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## ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 2-3-25

(News clips from the previous month)

### CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[2025 Long-Term Load Forecast Report Predicts Significant Increase in Electricity Demand](#) - The PJM 2025 Long-Term Load Forecast Report (PDF) predicts significant growth in electricity demand over a 20-year planning horizon.

[American Resources Corporation and ReElement Technologies' Kentucky Lithium Plant Expands to Produce Separated Rare Earth Oxides from Mine and Coal Waste](#) - Company establishes an economically viable process to produce ultra-pure rare earth elements and valuable byproducts from coal and other mining waste.

[Calpine to sell 3.5 GW in PJM to avoid market power concerns from Constellation merger](#) - As part of Constellation Energy's plan to buy Calpine, Calpine will sell power plants in the PJM Interconnection totaling 3,546 MW to allay concerns the combined company could use its market power to affect power prices, the companies told the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Friday.

[Talen goes to court over FERC's Amazon co-located data center rejection](#) - Talen Energy (TLN.O), is asking a U.S. appeals court to weigh in on a decision by federal regulators last year to reject a power agreement for an Amazon (AMZN.O), data center connected directly to Talen's Pennsylvania nuclear plant, according to court filings this week.

[Generator, advanced nuclear stocks reel as low-cost DeepSeek chills AI load growth outlook](#) - Shares of some independent power producers fell sharply Monday amid a broader selloff in technology and AI infrastructure stocks.

[Could Three Mile Island's restart be at risk?](#) - The Trump Administration wants to pause some spending that is helping the restart of a Michigan nuclear power plant. Could this cast doubts about the Three Mile Island restart in the Midstate?

[Talen Energy, Other Parties Reach Reliability Must Run Settlement Agreement for Brandon Shores and H.A. Wagner Power Plants](#) - Agreement maintains critical infrastructure, reliable electricity in Baltimore and protects Maryland consumer rates.

[Forecast wholesale power prices and retail electricity prices rise modestly in 2025](#) - In our January Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO), we expect that U.S. wholesale power prices will average slightly higher in 2025 in most U.S. regions than last year, except in Texas and in the Northwest.

[Trump Seizes Wartime Powers in Battle for More Fossil Fuels](#) - President Donald Trump's declaration of an energy emergency opens the door to wield sweeping Cold War-era powers and little-known authorities to fast track pipelines, expand power grids and save struggling coal plants.

[Big Tech wants to plug data centers right into power plants. Utilities say it's not fair](#) - Looking for a quick fix for their fast-growing electricity diets, tech giants are increasingly looking to strike deals with power plant owners to plug in directly, avoiding a potentially longer and more expensive process of hooking into a fraying electric grid that serves everyone else.

[Trump pumps coal as answer to AI power needs but any boost could be short-lived](#) - President Donald Trump's promise to go all in on fossil fuels includes praise for coal, a reliable but polluting energy source that's long been in decline.

[State utility regulators, 4 governors urge FERC to lower PJM capacity price cap](#) - Four governors, nine state utility commissions, ratepayer advocates and others are backing a complaint that seeks to lower the PJM Interconnection's capacity auction price cap, according to filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[Jan. 22 Update: Extreme Cold Produces PJM Record for Winter Electricity Demand](#) - The PJM generation fleet and transmission system performed reliably through record electricity demand Wednesday morning while supporting neighboring systems on all fronts.

[Could treating acid mine drainage be causing problems downstream?](#) - On a cool November morning, Charles Cravotta was highlighting a smelly environmental success story — and one that might have a surprising side effect.

[PJM's proposal to unlock unused interconnection capacity gains broad support](#) - The PJM Interconnection received broad support for its proposal to expand access to the grid through underused interconnection capacity, which could quickly spur an influx of power supplies in the region, according to filings on Monday at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[Consol merger with Arch: Well-positioned for global sales](#) - Pennsylvania's largest coal company on Tuesday completed its merger with the nation's second-largest coal producer, creating an industry giant with 25 million tons of annual exporting capacity at a time when global coal use remains strong, according to industry observers.

