 to Adrien Bilal. The jury praised the originality, rigour and international impact of his work, which represents a profound renewal of the macroeconomic analysis of climate change.

Adrien Bilal is an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at Stanford University, a member of the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, and an associate professor of Environmental Social Sciences. Adrien Bilal's research lies at the intersection of macroeconomics, climate economics, spatial economics and labour economics. He is particularly interested in assessing the effects of climate change on economic growth, inequality and risk, as well as how these impacts interact with innovation, energy use and public policy.

What does Adrien Bilal tell us? It is essential to examine the macroeconomic effects of global warming in order to reconcile the economic perspective on global warming with the scientific perspective. If we analyse the effects of climate change country by country, we do not get the same results as we do at a global level. Yet, as we know, climate phenomena – storms, fires, droughts and floods – know no borders. The work of Adrien Bilal has been published in leading international academic journals, including the Quarterly Journal of Economics and Econometrica.

Among his major contributions, "The Macroeconomic Impact of Climate Change: Global vs. Local Temperature" (with Diego Känzig) shows that the economic cost of global warming could be significantly higher than previous estimates, reaching up to 23% of global GDP per additional degree.

Concretely, according to the global GDP 2025 figure, one degree more would cost 26,956 trillion of dollars. Given all the catastrophes we had these recent years, this figure helps us to understand why is energy transition so urgent to implement and to achieve.

It goes through the importance of continuing implementing renewable energies – looking also for more flexibility at the same time (demand side management, storage); use more electrical vehicles, including collectives EV (bus, lorries, trains); innovate in the energy sector to make all these tools more efficient, and develop energy efficiency, clean cooking, new energies such as geothermal, biomass etc.

Indeed, the situation in Middle East proves that alternative to fossil fuels must be looked upon, and economical research definitely proves that it is truly valuable.

Article contributed by Ms Valerie-Anne Lencznar
GSEF Ambassador-Europe & Francophone Africa Regions



RESEARCH INTO A DEEP GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP SYSTEM AT CAUSEWAY HOSPITAL, COLERAINE, NORTHERN IRELAND

Background

In June 2025, Northern Health and Social Care Trust ("NHSCT") contracted the Centre for Competitiveness ("CforC") and Smart Grid Ireland member company Specialist Geothermal Developer Causeway Energies to conduct a Phase 1 Feasibility and Concept Selection study of the geothermal heat pump options to replace gas boiler heating in the Causeway Hospital in Coleraine Northern Ireland. The study looked at both shallow geothermal (also referred to as "ground source") and deep (say, greater than 300 m) geothermal resources to supply heat to a large heat pump package to replace one of the existing three gas-fired boilers in the energy centre (thereby retaining at least n+1 resilience). Note: Smart Grid Ireland and Biogas Ireland operate within the Centre for Competitiveness social enterprise umbrella

Heat Demand

An initial approximation of the monthly heat demand was estimated using gas consumption data provided by the Trust. This indicated 9.3 GWh heat demand annually and a peak of 2.2 MW. Subsequently the Trust supplied detailed temperature and pump rate data for the main flow and return headers from the energy centre. Analysis of these data indicates a heat use 40% less than the gas consumption baseline. The narrow temperature window ($< 3^{\circ}\text{C}$) between flow and return is the principal reason for this difference. As a larger temperature difference will not only improve the efficiency of the existing system but will also maximise the efficiency of any future heat pump system, a detailed energy metering study has been recommended.

Geology

The shallow geology of the hospital area is comprised by the basalts of the County Antrim Lava Group. These fractured rocks are poor to fair aquifers in Northern Ireland and can support closed loop Borehole Heat Exchangers and semi-open loop Standing Column Wells. The deeper geology, not yet directly constrained by drilling in the area, is nevertheless confidently interpolated from deep boreholes elsewhere in the adjacent Rathlin Basin using a range of geophysical data. These data and interpretations, including some oil and gas exploration data held by the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland ("GSNI"), have been compiled in this study and a preliminary prognosis for the geology at depth generated. Of particular interest is the predicted presence of the Sherwood Sandstone, a prospective Warm-Hot Sedimentary Aquifer (W-HSA), with the formation top expected at somewhere between 250 and 750 m depth.

Large unit heat pump

Large heat pump manufacturers have supplied cost and performance information to the project, and these data have been used to inform the expected Coefficient of Performance (COP) of various scenarios of geothermal heat pump systems.

Geothermal options

Four systems were analysed in some depth and in order of increasing feasibility and economic viability they are:

- Closed loop geothermal exchange, comprising 700+ boreholes;
- GeoSolar exchange, comprising 120 boreholes and ~5 hectares of solar PVT;
- Standing Column Well system, a North American system type currently not used in the UK but of proven potential in Northern Ireland, comprising 25 semi-open loop boreholes;
- Deep Geothermal Heat Pump (Deep GHP™), a proprietary concept trade marked by Causeway, involves a doublet of abstraction and injection wells in the Sherwood Sandstone.

