JOIN US AT THE NCEA ENERGY DELIVERY WORKSHOP:
Collaborate with other North Central Electrical Association energy delivery executive personnel at the 2017 NCEA Energy Delivery Workshop, May 4 & 5, 2017. This NCEA Workshop is the perfect venue to explore new technologies and current issues facing energy and power delivery at our member utilities.

PRESENTATIONS:
We will have presentations that are based on topics that you requested from past workshop surveys. These topics are the most demanding concerns facing our NCEA member utilities at this time.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS:
Roundtable discussion sessions continue to be the highlight of NCEA workshops. Participants will learn from peers, discuss pressing concerns, offer remedies and advice, and share general knowledge that help our members save money and serve customers better. This year we have devoted additional time for roundtable discussion on our agenda, due to its popularity. To increase the value of the roundtable discussions, we ask you to submit questions electronically that you would like presented at this workshop. You can also present your questions at the workshop.

REGISTER YOUR COMPANY’S FIVE PARTICIPANTS BY APRIL 15!

2017 Workshop Co-Chairs:
Dan Gunderson, Director – Distribution Operations, ALLETE-Minnesota Power
Josh Goutermont, Manager – Electric Operations, Superior Water, Light & Power

NCEA Delivery Workshop Location:
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall – Lower Level Conference Rooms – Minneapolis, MN

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:
Minneapolis Marriott City Center
612-349-4000
30 South 7th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

➢ Call in the Marriott City Center: 612-349-4000 to secure your lodging.
➢ Specify Group Code: Xcel Energy - Energy Delivery to receive our block lodging rate of $193 per night.
➢ Hotel reservations must be made by: April 15, 2017. After that date, reservations accepted based upon availability, at a higher cost.
➢ Ramp parking available at the hotel, and surface lots near Xcel Energy.

612-349-4000
Make your reservations before April 15 for the NCEA rate.
### Thursday, May 4, 2017:

**8:00 AM**  
Registration: Xcel Energy’s lower level Bay Meeting Rooms 1 & 2. Bring an ID to pass Xcel’s security desk.

**8:15 AM**  
Welcome & Self-Introductions: Opening remarks and self-introductions  

**8:30 AM**  
General Session I: “NCEA Utilities’ Initiative Briefing – What’s New in Delivery at Your Utility?”  
5-Minute Presentations: Each company conveys the latest, newest, or most urgent concerns at their utility  
Description: A representative from each utility present will provide an update on current initiatives underway.

**9:15 AM**  
General Session II: “Xcel Energy’s DSM Initiatives & Regulatory Look-Ahead”  
Presenter: Shawn White, Manager – DSM Strategy & Financial Operations, Xcel Energy  
Description: From customer engagement to earnings (and maybe even grid operations) in the future, energy efficiency and demand response programs (Demand Side Management (DSM) collectively) can be a win/win/win if the rules are right. This presentation will discuss the breadth of programs Xcel Energy offers, the benefits to all stakeholders and the regulatory structure that makes it successful. We will also discuss future challenges for this area of the business.

**10:15 AM**  
General Session III: “Otter Tail Power’s Distribution Automation Challenges”  
Presenter: Ricard Johnson, PE, Manager – Delivery Engineering, Otter Tail Power Co.  
Description: Otter Tail Power Company serves 130,000 customers in a 70,000 square mile territory; i.e. 1.86 customers per mile. They have 500 distribution substations serving 422 communities. OTP’s greatest challenge is achieving visibility of the assets over the large geographic footprint. Technologies which are on our roadmap include, but not limited to: (1) a more comprehensive communications infrastructure; (2) automated metering infrastructure (AMI); (3) distribution SCADA (DSCADA); (4) outage management system (OMS); and (5) distribution/low-voltage transmission automation. As OTP prepares for grid modernization, we remain focused on maintaining high standards of customer satisfaction, reliability, business efficiency, and providing low cost energy for all customers.

**11:15 AM**  
General Session IV: “NorthWestern Energy’s Microgrid Pilot Projects”  
Presenter: John Carmody, Director – Asset Management, NorthWestern Energy  
Description: NorthWestern is implementing a few Microgrid pilot projects in Montana, and a great deal of lessons are being learned from their aggressive pursuits. Our speaker will review each of their Microgrid pilot projects and convey the uniqueness of each one. These projects have helped NorthWestern learn more about implementing renewable energy projects, implementing solar arrays and wind turbines, working with batteries and storage, and they will convey to us their philosophy of working with new technologies for their customers.

