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ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 9-2-25

(News clips from the previous month)

CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[PJM Launches Effort to Explore Sub-Annual Capacity Market Design](#) - The PJM Interconnection and stakeholders recently began work to explore sub-annual capacity market constructs in the newly established Sub-Annual Capacity Market Senior Task Force.

[IEP plans 944-MW behind-the-meter gas plant to power PA data center](#) - International Electric Power is planning to develop a 944-MW behind-the-meter, gas-fired plant to power a data center being developed in Greene County, Pennsylvania, according to a project partner's Wednesday announcement.

[Renewables make up 91% of the 15 GW of generation the US added in first 5 months of 2025: FERC](#) - The United States added more than 15 GW of new electricity generation resources between January and May this year, led by 11.5 GW of solar, followed by 2.3 GW of wind and 1.3 GW of gas, according to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's monthly infrastructure report.

[Report: Claims that preserving coal plants will cost \\$6B based on unlikely assumptions](#) - A new report released Tuesday by America's Power challenges environmental organization-sponsored claims circulating that say the Trump administration's decision to preserve coal power plants will cost ratepayers \$3 billion to \$6 billion more a year.

[Utilities need to plan for flexibility, confirm data centers when forecasting load: report](#) - Hourly forecasting and greater geographic granularity can help utilities plan load forecasts for an increasingly dynamic grid made up of traditional power plants, intermittent renewables and customer-sited distributed energy resources, according to a recent report by the nonprofit Energy Systems Integration Group.

[PJM Announces Application Deadline for First Cycle of New Interconnection Process](#) - The application deadline for Cycle No. 1 of PJM's reformed interconnection process will be April 27, 2026, PJM announced Friday.

[PJM surplus interconnection can support 153 GW of solar, wind, storage: UC Berkeley researchers](#) - Thermal and renewable energy generating facilities in the PJM Interconnection have surplus interconnection capacity that could support about 153 GW of solar, wind and storage, according to a working paper released by University of California, Berkeley, researchers earlier this month.

[Two 1950s coal plants defy financial gravity along the Ohio River](#) - An Ohio law that took effect last week ended a decadelong subsidy program buttressing a pair of Rust Belt coal plants from volatile power markets.

[US utilities on dealmaking spree to blockbuster 2025](#) - With electricity demand in the United States set to hit record highs over the next two years, utilities are doubling down on assets that can boost their power generation capacity while shedding others to fund their massive spending plans.

[Utilities Want to Regain the Ability to Build Power Plants in PJM. Consumer Advocates Say That's Probably a Bad Idea](#) - Decades after deregulation, rising electricity demand from data centers is leading to a new push to change rules.

[BGE blackouts put spotlight on Maryland's fragile power grid as summer demand rises](#) - Maryland's power grid faced another stress test Monday as thousands of residents were hit with outages — a sign that the state's electricity supply remains vulnerable as summer demand increases.

[Analysis of June 2025 Heatwave Shows Coal Electricity Continues to Be Backbone of PJM and MISO Grid Reliability](#) - A severe heatwave affected the eastern United States in late June 2025, breaking numerous temperature records and pushing electricity demand in PJM and MISO to the highest levels in nearly a decade, with peak hourly demand reaching 160.6 GW in PJM and 116.4 GW in MISO.

[Letter to the editor: PJM capacity auction proves markets work](#) - As discussions around the recent PJM capacity auction results continue, it's vital to recognize what these outcomes truly signal: the competitive market is functioning effectively, responding to rising demand and securing grid reliability.

[Data Centers Need Own Power Supply, US Grid Watchdog Says](#) - Data centers looking to connect to the largest US grid must bring their power supply, the system's independent watchdog said.

[PJM Publishes Response to 2024 State of the Market Report](#) - PJM has posted its response to the 2024 State of the Market Report published by Monitoring Analytics, PJM's Independent Market Monitor.

[PJM launches fast-track push to set rules for adding data centers](#) - The PJM Interconnection has launched a fast-track stakeholder process to develop rules for interconnecting data centers and other large loads to its system while ensuring the region has enough power supplies, according to a letter from the grid operator's board released Monday.

[PJM reports peak load growth of 30GW through 2030 from data center sector](#) - PJM Interconnection, the largest Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) in the US, has reported a peak load growth of 32GW from 2024 to 2030, with 30GW from data centers.