[80% of energy projects withdraw from 'inefficient' US grid queues – Berkeley Lab](#) - Almost 80% of new US energy generation projects awaiting grid connection withdraw their applications before coming online, according to a study from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California.

[PJM's capacity market proposal faces pushback from market monitor, generators](#) - The PJM Interconnection's proposal to revise its must-offer and market seller offer cap, or MSOC, rules faces pushback from its market monitor, trade groups for power plant owners and renewable energy companies, ratepayer advocates and others, according to filings made Friday at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[Feds OK Wyoming Idea To Use Old Wind Turbines To Fill In Coal Mines](#) - An innovative plan to use old wind turbine blades as filler for coal mine reclamation has gotten a thumbs up from the Biden administration after an almost four-year wait.

[2024 in Review: Maintaining an Adequate Generation Supply](#) - One of the key concerns for the electricity industry in 2024 was planning the grid to have enough generation to serve an accelerating demand for power.

[PJM 'shovel-ready' interconnection plan draws mixed reviews at FERC](#) - The PJM Interconnection's proposal for a fast-track interconnection review for shovel-ready generation projects sparked a mixed response at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, according to Wednesday filings at the agency.

[9 US electric power sector issues to watch in 2025](#) - From rising electricity prices and demand to emerging opportunities and challenges around nuclear, VPPs, renewables and more, we've highlighted nine of the most important issues for the year ahead.

[2024 in Review: PJM Markets Adapting for Energy Transition](#) - PJM and stakeholders worked throughout 2024 to adapt PJM electricity markets to meet growing power demands amid dynamic changes in the generation fleet, while market results reflected the need for additional generation resources.

[2024 Year in Review: PJM Operations Maintained Reliability](#) - PJM's dedicated team of operators, in coordination with PJM members, balanced supply and demand to dispatch uninterrupted power in 2024, operating reliably throughout the year's toughest weather.

['Take all appropriate actions': NERC rings in 2025 with winter storm warning](#) - The North American Electric Reliability Corp. rang in the New Year with a grid reliability warning ahead of an expected winter storm that officials said could last "deep into January."

[Factors Affecting the Power Industry in 2025 and Beyond: Trump and Data Centers Among Key Influences](#) - The new year always provides a great opportunity to take a look back to see what POWER got right (or wrong) in our previous industry forecast. More importantly, it gives us a chance to look ahead.

## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL

[Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Launches Massive 10-to-1 Deregulation Initiative](#) - Today, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order to unleash prosperity through deregulation.

[Senate confirms Doug Burgum as Interior secretary](#) - The former governor of North Dakota says he supports an “all of the above” approach to generation, but he joins an administration focused on oil and gas production.

[Zeldin is confirmed as the new EPA administrator. What’s next?](#) - Lee Zeldin has been confirmed as administrator of the U.S. EPA. The Senate confirmed the appointment 56-42 on Wednesday.

[Trump administration rescinds order attempting to freeze federal aid spending](#) - The Trump administration on Wednesday rescinded an order putting a widespread freeze on most federal grants and loans amid significant criticism, according to a new White House memo a source provided to NBC News.

[Trump funding freeze leaves IJIA, IRA projects in limbo](#) - Last week, President Donald Trump told federal agencies to stop disbursing Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act funding, including money that Congress already authorized.

[Trump says he will use energy emergency declaration to approve more power for AI](#) - President Trump said Thursday that he will use his energy emergency declaration to approve power stations for artificial intelligence (AI) centers.

[Trump signed slew of executive orders on Day 1. What are his priorities?](#) - President Donald Trump has begun his promised flurry of executive action on Day 1.

[FERC approves SPP’s Markets+ Western power market, plus 3 other open meeting takeaways](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Thursday conditionally approved the Southwest Power Pool’s Markets+, a real-time and day-ahead market the grid operator expects will begin operating in the West in 2027.