**12:15 PM**  
Lunch at Xcel Energy – Bay Rooms 1 & 2: We will be served a hot lunch in our meeting room.

**1:00 PM**  
General Session V: “ALLETE’s 2016 ‘Storm of the Ages’ Restoration Response”  
Presenter: Dan Gunderson, Director – Distribution Operations & Engineering, Minnesota Power  
Description: This presentation will focus on the emergency response for the July 21, 2016 system-wide thunderstorm event which affected one-third of Minnesota Power’s customers in Minnesota’s Arrowhead region. A lessons-learned report out of the associated restoration will be featured, the unique issues that were presented to the MP effort, the success of the mutual aid responses, and how this event helped shape the preparedness of MP’s future restoration efforts.

**2:00 PM**  
General Session VI: “Group Roundtable Discussion”  
Description: Topics for this interactive and open discussion may have been addressed earlier in the workshop, or can be on any topic you present to the group. Ask questions of others, and/or provide expertise based on your experiences – everyone should have some questions for this popular and beneficial session. Here are a few topics to start with:  
- Field automation tools, WiFi, iPads, etc.  
- Manufacturer critiques, pros, cons  
- Ergonomic assessment tools, practices, etc.  
- Discussion of leading safety indicators  
- AMI replacement or installation progress  
- Anything new related to HR/benefits, etc.  
- Interaction/communication with States’ Emergency Management?  
- What is 1-minute of SAIDI/SAIFI reliability worth? Costs/benefits?  
- Any new technology advancements ‘behind the meter’?  
- Are you hiring to fill open positions and/or attracting new people?  
- What is your company working on to improve reliability numbers?  
- How has your distribution structure changed in last few years?

**6:00 PM**  
Group Dinner: Gluek’s, 16 North 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN  
Description: Walk to Gluek’s and dine as a group, ordering dinner off their menu in a private dining room.
FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017:

7:45 AM  Breakfast at Xcel Energy:  We will have a hot breakfast in our meeting room at Xcel Energy. Pass security.

8:15 AM  General Session VII: “Regional Legislative Overview”

    Presenter: Thor Underdahl, Government Affairs Representative, ALLETE-Minnesota Power

    Description: This general session will provide attendees with a regional overview of the legislative landscape following a very unique 2016 election cycle. With new leadership in a host of venues, what will all this mean to the electric utility sector in our Upper Midwest region? The presentation will convey specific trends and pieces of legislation in Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. Bring your questions to this informative session.

9:15 AM  General Session VIII: “Minnesota Power’s GIS Overview”

    Presenter: Brandon Keinath, Supervisor – GIS & Facility Operations, Minnesota Power

    Description: This session will provide an overview of the evolution of their hybrid GIS system at Minnesota Power and how modernization efforts around cutting-edge GIS technology has improved their ability to serve their customers. The implementation and integration of ArcFM Enterprise GIS and Feeder Manager with Minnesota Power’s existing in-house systems are a unique feature, with only minor adjustments needed during their new GIS system roll-out.

10:15 AM General Session IX: “Key Message Development and Delivery & Bakken Update”

    Presenter: Tim Rasmussen, President & Founder, TruLink Communication Services

    Description: Throwing too many messages at the wall? Let’s fine-tune your messaging and find out what’s really important for your organization and what works to connect with your key stakeholders. Once key messages have been developed, let’s discover the best way to deliver them to your key stakeholders. This session also offers tips and techniques to ensure these messages get delivered and understood. And a second part of the presentation will be on North Dakota’s Bakken region. In western North Dakota, energy development in the region known as the “Bakken” has created both ups and downs in recent years. This presentation takes a look at the historical development of this important energy region, the business challenges of the infrastructure growth (during both boom and bust cycles) and provides an updated forecast on the current oil production and a future view under a new Presidential administration.

11:45 AM  Box Lunch & Award Recognition:  Box lunches to go will be delivered to our meeting room

Workshop recognition, request co-chairs and a meeting date/site for the 2018 Delivery Workshop.

12:00 PM  Adjourn & Departure

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE ENERGETIC ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION!

Bring your specific questions to our Thursday roundtable discussion. This may be your best opportunity to ask questions of your peer Midwestern utility personnel who know the issues you face on a regular basis.