[The United States exported 30% of the energy it produced in 2024](#) - In 2024, the United States exported about 30% of its domestic primary energy production. This percentage has grown considerably in recent decades, according to data in our Monthly Energy Review.

[Multidirectional flows of power and information are the grid's future](#) - The 20th century grid's one-way electron flow is dead.

[As electric bills rise, evidence mounts that data centers share blame. States feel pressure to act](#) - Amid rising electric bills, states are under pressure to insulate regular household and business ratepayers from the costs of feeding Big Tech's energy-hungry data centers.

[Building ChatGPT for the Power Industry: EPRI Leads the Way](#) - More than 100 of the world's largest energy companies are betting that artificial intelligence (AI) will revolutionize how electricity gets made, moved, and managed.

[PJM Shares Focus on Market and Meeting Supply Needs for Surging Demand](#) - PJM officials participated in the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Technical Conference on Resource Adequacy on Aug. 5, joining state and industry experts on how best to handle the unprecedented growth in electricity demand that is challenging both the reliability and affordability of the electrical system.

[Ohio regulators end controversial coal, solar power plant subsidies tied to HB6 bribery scandal](#) - After nearly six years, Ohio regulated utility customers will soon stop paying controversial subsidies for a handful of coal and solar power plants that were enacted via the scandal-ridden House Bill 6 energy law.

[Independent power producers hit back at utility critics over PJM price surge](#) - A year ago, capacity prices spiked in the PJM Interconnection. Last month they hit another record high of nearly \$330/MW-day.

[Heat pushes US electricity demand to record peak in July, says EIA](#) - Electricity demand in the Lower 48 states hit fresh all-time highs on two days in the last week of July due to surging temperatures, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Tuesday.

[PJM Board Approves Transmission Project Changes To Support Grid Reliability](#) - The PJM Board of Managers has authorized changes to existing projects in the Regional Transmission Expansion Plan to help provide the most efficient, economical and reliable supply of power for the 67 million people PJM serves across 13 states and the District of Columbia.

[In the Beaver Valley, the promise to revive the old Bruce Mansfield coal plant sparks a new wave of optimism](#) - A church and cemetery are two of the only remaining operational parts of the former Bruce Mansfield coal power plant.

[Targeted step-leaching recovers more critical materials from coal ash](#) - Due to rising demand and widespread supply-chain turmoil, researchers around the world are investigating creative methods to obtain rare-earth elements (REEs) and other critical minerals and metals (CMMs).

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL

[Federal Grid Interventions Enter a Second Phase as DOE Extends Emergency Orders](#) - The Trump administration's unprecedented use of emergency grid authorities entered a second phase in August 2025, as the Department of Energy (DOE) extended three critical reliability orders.

[Businesses face 'chaos' as EPA aims to repeal its authority over climate pollution](#) - The Trump administration's plan to undo a landmark finding that climate pollution threatens public health and welfare poses lots of risks for corporate America.

[FERC approves cost allocation paths for power plants DOE ordered to run past shutdown dates](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Friday approved pathways for Consumers Energy and Constellation Energy to recover the costs of complying with U.S. Department of Energy orders to continue running power plants they had planned to retire.

[Clean energy groups challenge DOE grid reliability report](#) - A July report in which the U.S. Department of Energy warned of widespread blackouts if coal and gas plants are allowed to retire "falls far short of a serious assessment of reliability and resource adequacy," three clean energy organizations said earlier this month in a formal rehearing request.

[Wind, solar must show 'significant' work but 'no fixed minimum' under new Treasury rules](#) - The U.S. Department of the Treasury released guidance late Friday altering the criteria that most wind and solar projects must use to show they commenced construction before the deadline to qualify for the 45Y and 48E tax credits.

['They don't care:' Advocates for miners with black lung worry as silica dust rule delayed again](#) - A federal rule to limit coal miners' exposure to dangerous silica dust — which was set to go into effect next week after already being delayed for months — is expected to be further postponed following a joint status update filed in federal court this week.

[White House names Democrat Rosner to lead FERC](#) - The White House on Wednesday named David Rosner, a Democratic member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, as agency chairman.

[EPA plans to revise coal-fired power plant wastewater rules](#) - The Environmental Protection Agency intends to delay a compliance deadline for owners of coal-fired power plants affected by zero-discharge wastewater standards, according to a Monday court filing by the agency.

