



ELECTRIC OPERATIONS CONFERENCE & EXPO

January 13 & 14, 2027

KALAHARI RESORT | WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

Organized by Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) and Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA)

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Current as of Oct. 15, 2026; subject to change.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

10:30 a.m.	MEUW Board of Directors Meeting (open to all MEUW member classes)
11:00 a.m.	Registration Check-in Opens
Attendees are encouraged to meet colleagues to grab something to eat before the conference begins (lunch is not provided with registration)	
1:00 p.m.	Welcome / Kick-Off
1:15 p.m.	GENERAL SESSION A: Update from Public Service Commission <i>Kate Christensen — Administrator, Division of Energy Regulation and Analysis</i>
2:00 p.m.	GENERAL SESSION B: Strategic Update from Focus on Energy <i>Matt Bromley — External Relations Director</i>
2:30 p.m.	NETWORKING BREAK
3:00 p.m.	GENERAL SESSION C: "Powering Progress: Insights from Business Customers" <i>Facilitated panel discussion featuring Wisconsin business leaders addressing their energy needs</i>
4:00 p.m.	DAY ONE KEYNOTE ADDRESS: "We're All Leaders: How Everyday Actions Shape Teams, Safety, and Well-Being" by Dana Zurbuchen  <i>Every one of us is leading someone, somewhere — every day! How we show up, how we communicate, and how we care for the people around us makes a difference. As a Certified Professional Coach and long-time business owner, Dana will explore what real leadership looks like: knowing people as individuals, understanding their strengths, putting the right people in the right seats, and making repetitive work meaningful. She'll show how leaders shape safety through relationships and support others through clarity, care, and psychological safety. The session also opens the floor for discussion on what you want in a leader and what makes someone worth following. Rooted in Dana's self-taught journey, this conversation reinforces one truth: People don't leave jobs — they leave bosses.</i>
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	WELCOME RECEPTION (followed by dinner on your own)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

6:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration Check-in Available
6:30 a.m.	NETWORKING BREAKFAST
8:00 a.m.	Welcome / Opening Remarks
8:05 a.m.	GENERAL SESSION D: "Defending the Grid Against Emerging Cyber-Physical Threats" <i>Dr. Dave Schroeder — Director of National Security Initiatives, University of Wisconsin–Madison</i>

Program continues until 4:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14** (continued)

9:00 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION E:** "Investing in Resiliency for Your Distribution System"
Dave Krause, P.E. — Principal Engineer, EPS Engineering and Design

9:30 a.m. **NETWORKING BREAK**



UTILITY SUPPLIER EXPO | 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
featuring dozens of electric utility suppliers and partners showcasing the latest technologies, products, and services



10:30 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION F:** Long-range Cash Flow Planning and Rate Setting
Peter Curtin — Fiscal Consultant, Ehlers

11:00 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION G:** Wildfire Mitigation
Heather Andrew — Manager-Distribution Planning & Studies, Power Systems Engineering

11:30 a.m. **NETWORKING LUNCH**

1:00 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION H:** "Lessons Learned from Recent Mutual Aid Responses"
Facilitated panel discussion featuring utility leaders impacted by severe storms and outages

1:45 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION I:** "The State of Wisconsin Politics and the New Legislative Session"
Kristin Gilkes — Executive Director, Customers First Coalition

2:15 p.m. **NETWORKING BREAK**

2:30 p.m. **SMALL GROUP COHORT SESSIONS**
Facilitated roundtable discussions among similarly situated attendees to address topics most important and relevant to the participants — an opportunity to make connections with others who share the same challenges. Participants select their own cohort group (to be defined)

3:40 p.m. **DAY TWO KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** Super Bowl Champion Don Beebe
A wide receiver in the National Football League for nine seasons, Beebe was a member of the Buffalo Bills teams that lost four consecutive Super Bowls before making two more Super Bowl appearances with the Green Bay Packers, including a 1997 win in Super Bowl XXXI. His personal story of perseverance and determination highlights his struggles, successes, and the importance of family values in achieving one's goals.



4:25 p.m. *Announcement of prize winners (must be present to claim prizes)*

4:30 p.m. **PROGRAM CONCLUDES**

**APPRENTICE GRADUATION**

Ticketed event; separate registration required

6:00 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Banquet and Program

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00 a.m. REC Superintendents' Conference