Be prepared to ask at least one roundtable question!

HOW TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM RESULTS AT THIS NCEA WORKSHOP:

There is much to learn from the interaction between utility professionals, especially on breaks and during meals. Sharing concerns, successes, challenges, and even failures can help you and others arrive at effective solutions you can bring back to your company and further your status! NCEA events continue to prominently feature networking opportunities and roundtable discussions on all workshop agendas to encourage information sharing. Come to this workshop prepared to share among the group and we can all benefit from the ensuing debate. Don’t be shy, your challenging issues are not exclusive to you, or your electric utility!
WORKSHOP PRESENTER BIOS

Shawn White is tasked with ensuring the long term viability of Xcel Energy’s nationally recognized DSM portfolio and the regulatory compact it operates in. In this role Shawn has testified before various commissions on the value of DSM and the expected changes this industry will need to address. He has been with Xcel Energy for 15 years and has been responsible for the implementation of energy efficiency programs and managed the Energy Efficiency implementation team for Xcel Energy’s Colorado territory before taking on his current role. Shawn graduated from Hawaii Pacific University with a B.S. degree in Marketing in 1998, and from the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Business with a M.A. degree in Strategic Management in 2004. He is also a graduate of the United States Navy’s Nuclear Power Program.

Richard Johnson, PE, Manager – Delivery Engineering, Otter Tail Power Co., Fergus Falls, MN
Richard’s power career has spanned 26 years at Otter Tail Power Company. His background includes system protection, substation civil engineering, transmission engineering, and distribution engineering. Richard currently is the Manager of Delivery Engineering. Delivery Engineering consists of all the engineering disciplines that are included in his background. Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, Master of Business Administration, Certified Professional Engineer in MN and ND. Richard is married to Barbara and has three children: Joseph (son – 30), Jami (daughter – 27), and Jesse (son – 22). His personal time is spent following the Creator, hunting, fishing, racquetball, and carpentry.

John Carmody, Director – Asset Management, NorthWestern Energy, Butte, MT
John has worked for NorthWestern Energy for 30 years in engineering and management. He is currently the Director of Asset Management for the Transmission and Distribution systems for NorthWestern Energy which has operations in Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska. As the Director of Asset Management, his team is responsible for ensuring our utility systems deliver safe and reliable service to their customers. John earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and a B.A. in History from Montana State University, and a Master’s in Business Administration, University of Montana. John also is a registered Professional Engineer in Montana.

Dan Gunderson, Director – Distribution Operations & Engineering, ALLETE-Minnesota Power, Duluth, MN
Dan Gunderson’s current responsibilities include the Management of Line Operations, Distribution Engineering, GIS & Facility Operations, Metering Operations, AMI project, and the Operations Coordination Center. Past experience includes Management of Substation Construction & Maintenance, System Protection, and HVDC Operations. Dan is the current chair of the EEI Distribution Emerging Issues Working Group, past Chair of the AEIC Meter & Service Committee, past voting Member of ANSI C12 Standards for Electric Meters, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Electric Meter School. Dan has a B.A. degree in Electrical Engineering with an emphasis in Power Systems from Michigan Technological University, a M.A. degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in business operations from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota, a Professional Engineer Registration in the State of Minnesota, and a Class A Master Electrician’s license in the state of Minnesota.

Tim Laeupple, Superintendent – T&D Line Operations, Minnesota Power, Duluth, MN
Tim serves as the Superintendent of Transmission and Distribution Line Operations at Minnesota Power. Previously, he was Journeyman Lineman for nearly five years after graduating from Lake Superior College with a degree in commercial and residential wiring. Tim has worked in the line department for Minnesota Power since 1988.

Thor Underdahl, Government Affairs Representative, ALLETE-Minnesota Power, Duluth, MN
Thor Underdahl is a Senior Government Affairs Representative with Minnesota Power and has been with the company for ten years. Thor spent his first five years with the company working in the Human Resources department before joining legislative affairs. Thor has a Bachelor’s of Science in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota-Duluth and a MBA from the University of Wisconsin Eau-Claire. Underdahl is involved in a number of non-profits and is also a mentor in his community.

