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ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 12-1-25

(News clips from the previous month)

CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[No more PJM data centers unless they can be reliably served: market monitor](#) - The PJM Interconnection's market monitor urged the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to rule that large data centers can only come online if the grid operator can still meet reliability metrics.

[Report shows impact of U.S. data centers on states' electricity bills](#) - The financial website InvestorsObserver has published a report on U.S. data centers and the impact they've had on electricity bills in each state.

[PJM Joins National GridEx Drill Event](#) - PJM practiced its ability to respond to a system-wide crisis in the recent GridEx exercise, a two-day simulation of emergency events involving grid operators from throughout North America.

[FERC approves PECO-Amazon data center transmission agreement](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Friday approved a transmission service agreement between PECO Energy, an Exelon utility, and Amazon Data Services that outlines how Amazon will pay for grid upgrades that are needed to supply power to a planned data center in Falls Township, Pennsylvania.

[UN climate deal increases money to countries hit by climate change, but no explicit fossil fuel plan](#) - United Nations climate talks in Brazil reached a subdued agreement Saturday that pledged more funding for countries to adapt to the wrath of extreme weather.

[PJM stakeholders fail to agree on data center interconnection rules](#) - PJM Interconnection stakeholders on Wednesday failed to select a plan for how to add data centers and other large loads to the grid in the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions.

[Some load forecasts using 'unrealistically high load factors': Grid Strategies VP](#) - Significant load growth is likely to arrive as forecast, but uncertainties associated with data centers are complicating load growth estimation, as are "unrealistically high load factors for the new large loads" in some load forecasts, said John Wilson, a vice president at Grid Strategies.

[Winter peak demand is rising faster than resource additions: NERC](#) - Peak demand on the bulk power system will be 20 GW higher this winter than last, but total resources to meet the peak have only increased 9.4 GW, according to a report released Tuesday by the North American Electric Reliability Corp.

[Research Group: U.S. Exits Coal by 2040 as Solar, Nuclear, Natural Gas Surge](#) - An energy research group said U.S. power generation capacity will be led by solar power in the short term, natural gas in the mid term, and nuclear power in the long term as coal-fired units continue to be retired.

[Energy Department loans \\$1B to help finance the restart of nuclear reactor on Three Mile Island](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy said Tuesday that it will loan \$1 billion to help finance the restart of the nuclear power plant on Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island that is under contract to supply power to data centers for tech giant Microsoft.

['Consequential decision': PJM electrical grid to decide who pays bill for massive data centers](#) - State lawmakers from Mid-Atlantic states and parts of the Midwest are urging PJM Interconnection to make sure the financial burden of power-hungry data centers wanting to connect to the regional grid operator doesn't fall on families.

[FERC OKs NRG's 19 GW purchase of LS Power gas-fired, demand response assets](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Friday approved NRG Energy's plan to buy 12.9 GW in gas-fired power plants, and a demand response company from LS Power in a roughly \$12 billion deal, saying it wouldn't hurt market competition.

[Power outages getting longer as extreme weather takes larger toll, report says](#) - Power outages across the United States are getting longer, according to a recent survey by JD Power, which cites "increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events."

[Future data centers are driving up forecasts for energy demand. States want proof they'll get built](#) - The forecasts are eye-popping: utilities saying they'll need two or three times more electricity within a few years to power massive new data centers that are feeding a fast-growing AI economy.

[US needs more gas infrastructure, storage to support electric grid: NARUC](#) - The United States needs additional natural gas pipeline infrastructure and storage opportunities to reliably meet the growing demand for energy, a National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners task force report concluded on Wednesday.

[Six US states to watch as rising gas prices drive a coal comeback](#) - A jump in natural gas costs has spurred several U.S. utilities to lift coal power output and cut back on gas-fired generation so far this year, reversing a years-long trend of lower coal use and emissions in the country.

[MARKET MONITOR FINDS PJM WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY MARKETS COMPETITIVE](#) - PJM Interconnection's wholesale electric energy market produced competitive results during the first nine months of 2025, according to the 2025 Quarterly State of the Market Report for PJM: January through September released today by Monitoring Analytics, LLC, the Independent Market Monitor for PJM.

[PJM Interconnection files review proposal to FERC](#) - PJM Interconnection, the regional transmission organization serving 65 million customers in 13 states and the District of Columbia — from Chicago to New Jersey — has filed a proposal to update capacity auction rules for consideration by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as part of the periodic review process.

[Vistra CEO says excess capacity in PJM, ERCOT can accommodate flexible loads](#) - Data centers and other large load customers can use on-site backup generation as well as demand response during "super peak" hours, said Jim Burke.

[Supreme Court Declines to Take Up Electricity Incentives Dispute](#) - The Supreme Court on Monday declined to consider utilities' challenges to a pair of appellate court decisions that allowed federal regulators to limit financial incentives for joining a regional transmission organization.