[MSHA launches compliance assistance website](#) - Attention all new miners and mine operators: The Mine Safety and Health Administration has launched a website that provides access to a range of compliance assistance materials.

[Lawmaker, AARP call for nationwide utility commission reforms to stop rising electric bills](#) - Utility commissions across the nation are "broken" and must be reformed to stop rising electric costs, a coalition of lawmakers, consumer and environmental advocates said Tuesday during a joint press conference.

[In wind and solar dispute, Sens. Grassley, Curtis delay Trump nominees](#) - Sens. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and John Curtis, R-Utah, have placed holds on three of President Donald Trump's nominees to the Department of the Treasury, with Grassley saying that he's doing so to ensure the administration's upcoming rulemaking regarding wind and solar tax credit phase-outs aligns with congressional intent.

[EPA Celebrates Another 100 Days with 100 More Pro-Environmental Actions](#) - Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin shared 100 additional environmental actions EPA has taken in the last 100 days to recognize 200 Days of providing clean air, land, and water for all Americans under President Donald Trump's leadership.

[One Big Beautiful Bill Act: What It Means to the Power Industry](#) - On July 4, 2025, President Trump officially signed the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" (OBBBA) into law (Figure 1).

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE

[Shapiro's office pitches \\$49.9B compromise budget in bid to end 2-month impasse](#) - Gov. Josh Shapiro's office has pitched a \$49.9 billion budget to top Pennsylvania lawmakers in an attempt to end the state's two-month impasse, according to Capitol sources.

[Residential Electricity Bills Begin Surge](#) - In June, Pennsylvania utilities updated their published "price to compare" to facilitate rate shopping by residential customers. That price is the fixed rate per kilowatt hour that will be charged by utilities to supply power. The Public Utility Commission approves those rates which apply to power supplied June to November 2025.

[West Virginia governor aims for '50 by '50' with ambitious electrical capacity expansion plan](#) - Gov. Patrick Morrisey plans to unveil an ambitious energy strategy Thursday aimed at more than doubling West Virginia's electrical generation capacity by mid-century.

[County Council calls on Congress to increase monthly benefits for coal miners with black lung](#) - Amid rising concerns about coal miners who have been diagnosed with black lung, County Council unanimously voted Tuesday to urge local members of Congress to increase monthly benefits to those that suffer from the disease.

[PA Utility Commission reports 30-year high of reportable outages in 2024](#) - Pennsylvania's power grid struggled with reliability more than usual in 2024, with a record number of reportable outage events across the Commonwealth, that's according to the latest report from the Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC).

[THOMAS: SB 897, A Power Grab Disguised as Energy Policy](#) - Senate Bill 897 represents a costly and unnecessary abandonment of Pennsylvania's successful competitive power market.

[Joint State Government Committee Identifies 382 Potential Sites For Geothermal Facilities Using Abandoned Mine Pools; Geothermal Energy Could Reduce A.I. Data Center Energy Demand By 30-40%](#) - The Joint State Government Committee just released a staff study on Unearthing the Potential of Geothermal Energy Systems in Pennsylvania that identified 382 potential sites for geothermal energy facilities using abandoned mine pools and reviewed the potential for repurposing oil and gas wells to produce geothermal energy.

[Pa., 18 states sue federal energy agency over new funding caps on sustainable energy projects](#) - Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield and the attorneys general and governors of 18 other states, including Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, are suing federal energy officials over a new policy meant to cut funding for staff who work on sustainable energy and energy efficiency projects across the country.

[PA House environmental committee examines costs and environmental impacts of burning waste coal in PA](#) - The state House Environmental & Natural Resource Protection Committee held a public hearing today at the state Capitol to receive testimony on remediation of waste coal piles, the environmental and climate impacts of burning waste coal, and the energy costs associated with cogeneration.

[Pa. and other states scramble to complete renewable energy projects before tax credits expire](#) - The abrupt termination of tax credits for clean energy projects is perhaps the most drastic blow that President Donald Trump has struck in his campaign against wind and solar electricity.

[Data centers gobble up energy. Regulators want to ensure Pa. consumers don't foot the bill.](#) - As data center developers invest billions in Pennsylvania, the state is weighing who should pay the literal price of their arrival.