The economic trade-offs of each of these systems and comparison with the gas boiler baseline were examined in detail using RFI-based quotes for capital costs and operating costs based on COPs of the heat pumps given different source temperatures of each scenario. Quoted electricity and gas unit costs were used as flat forward assumptions for Levelised Cost of Heat (LCOH) calculations for each scenario.

The Deep GHP proves to have the lowest LCOH of the four geothermal options and is competitive with gas. Emissions savings depend on the carbon intensity of the electricity being used by the heat pump but will be at least 75% of the gas baseline.

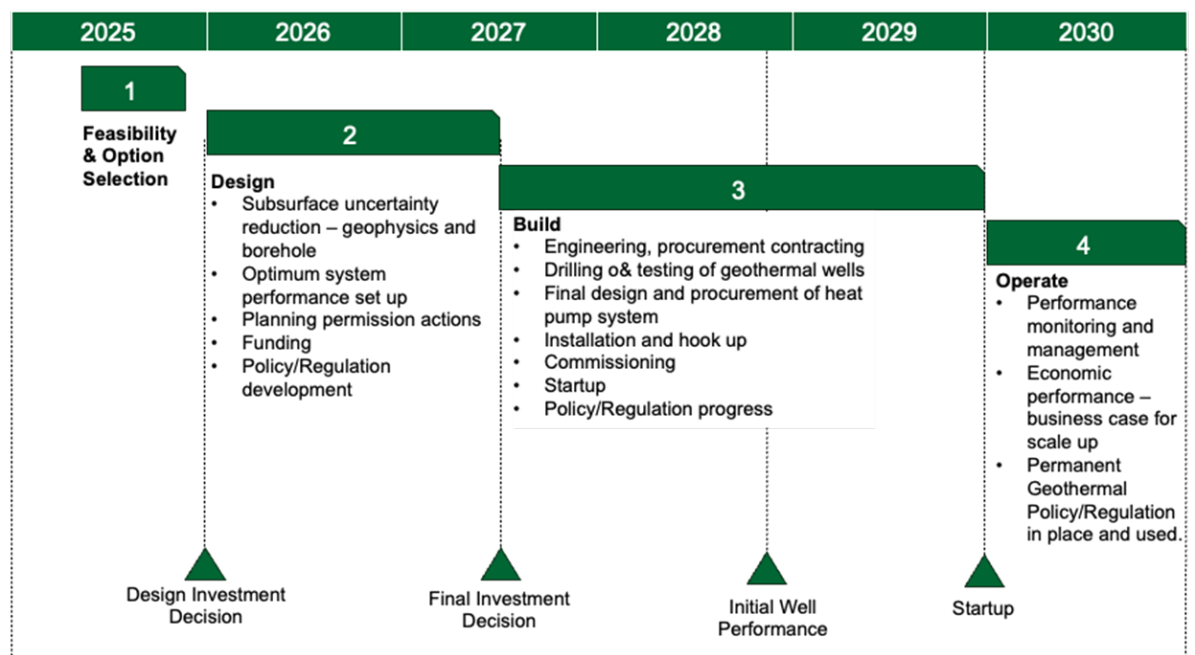


Phase 2

The progression of the Deep GHP is now being pursued. It will not only support NHSCT's decarbonisation ambitions but form a pathfinder project for other hospitals in the UK, as well as demonstrating the technology for other uses such as heat networks. It is desired that the pathfinder project is progressed in collaboration with other organisations such as the Department for the Economy, as opportunities can be taken to secure funding and to facilitate the development of policy and other measures required for scaling geothermal energy use in Northern Ireland.

The next phase (Phase 2, Appendix A) of the project will involve significant development expenditure (devex) to reduce resource risk and design uncertainty imparted by geological factors and to optimize the efficiency of the heating (and cooling) systems in the hospital. Not including any changes to the hospital heating systems downstream of the heat pump, a preliminary headline estimate for development + capital cost of the full project timeline to completion is £Xm excluding changes to the downstream heating system, nor any modifications or upgrades to the cooling system.