[As Last Measure, Biden Administration Unveils \\$23B in Utility Loan Commitments to Modernize Grid, Boost Clean Energy](#) - As a significant final move before the incoming Trump administration takes office, the Biden administration has announced conditional loan commitments totaling \$22.92 billion to support projects by eight utility companies across the U.S.

[Trump's pick to lead EPA says agency authorized, not required to regulate CO2](#) - U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's pick to lead the Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday said he believes climate change is real and a threat but that the agency he is poised to oversee is just authorized, not required, to regulate carbon dioxide emissions.

[Interior nominee Burgum calls for 'clean coal' to power AI](#) - Interior Secretary nominee North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum testified at his confirmation hearing on Thursday that the United States must invest in “clean coal” to support the growth of an artificial intelligence industry.

[DOE nominee Wright aims to boost power supplies to lower costs](#) - Liberty Energy Chairman and CEO Chris Wright would aim to increase U.S. power supplies to help lower electricity prices if confirmed to be secretary of the Department of Energy, he told the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday.

[2025 FERC, DOE Outlook: Surging demand growth to drive power-sector agenda](#) - President-elect Donald Trump, set to be sworn in on Monday, is returning to the White House amid surging electricity demand, partly driven by planned data centers, new manufacturing facilities and electrification of the building and transportation sectors.

[Biden orders Energy, Defense departments to lease sites for AI data centers, clean energy generation](#) - President Biden on Tuesday signed an executive order to accelerate the development of data centers to enable artificial intelligence, while also ensuring the new facilities are powered by emissions-free electricity.

[Donald Trump announces new administration picks as key confirmation hearings set to start Tuesday](#) - As the first confirmation hearings for Donald Trump's new administration are set to start this week, the president-elect announced several new nominees Saturday who share one thing in common: they all served in Trump's first term.

[Biden boosted investment in the electric grid. What will Trump do?](#) - President Joe Biden learned to love transmission during his four years in the White House. The question now is whether President-elect Donald Trump will show the same ardor for large power lines when he returns to the Oval Office.

[Treasury finalizes guidance for IRA's tech neutral, clean electricity tax credits](#) - The U.S. Treasury on Tuesday finalized its guidance for the technology-neutral 45Y and 48E clean electricity tax credits introduced in the Inflation Reduction Act, a week after the credits went into effect and replaced their predecessors — the Section 45 production tax credit and the Section 48 investment tax credit.

[Senate Republicans prepare blitzkrieg on Biden regulations](#) - Senate Republicans, waiting for their House counterparts to figure out their strategy on border security and tax reform, are planning to use the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to wage a lightning war on regulations implemented by the Biden administration over the past six months.

#### **LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE**

[PA lawmaker calls Maryland energy policy "irresponsible"](#) - As Maryland lawmakers work to address Maryland's energy crisis, a Pennsylvania Senator has been outspoken, saying the state needs to "step up" and generate more energy in-state.

[Pennsylvania governor rolls out plan to fast-track and subsidize power plants, hydrogen projects](#) - Gov. Josh Shapiro said Thursday that he wants to fast-track the construction of big power plants in Pennsylvania and offer hundreds of millions of dollars in tax breaks for projects that provide electricity to the grid and use hydrogen.

[Yaw to Introduce Legislation Addressing Electric Generation Shortfall](#) - State Sen. Gene Yaw (R-23), chairman of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, announced plans to introduce legislation establishing the Grid Stabilization and Security Act.

[PPL president: Utility-owned power plants could ease energy crunch, moderate prices](#) - In both Pennsylvania and the surrounding region, a perfect storm is brewing in the energy sector.

[Shapiro and electrical grid coordinator reach deal as top Pa. regulator predicts 'spikes' in cost](#) - Gov. Josh Shapiro on Tuesday said he reached an agreement in his complaint against the organization that manages the power grid in Pennsylvania and 12 other states, even as the state's top utility regulator predicted "spikes" in the cost of electricity.