Brandon Keinath, Supervisor – GIS & Facility Operations, Minnesota Power, Duluth, MN
Brandon is GIS Supervisor at Minnesota Power in Duluth. He has been chair of the Northern Minnesota GIS User Group since 2013. After graduating from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2009 with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Geography, he received his GIS Certificate from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and started working as a GIS Specialist for Superior Water, Light and Power. He became a GIS Programmer Analyst for Minnesota Power in 2013, and was promoted to GIS Supervisor in 2015. When not working on GIS, Brandon and his wife, Molly, enjoy kayaking on Lake Superior, hiking, and operating their hobby farm near Duluth.

Tim Rasmussen, President & Founder, TruLink Communication Services, Bismarck, ND
Like links in a chain, we make connections. For your business strategy to fully connect with those who need to understand it, your goals must be communicated in clear and understandable terms. This is what we do. We will help you make those connections by helping you develop and connect your messages to your audiences. This takes a bit of planning, maybe a bit of training ... and a focused implementation of the developed strategy. The “tr” in TruLink is a not-so-subtle reference to Tim Rasmussen, the owner and founder of TruLink. Tim retired from a 30-year career in communications, public relations and media relations with a leading national natural resources company and started his own consulting business. Tim is an Accredited Business Communicator through the International Association of Business Communicators and holds a master’s degree in management. He is also an adjunct professor in the master’s degree program at the University of Mary in Bismarck.
~ NCEA Member Utilities ~

~ Past NCEA Delivery Workshop Leadership ~

2018 – Any volunteers?
2016 – Dan Wynn, Otter Tail Power & Reed McKee, NorthWestern Energy
2015 – Daryl Anderson, Montana-Dakota Utilities & Vance Crocker, Black Hills Corporation
2014 – Vern Peterson, Wisconsin Public Service & Rick Johnson, Otter Tail Power
2013 – Joel Limoges, Xcel Energy & Bill Fennessey, Superior Water Light & Power
2012 – Steve Benoit & Chuck Kimball, ALLETE-Minnesota Power
2011 – Mike Sydow & Reed McKee, NorthWestern Energy
2010 – Brian Amundson, Xcel Energy & Vern Peterson, Wisconsin Public Service
2009 – Rod Scheel, Otter Tail Power
2008 – Henry Ford, Montana-Dakota Utilities
2007 – Steve Benoit, Allete-Minnesota Power
2006 – Mike Sydow & Reed McKee, NorthWestern Energy
2005 – Michael Lamb, Xcel Energy
2004 – Pat Mullen, Allete-Minnesota Power
COMPANY WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

REMIT THIS FORM TO NCEA: Fax: 952-854-7076 or Email: dale@ncel.org -- Call hotel to secure lodging

NCEA DELIVERY WORKSHOP REGISTRATION – REMIT TO NCEA BEFORE APRIL 15, 2017

“Limit of five (5) attendees per company for this workshop”

COMPANY NAME: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
Email: _________________________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
Business Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
Email: _________________________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
Business Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
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Business Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
Email: _________________________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
Business Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ______________________________________
Email: _________________________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
Business Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Workshop Cost is $275 Per Person – 5 person limit

Hotel Reservation & Workshop Registration Deadline – April 15, 2017

Call now to reserve your room and receive the NCEA Group Rate of $193/night

REGISTRATION TO DO LIST:
• Complete the registration form and remit to the NCEA office by April 15.
• $275 fee includes PDH, credentials, presentations, all group meals listed on agenda, and more.
• Cancellation after April 29 may not be refunded due to commitments.
• Contact us for special dietary needs.
• Call the Marriott City Center before April 15 to reserve your room at our group rate of $193/night.
  Ask for our NCEA Group Code of “Xcel Energy – Energy Delivery.”
  Call the Marriott at 612-349-4000.
• Don’t Delay - Register Today!

QUESTIONS – CONTACT US:
Email: dale@ncel.org
Mail: NCEA
2901 Metro Drive, #203
Bloomington, MN 55425
Phone: Office: 952-854-4405
Cell: 612-325-8740
Fax: 952-854-7076

COMPLETE LEGIBLY FOR CREDIT CARD BILLING: $275 per ___ members = $_________
Correct Billing Address from the credit cards’ billing statement is required to process your registration.

Name on Card: ________________________________________________________________
Billing Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ________________________________________________________________
Credit Card #: ________________________________________________________________
Expiration Date: _____________________________
Email for Receipt: ______________________________________________________________

Remit Registration to NCEA before April 15, 2017
NCEA: 2901 Metro Drive, Suite 203, Bloomington, MN 55425
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Email: dale@ncel.org