APPENDIX A: OVERALL OUTLINE PROJECT PLAN



Article Contributed by Mr Bob Barbour, Secretariat & Chief Executive, Smart Grid Ireland, and Director, Centre for Competitiveness Ireland Ltd



INDIA, AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND: STRATEGY TO MITIGATE OIL CRISIS



I have just returned from a month-long visit to India, Australia and New Zealand. The Middle East conflict (currently in its 7th week) is taking a toll on the transportation sector in terms of high gasoline and diesel prices and shortages in some areas. In India where the retail prices are regulated, the state-owned distribution companies are accumulating higher losses. Should this crisis last longer, it would be bad for their economies. While the impact is felt across all parts of the economy, a few significant ones are mentioned below:

1. **Transportation:** All three countries are heavily reliant (about 85%) on imported fuels for transportation (ground and aviation) and agriculture. While India refines imported crude, Australia and New Zealand depend on refined fuels from overseas refineries.
2. **Power Generation:** Gas-fired generation are deployed as peaking plants, industrial self-generation plants and/or trigeneration plants. Few remote locations are diesel power generation. All this power generation now costs much more.

The annual fuel (gasoline and diesel) consumption in New Zealand is about 3 billion liters; Australia is about 55 billion liters and India about 50 billion liters. The three countries combined import about 110 billion liters of gasoline and diesel fuel per year.

The only way to mitigate imported fossil fuel price volatility is to find alternative domestic fuel substitutes. Such alternate pathways in the transportation sector include (1) electrification of freight corridors; (2) electric vehicles; and/or (3) domestic biofuels (ethanol or biodiesel). In this regard all three countries are well poised:

1. All three countries produce sufficient ethanol which can be expanded. Australia and India produce ethanol from sugarcane while New Zealand produces ethanol from dairy byproducts. Ethanol in Australia has been unprofitable and needs to be revived. New Zealand exports its ethanol. India currently has a surplus for its domestic needs. Unlike Brazil, ethanol vehicles are limited to E10 or E15 blends in Australia and India. Ethanol vehicles are rare in New Zealand despite ethanol exports (not sure why).
2. All three countries have low biodiesel production. This needs to be substantially raised to support the vital trucking industry in the short term. In New Zealand, biodiesel is used in the marine sector and industrial scale boilers. Australia produces limited biodiesel for B10-B15 blends. India produces limited biodiesel for medium and heavy-duty vehicles with blends between B5-B20. Biodiesel in trucks can have significant payoffs due to their large fuel consumption in commercial goods transport.
3. The ability to electrify transportation corridors only works if the electric grid is reliable and its power generation is based on domestic fuels or renewables. In this regard India, Australia and New Zealand have made significant advances in RE power generation. As of 2025:
 - a. New Zealand has 85.5% of electricity generated from RE (hydro and geothermal power).
 - b. Australia has 46% RE (solar PV & wind) on a base of 54% coal generation.
 - c. India has 51.93% RE (solar PV & wind) on a base of 52% coal/hydro/nuclear generation
4. All three countries are committed to decarbonizing their transportation sector by 2035 and are heavily invested in electric vehicles over the past recent years with global EV brands available in their domestic retail markets for cars and buses.

With the above policy, technology and investment focus, India, Australia and New Zealand have the potential to offset significant portion of their fuel imports. All the three countries are well on their way to enabling 2035 transportation decarbonization pathways. However, all three countries need to accelerate their EV, ethanol, and biodiesel roadmaps with more short-term incentives and investments to meet this oil crisis.



Most global oil shocks have resulted in innovation targeting permanent reduction. The world has experienced six major oil crises (1973 OPEC embargo; 1979 Iranian Oil Crisis; 1980/90s volatility in oil markets; Post 9/11 geopolitical tensions; and 2008 Financial Crisis and its impact on oil prices). The first saw smaller engines (V6, L6, L4); the next few saw energy efficiency and aerodynamic improvement (direct fuel injection, EGR, turbocharging), and the last saw the ramp up of electric vehicle production.

The current crisis will speed up EV innovation thanks to falling battery costs. However, in the interim, ethanol and biodiesel pathways should not be abandoned. Hydrogen transportation pathways are still a decade away.

Each EV car displaces about 1,000 liters of gasoline per year while an EV truck (or electrified freight car) displaces about 10,000 liters of diesel per year. Thus, even a mere 10,000 EV cars and 10,000 EV trucks could offset 10 million liters of gasoline and 100 million liters of diesel annually. The 10-year lifetime fuel displacement would be about 100 million liters for EV cars and 1 billion liters for EV trucks (or electrified freight cars). These are large transformational numbers for energy security. The EV pathway and electrification of freight corridors is therefore significant towards attaining national fuel security in transportation.

India, Australia and New Zealand have a skillsets, capital and technology to achieve this transformation collaboratively. It will be painful and costly in the interim but well worth it in the long run for their nations to not only reduce their fuel import bills but also achieve fuel security.

