



2015 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Phone: (717) 763-7635, Fax: (717) 763-7455, Email: [office@arippa.org](mailto:office@arippa.org)

## ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 10-1-25

(News clips from the previous month)

### CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[Lawmakers urge PJM to take steps so clean energy projects can meet tax credit deadlines](#) - A group of 107 state lawmakers on Monday urged the PJM Interconnection to take steps to support the rapid addition of clean energy resources onto the grid to ensure the grid operator has enough power supplies to meet the region's needs.

[Most coal-fired power plants will delay retirement to feed AI boom, energy secretary says](#) - The administration of U.S. President Donald Trump expects most of the nation's coal-fired power plants to delay retirement to help deliver the vast amount of electricity needed to fuel artificial intelligence, Energy Secretary Chris Wright told Reuters on Thursday.

[2.1-GW SOO Green transmission project advances with Iowa agreement](#) - The project developers aim to bring low-cost clean energy from the Midcontinent Independent System Operator into the PJM Interconnection while bolstering grid reliability.

[Analysts see possible early signs of demand growth in EIA's latest update](#) - Total net electricity generation and retail sales were up 3.8% and 2.6%, respectively, this July compared with the same month last year, reflecting hotter weather this summer, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration's latest report, published Tuesday.

[PJM CEO Asthana responds to criticism, says states must address supply challenges](#) - In the face of mounting criticism from governors, Manu Asthana, the president and CEO of the PJM Interconnection, said states need infrastructure siting and permit reform to make sure the PJM Interconnection has enough power to meet their needs.

[States threaten to leave PJM without expanded role in grid operator](#) - Republican and Democratic governors of PJM Interconnection states on Monday threatened to pull out of the grid operator's markets unless states are given a role in governing the organization.

[Constellation provides 1 year update on TMI reactor reopening](#) - Constellation provided an update a year after the announcement to restart Three Mile Island Unit 1.

[Residential electricity rates up 6.6% over last year as gas prices rise](#) - Average residential electricity rates jumped 6.6% over last year as of June, with the largest increases in Maine, up 25.5%, the District of Columbia, up 23.3%, and New Jersey, up 21%, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

[Audit found weaknesses in review of wind, solar projects on US public lands](#) - U.S. officials consistently failed to comply with federal regulations when reviewing applications for wind and solar projects on public lands, according to a report by an independent government watchdog published on Thursday.

[NERC Advances Inverter-Based Resource Registration With FERC Petition](#) - The North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") has taken an important step in implementing revised reliability standards for inverter-based resources ("IBRs").

[PJM tries to ease threats to grid from supersize data centers](#) - The potential threat to grid reliability from supersize AI data centers has grid operators searching hard for answers, with the latest initiative a new policy proposal from PJM Interconnection, the largest U.S. regional power market.

[US electric grids under pressure from energy-hungry data centers are changing strategy](#) - With the explosive growth of Big Tech's data centers threatening to overload U.S. electricity grids, policymakers are taking a hard look at a tough-love solution: bumping the energy-hungry data centers off grids during power emergencies.

[Electric grid growing faster than anticipated: EIA](#) - Generation by the electric power sector is expected to grow 2.3% this year and 3% in 2026, exceeding a January forecast of 1.5% growth per year, according to the Energy Information Administration.

[Cost of Democrat Supported Carbon Tax Reaches \\$500 million per year](#) - Based on the most recent carbon tax imposed on the member states of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), Virginians will pay about \$500 million more per year for electricity if Virginia again becomes one of those member states. Your vote in November may determine that.

[Utilities could add 147 GW of new large loads, boosting peak demand 20%: WoodMac](#) - Large loads, including AI data centers, are showing up on the U.S. electric grid and could ultimately add 20% to utilities' peak demand, most within the next decade, according to new analysis from Wood Mackenzie published Thursday.

[U.S. Offers 3 Tech Transfers To Take Critical Minerals From Coal Waste](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy is seeking companies to commercialize three innovative federally developed technologies to remove critical minerals and rare earth elements from coal waste.

[Acid mine drainage cleanup a worthy goal, but will it help the Chesapeake Bay?](#) - Thousands of miles of rivers and streams in the Chesapeake Bay watershed are impaired — often lifeless — because of the lingering impacts of acidic runoff draining from long-abandoned coal mines.

