

Invitation and Registration

Delegation to Germany on Grid Modernization
May 6-9, 2019



Flexibility Options in the Distribution Grid

The role of distribution grids is evolving. Regulators and distribution grid operators face an array of unprecedented responsibilities and opportunities, associated with the rapid increase of intermittent distributed energy sources, new digital technologies, and demand response.

The United States and Europe face many common questions on the road towards a smarter and more flexible distribution grid: How can we increase grid flexibility and resilience in the most economical way? What are the tradeoffs between digitalization and cybersecurity? How can the costs of grid modernization be allocated amongst stakeholders?

With the goal to better understand and navigate a new reality of grid operation needs, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy ([BMWi](#)) **invites you to participate in a transatlantic thought leader exchange**. The trip is part of a broader scale effort to strengthen the energy cooperation between our countries, encourage the exchange of ideas, and build energy transition policy expertise.

This knowledge exchange aims to provide intelligent solutions for distribution grid architecture, rate design, the integration of distributed energy sources, electric vehicles, and demand flexibility. It offers the opportunity for multi-stakeholder executives to jointly explore avenues towards the grid of the future.

Local Partner

Planned activities

The program entails a combination of:

- **Presentations** on the regulatory, technical, and economic issues facing the power distribution grid in Germany. The US delegation will visit relevant ministries and important stakeholders.
- **Meetings** and peer-to-peer exchange between grid modernization executives from the US and Germany. You will meet major distribution grid actors and energy experts from the administration, regulators, and utilities.
- **Site visits.** The participants will visit flagship projects in Berlin.
- **Identify actions** for continuing cooperation through workshops at the beginning and end of the trip.
- The trip aims to **deepen the dialogue** started during previous energy policy exchanges. Both new and previous participants are invited to join.

“Exceptional depth and breadth of German participation. And exceptionally organized.”

Scott Wright, Executive Director Strategic Planning, MISO (Participant of delegation to Germany in September 2017)

Trip layout

- Duration of the program is four days, from Monday, May 6 to Thursday, May 9, 2019. Travel to Berlin is planned for Sunday, May 5, departure for Friday, May 10, 2019.
- A small group size of up to **15 participants** will ensure an individualized experience and an optimum group dynamic.
- The programming will be in English, with bilingual staff on-site for language support.
- Participants will receive short profiles about the visited institutions and sites prior to the trip.
- A preliminary **agenda is attached** to this invitation. For updates about the itinerary, please contact us.

Program cost and coverage

- The trip takes place upon the **invitation of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy**.
- This includes the **facilitation of all meetings, ground transportation, and select meals** (all lunches and one welcome dinner) within the scope of the program.
- Participants are responsible for their own airfare to and from Germany (~\$1,000.00), their accommodation (~\$110/night incl. breakfast for 3*** hotel) and for meals that are not part of the official program.
- **There is no separate program fee.**

How do I register?

Participation is open to **executives** from electric utilities, regulatory agencies, research institutions and other stakeholders that drive grid modernization.

- Complete the following forms and submit via email attachment to jess@gaccmidwest.org.
- **Registration deadline: February 15, 2019.**
- Participation is limited to 15 individuals. Participants will be confirmed by **March 1, 2019**.

Registration and Participant Agreement

Delegation to Germany

Knowledge-exchange between US and German power system operators

Please read the following statements carefully and indicate your agreement to the terms by signing below.

I hereby acknowledge and agree to the following terms:

1. I hereby confirm my participation in the delegation, starting on **Monday, May 6, 2019** and ending on **Thursday, May 9, 2019**, organized by RENAC and the German American Chambers of Commerce (hereinafter "Program Organizer") on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.
2. I am aware of the intensive nature of the program's agenda and agree to fully participate in all modules therein to the best of my ability. Typical program days will begin no later than 8:00am and end no earlier than 8:00pm. This will include conferences, site visits and networking events, and travel by bus and/or walking up to 30 minutes at a time. Every participant is responsible for being on time for all parts of the program.
3. I will represent my home country and my industry in a responsible manner and respect the laws and customs of my host country at all times.
4. I hereby waive, release and discharge Program Organizer, its governors, trustees, officers, employees and agents from any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of actions, costs and expenses for and by reason of any personal injury, property damage, loss and expense, which heretofore have been or hereafter may be sustained or suffered by me in consequence of and as a result of a certain accident, casualty or event or my presence or activities in connection with this trip. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless Program Partner for injuries sustained either by me and/or caused by me to others during this trip.
5. I hereby acknowledge and agree that I have health insurance that will cover me for the duration of the program. I have either made sure that my US insurance will cover me in Germany or I have purchased extra travel insurance coverage.
6. I understand the division of associated costs, as explained here:
 - The trip is sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. This includes the facilitation of all meetings, ground transportation, and select meals (all lunches and one welcome dinner) within the scope of the program.
 - I am responsible for covering the booking and cost of air travel to and from Germany, my accommodation, and transportation from and to the airport. I am also responsible for meals that are not part of the official program.

7. I understand that Program Organizer reserves the right to cancel the trip due to unforeseeable circumstances such as natural disasters or other hindrances to international travel. The decision to cancel the trip is left to Program Organizer's sole discretion.
8. Program Organizer has my permission to use pictures taken in the course of the trip in print and digital media for the sake of documenting and promoting this transatlantic exchange. This includes, but is not limited to, display of images of my likeness on promotional material related to the program.

I grant Program Organizer use of the following information for purposes related to this program:

First Name: _____ Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Organization:

Job title:

Phone:

Phone: _____ Mobile (used during trip): _____

Address:

Email:

Bio (brief bio including a description of your current focus area / expertise within the industry in context of the trip, no more than 1500 characters):

My motivation for joining the trip (1500 characters max):

Please note three questions you'd like to get answered during the trip? (1500 characters max.)

I verify that the information provided above is true and complete. I have no objection to the terms of this agreement.

I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree to the above Participant Agreement.

Name

Date