Article contributed by Ravi Seethapathy, GSEF Ambassador for Americas

ORGANIZER
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India Smart Grid Forum

**DISTRIBUTION
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**10th Annual Conference of Power
Distribution Utilities for Collaborative Growth**

**27 - 28
OCTOBER 2026**

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International Smart Grid events

10th - 14th March 2026

12th India Smart Utility Week (ISUW 2026), New Delhi
<http://www.isuw.in/>

17th - 19th March 2026

EN26 Conference & Exhibition, Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia
<https://www.energynetworks.com.au/events/en26-conference-exhibition/>

24th - 25th March 2026

Lisbon Energy Summit & Exhibition 2026, Lisbon, Portugal, www.lisbonenergysummit.com

25th - 27th March 2026

ASEAN (Bangkok) Smart Energy & Energy Storage Expo 2026, Bangkok, Thailand
<https://www.aseancleanenergyexpo.com/>

30th March - 1st April 2026

Egypt Energy Show – Egyptes Cairo, Egypt
<https://shorturl.at/tahpe>

19th - 21st May 2026

World Utilities Congress, Abu Dhabi,
<https://www.worldutilitiescongress.com/>

26th - 28th May, 2026

Japan Energy Summit & Exhibition, Tokyo, Tokyo Japan,
<http://japanenergyevent.com/>

08th - 11th June, 2026

Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) 2026, ADB Headquarters, Manila
<https://asiacleanenergyforum.adb.org/>

9th - 10th June 2026

CIRE Brussels (Belgium)
<https://2026brussels.cired.net/>

22nd - 23rd June 2026

I-Red Online 2026: Battery Energy Storage Plants in Power Systems – Markets, Technologies and Regulation
<https://ired-online.der-lab.net/>

23rd - 28th August 2026

CIGRE, Paris Session 2026, Palais des Congrès, Paris, France,
<https://session.cigre.org/>

1st - 3rd September 2026

Middle East Energy Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai,
<https://www.middleeast-energy.com/en/home.html>

22nd - 24th September 2026

ENLIT ASIA
ICE, BSD City, Jakarta, Indonesia
<https://www.enlit-asia.com/>

6th - 7th, October 2026

18th Latin American Smart Grid Forum, São Paulo, Brazil,
<https://www.smartgrid.com.br/eng>

11th - 13th October 2026

17th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM17), October 2026, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
<https://www.cleanenergyministerial.org/>

11th - 15th October 2026

25th WPC Energy Congress, Riyadh Saudi Arabia,
<https://wpcenergy.org/>



26th to 30th October 2026

Singapore International Energy Week
2026 Singapore, Marina Bay Sands,
Singapore.
<https://www.siew.gov.sg/>

2nd - 5th November, 2026

Future Power Expo Riyadh Front Exhibition
& Conference Center ADIPEC, Abu Dhabi,
United Arab Emirates,
<https://www.adipec.com/>

9th - 20th November 2026

COP 31- UN Climate Change Conference,
Antalya, Türkiye,
<https://unfccc.int/cop31>

10th - 12th November, 2026

Enlit Europe
Vienna, Austria
<https://www.enlit-europe.com/>

International Smart Grid Action Network



The 12th ISGAN Awards of Excellence

COMPETITION THEME

Excellence in Long-Term Planning of Smart Distribution Grids under Uncertainty

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects must demonstrate a clear focus on long-term planning of smart distribution grids under uncertainty, showing how they have contributed to improving planning processes that lead to informed real-world decisions, investment priorities, or operational strategies. Under this condition, eligible projects include:

- Adaptive or Scenario-Based Distribution Network Planning
- Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Hosting Capacity and Interconnection Assessment
- Digitalization of Distribution Network Infrastructure
- Integrated Non-Wires Alternatives (NWA) Evaluation and Deployment
- Resilience Enhancement and Climate Risk Mitigation
- Asset Health-Based Optimization and Reinforcement Planning
- Stakeholder Engagement and Policy Alignment
- Cost Efficiency and Tariff Impact Assessment

IMPORTANT DATES

- DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS
: 31 MAY 2026
- NOTIFICATION OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS
: 20 JULY 2026
- AWARDS CEREMONY:
 - DURING THE 17th CLEAN ENERGY MINISTERIAL (CEM17)
 - OCTOBER 2026, RIYADH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
- PUBLICATION: IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY AND THEREAFTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: WWW.IEA-ISGAN.ORG



Members



Think Smart Grids



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Korea Smart Grid Association (KSGA)



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Smart Grid Ireland



Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT)



Electricity Supply Commission of South Africa (ESKOM)



Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) Malaysia



European Distribution System Operators (E.DSO)



Botswana Power Corporation



Green Business Certification Inc.



Florence School of Regulation (FSR)



Electric Power Research Institute



Texas State University



Arab Renewable Energy Commission



Association of Power Utilities of Africa

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