[Will a tied state House halt Harrisburg again? Pa. Democrats won't say.](#) - The Pennsylvania House is kicking off the new legislative session with an incomplete chamber after a representative unexpectedly died and left Democrats without their one-seat majority.

[Solar eclipsed: The sun has set on Beech Hollow solar, a project planned for the largest coal refuse pile in Washington County](#) - A massive solar and battery project, four years in the making, has been all but abandoned, leaving behind a waste coal pile in Washington County.

[Senate Democratic Caucus Policy Chair Nick Miller Hosts Hearing Examining Consumer Costs of Energy, Future Energy Needs of Commonwealth](#) - Today Senate Democratic Policy Committee Chair Nick Miller held a hearing to examine Pennsylvania's outlook of future electric generation needs and reliability due to growing demands on the grid.

[Republican efforts to amend the VCEA fail in House subcommittee](#) - Republicans worry that ratepayers will ultimately have to pay for fees put onto utility companies due to provisions in the Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA) penalizing them if they fail to meet renewable energy benchmarks.

[Virginia's future in regional carbon market remains unclear as state plans court appeal](#) - A yearslong saga over Virginia's future in a regional carbon market likely won't be over anytime soon.

[Pennsylvania row officers to be sworn in, marking first time Republicans hold all three offices](#) - Pennsylvania's three statewide row officers will be sworn in to new four-terms on Tuesday, joining Democratic Gov. Josh Shapiro in Harrisburg and marking the first time that the state's voters elected Republicans to fill all three offices at the same time.

[Pa. lawmaker proposes low-interest loans for new power plants as electricity crunch looms](#) - A Republican state senator said he wants Pennsylvania to set up a fund with billions of dollars that would make low-interest loans to build new power plants, as state leaders start a new legislative session amid a tightening energy situation.

[Rep. Vitali Introduces Bill To Establish DEP Environmental Justice Permit Review Program In Law, Analyze Cumulative Impacts Of Pollution From Facilities, Supported By DEP](#) - On January 14, Rep. Greg Vitali (D-Delaware) introduced House Bill 109 that would establish DEP's Environmental Justice Permit Review Program in law and require an analysis of the cumulative impacts of pollution from certain facilities before a permit could be issued.

[Pa. Consumer Advocate resigns, alleges pressure from utility companies](#) - Pennsylvania's Consumer Advocate Patrick Cicero — who vigorously opposed for-profit water utilities' purchases of municipal water and sewage companies — has resigned, effective at the end of this month.

[Democrats join Republicans in excitement to bring energy to Pennsylvania](#) - There's a new energy around energy.

[Gov. Shapiro Highlights Environmental Protection, Climate Change, Clean Energy, Public Lands, Recreation Accomplishments In First 2 Years](#) - Gov. Shapiro recently highlighted his administration's accomplishments in his first two years in office, including on environmental protection, accountability, climate change, clean energy, public lands and recreation issues.

[Randy Smith, retired coal miner, is new Senate president; Hanshaw returns as House speaker](#) - West Virginia senators officially selected Randy Smith, a retired coal miner, to lead the chamber.

[Democrats get their choice of House speaker as a new Pa. legislative session starts](#) - A new legislative session started Tuesday in Harrisburg, kicking off a two-year period that will likely feature debates over transit funding, the size of the budget, marijuana legalization, and more.

[Sen. Yaw Re-Elected Chair Of PA Delegation To Chesapeake Bay Commission, Maryland To Chair Commission In 2025](#) - On January 6, the interstate Chesapeake Bay Commission announced Maryland state Senator Sara Love has been elected chair of the tri-state Commission.

[Pa. businesses alerted by Dept. of State about new report requirement](#) - Owners of businesses operating in Pennsylvania were reminded today by Secretary of the Commonwealth Al Schmidt that a new annual report requirement has gone into effect Monday.

[Bay state lawmakers tackle wide range of 'green' bills](#) - In state capitals across the Chesapeake Bay region this year, lawmakers are expected to grapple with renewable energy — how to produce more of it and how to pay for it.