[US gas power capacity set for big jump as renewables growth slows](#) - U.S. power developers are planning to sharply boost natural gas and hydropower generation capacity and are cutting back on plans to add new solar and wind farms, according to recent data on the U.S. power capacity pipeline.

[Coal Is Rising Along with Solar in the U.S. Power System, While Gas Loses a Step](#) - Power plant owners responded to high gas prices by burning more coal in the first half of this year.

[A former FERC commissioner's take on the PJM capacity auction](#) - In early July, when the PJM capacity auction cleared at another record high, it intensified the ongoing conversation about whether power markets are prepared for the coming surge of demand from data centers.

[Solar and Wind's Hidden Price Tag: Why Cost Isn't the Whole Story](#) - Solar and wind power have become increasingly cost-competitive over the past decade, prompting claims that they are now the cheapest sources of new electricity.

## **LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL**

[Government shutdown begins as the nation faces a new period of uncertainty](#) - Plunged into a government shutdown, the U.S. is confronting a fresh cycle of uncertainty after President Donald Trump and Congress failed to strike an agreement to keep government programs and services running by Wednesday's deadline.

[Democratic House bill would reverse Trump energy policies, bolster RTO oversight](#) - Democratic Reps. Sean Casten of Illinois and Mike Levin from California are preparing to introduce sweeping energy legislation that would reverse Trump administration policies, including by restoring clean energy tax credits and limiting the U.S. Department of Energy's ability to declare "energy emergencies" to keep fossil-fueled power plants from retiring.

[Trump administration opens more land for coal mining, offers \\$625M to boost coal-fired power plants](#) - The Trump administration said Monday it will open 13 million acres of federal lands for coal mining and provide \$625 million to recommission or modernize coal-fired power plants as President Donald Trump continues his efforts to reverse the years-long decline in the U.S. coal industry.

[DOE announces \\$625M for 'beautiful, clean coal' and gas](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy on Monday announced \$625 million in funding aimed at retrofitting and recommissioning coal plants.

[Trump's allies still waiting for him to land his hardest climate blow](#) - President Donald Trump has spent months trying to weaken global institutions at the center of tackling climate change.

[New FERC Chairman Rosner outlines priorities: 'We need to build, build, build.'](#) - Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman David Rosner laid out his priorities during his first open meeting on Thursday as head of the agency, including a desire to issue guidance soon on how data centers can be colocated with power plants in the PJM Interconnection.

[Energy in 'reconciliation 2.0'? Republicans shrug.](#) - Congress' Republican leaders have handed their members a dream opportunity on a silver platter: a green light to pursue more energy and natural resources wins as part of a second budget reconciliation package later this year.

[FERC Acts on Four Reliability Standards, Probes AI and Data Center Load Forecasting](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Sept. 18 advanced four reliability measures for the U.S. bulk power system (BPS), formalizing frameworks around supply chain risk, cloud computing and virtual infrastructure, cybersecurity, and extreme cold weather preparedness.

[House Republicans Pass Energy Bills to Lower Prices and Secure the Grid](#) - Today, Congressman Brett Guthrie (KY-02), Chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, released the following statement following the passage of H.R. 3062, the Promoting Cross-border Energy Infrastructure Act, H.R. 3015, the National Coal Council Reestablishment Act, and H.R. 1047, the GRID Power Act.

[Big batch of Trump nominees moves through US Senate after Republicans change rules](#) - The U.S. Senate voted Thursday to approve dozens of nominees, acting on a rule change GOP leadership made last week that allows the chamber to confirm some of the president's appointees in large batches instead of one at a time.

[Bipartisan House group releases permitting reform 'framework'](#) - A bipartisan House group released a permitting reform "framework" on Thursday that aims to make it easier to build transmission lines, pipelines and other power projects in the face of rising energy demand.

[National Academy of Sciences rebuffs Trump EPA's effort to undo regulations fighting climate change](#) - Evidence that climate change harms public health is "beyond scientific dispute," the independent National Academy of Sciences said Wednesday in response to the Trump administration's efforts to revoke a landmark U.S. government finding to that effect that underpins key environmental regulations.

[Bipartisan NEPA reform proposal gets electric utilities' support](#) - A bipartisan House proposal to "modernize" the National Environmental Policy Act has support from electric utilities who say it would help them build generation and transmission capacity they need to maintain the reliability of the nation's electric grid.

[Senate panel approves FERC nominees Swett, LaCerte in party-line vote](#) - In a party-line vote, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Thursday advanced the nominations of Laura Swett and David LaCerte to fill empty seats at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

['Green banks' petition for rehearing in \\$14B EPA funding freeze case](#) - Nonprofit recipients of \$14 billion in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund grants that were frozen by the Environmental Protection Agency earlier this year filed a rehearing petition late Wednesday after a U.S. Court of Appeals panel upheld the freeze.

[More details emerge on House appropriations bill for OSHA, MSHA and NIOSH](#) - A House Appropriations Committee report provides further details on proposed budget cuts for OSHA, the Mine Safety and Health Administration, and NIOSH.

[House Republicans Push New Coal Bills, but Critics Say the Industry's Decline Can't Be Reversed](#) - Bills a subcommittee considered this week would streamline the approval of new coal leases and exempt some coal projects from environmental reviews.

[House narrowly OKs spending bill backing Trump energy priorities](#) - The House voted Thursday by the narrowest of margins to advance a fiscal 2026 spending bill that would codify many of President Trump's nuclear- and fossil fuel-driven "energy dominance" objectives.

[FERC in Focus: Will the agency maintain its independence under Trump 2.0?](#) - President Donald Trump is making unprecedented moves to assert control over independent agencies like the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and former commissioners, experts and agency observers say they are watching several key areas to gauge whether the commission will remain independent.

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

[Dual budget crises threaten \\$40B in federal funding for Pennsylvania](#) - The collision of a state budget impasse with a federal government shutdown is unprecedented in the commonwealth.

[Pennsylvania leaving regional electricity grid is still on the table, Shapiro says](#) - Pennsylvania could start the process of pulling out of the organization that runs the regional electricity grid if the grid operator does not make meaningful reforms in a matter of months, Gov. Josh Shapiro said Monday.

[Pa. Gov. Shapiro said electric grid operator PJM needs reform to put consumers first](#) - The organization that manages the electric grid for Pennsylvania and 12 other states has moved too slowly in response to skyrocketing energy demand and consumers are paying for it, Gov. Josh Shapiro said Monday.

[2024 Annual Report On DEP's Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction Program Highlights Abandoned Mine Drainage, Watershed Restoration Efforts](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection just released its 2024 Annual Report on Pennsylvania Nonpoint Source Management Program summarizing accomplishments and activities across the state to reduce sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, metals and iron pollution.

[Pa. officials push Trump to save mine safety jobs](#) - Pennsylvania leaders are urging the Trump administration to halt layoffs at a key mine safety research facility near Pittsburgh — warning the move could undercut protections for roughly 3,000 Keystone State miners.

[DEP gives preliminary nod to \\$10B Homer City plant, environmental group sounds alarm](#) - State environmental regulators say they intend to approve an air quality plan for a proposed natural gas-fired power plant near Homer City, despite concerns from an environmental group that the facility would become the largest air polluter in Pennsylvania.

[Va. lawmakers weigh energy options for utilities to meet VCEA mandate, energy demand](#) - As Virginia grapples with rapidly increasing energy demands and skyrocketing utility bills, a group of state lawmakers are looking deeper into energy efficiency, community solar, and energy storage.

[Morrissey shares new energy plan for WV, relying heavily on coal, natural gas to grow power creation](#) - Gov. Patrick Morrissey unveiled a new comprehensive energy plan for West Virginia on Wednesday, which will largely rely on doubling down on and increasing power generated from the state's nonrenewable energy sources like coal and natural gas.

[Court rules for PA transmission line project in possible blow to states' rights](#) - A new federal court ruling has potentially dealt a blow to states' rights by ruling in favor of a power company looking to build high tension lines through Franklin County.

[Shapiro Administration Awards Over \\$5.2 Million to Clean Up Abandoned Mine Lands, Keep Pennsylvanians Safe While Supporting Local Jobs](#) - The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has awarded \$5,222,250 for the environmental restoration of seven abandoned mine lands (AML) projects as part of the Abandoned Mine Lands and Acid Mine Drainage Grant Program.