[US installed nearly 26 GW of new generating capacity from January to August](#) - The U.S. installed nearly 26 GW of new generation capacity between January and August 2025, up slightly from the approximately 23 GW installed over the same period last year, according to the most recent monthly infrastructure report from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[PJM Presents Preliminary Short List of Projects for 2025 RTEP Window 1](#) - PJM reviewed the short list of proposals being considered for the 2025 Regional Transmission Expansion Plan Window 1 during the Nov. 4 meeting of the Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee (TEAC).

[PJM Winter Outlook: Adequate Power Supplies Available To Serve Growing Demand Under Expected Conditions](#) - PJM and its members have sufficient resources to serve the 67 million people in its footprint this winter under expected conditions, though electricity demand continues to outpace the addition of new generating resources.

[Report: PJM power grid electrification faces bumpy transition](#) - The nation's power grid is entering a new era of soaring demand — the full extent of which remains uncertain — and energy leaders warn that investments in new generation, efficiency, and infrastructure must begin now to prevent future shortfalls.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL

[Winter Reliability Concerns Spur Fresh DOE Intervention for PJM, MISO](#) - The Department of Energy (DOE) extended its run of federal grid interventions into winter over the past week, issuing a Section 202(c) emergency order on Nov. 18 for Consumers Energy's 1,420-MW J.H. Campbell coal plant in Michigan and another on Nov. 25 for Constellation's 760-MW Eddystone Units 3 and 4 in southeastern Pennsylvania in a bid to keep both power plants available for dispatch through mid-to-late February 2026.

[EPA moves to roll back Biden-era particulate limits, signaling a major shift in clean air policy](#) - The Environmental Protection Agency on Monday night asked the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to strike down stricter limits on fine particulate matter from vehicle exhaust pipes, power plants and factories that the Biden administration imposed last year.

[EXCLUSIVE: 24 House Republicans outline how the Department of Energy can prioritize more baseload energy](#) - House Republicans, led by Reps. August Pfluger and Troy Balderson, have a series of ideas that they want the Department of Energy to implement.

[EPA Proposes to Extend the Compliance Deadline for Certain Coal-Fired Facilities](#) - Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a proposal to extend the closure deadline for certain coal combustion residuals (CCR) surface impoundments operating under the alternative closure provisions.

[DOE large load interconnection proposal sparks federal-state jurisdiction concerns](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy's proposal for federal regulators to set rules for interconnecting data centers and other large loads to the transmission system has sparked major jurisdictional concerns, according to filings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[Republicans and fossil fuel industry ask Trump EPA to keep emissions reporting](#) - The Trump administration is facing significant backlash from electricity and energy industry groups, oil and gas firms, and even some Republican members of Congress over its efforts to end a decadelong emissions reporting rule.

[US Department of Labor awards more than \\$10.5M in grants to support mine safety, health training across the nation](#) - The U.S. Department of Labor announced today that its Mine Safety and Health Administration has awarded more than \$10.5 million in grants to organizations in 45 states, the Navajo Nation, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to reduce mining accidents, injuries, and illnesses by supporting programs such as safety and health courses.

[Former FERC commissioners urge Supreme Court to uphold agency independence](#) - The U.S. Supreme Court should uphold Humphrey's Executor, a precedent that provides tenure protection to members of independent agencies, a bipartisan group of 11 former commissioners at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission told the court Thursday.

[Regulators press FERC on state authority as Trump promotes data centers](#) - State utility regulators this week called on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to respect their authority over local power systems as the Trump administration pushes to quickly connect data centers to interstate transmission grids.

[Dems accuse EPA of trying to kill greenhouse gas reporting program that aids cap-and-trade](#) - A group of climate-minded Democrats wrote Monday to EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin, accusing the agency of improperly moving to terminate a federal greenhouse gas-tracking program that blue states have used as a model for their own carbon tax and cap-and-trade systems.

[Van Hollen, Beyer, Colleagues Urge Power Grid Operator PJM to Prioritize Consumers' Access to Reliable, Affordable Electricity Over Large Corporate Interests](#) - U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and U.S. Representative Don Beyer (D-Va.) were joined by 10 of their colleagues in urging PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM), the grid operator responsible for coordinating electricity transmission in the region, to take steps to protect the reliable supply of electricity and prevent skyrocketing costs for consumers amid rapid growth in data center energy demand.

[DOE Launches \\$100M Retrofit Program Targeting Coal Fleet Reliability](#) - The Department of Energy (DOE) has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) providing up to \$100 million in federal backing for projects focused on restoring and modernizing the nation's existing coal plant fleet.

[IRA was hobbled by slow deployment, Biden staffers say in new report](#) - The report suggests how a future administration committed to clean energy deployment could overcome the hurdles the Biden administration faced.

[Trump's energy moves rattle electric utilities](#) - The White House's full-court press on fossil fuel-friendly policies is causing friction with the electric utilities that power America.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE

[PUC Alerts Consumers of December 1 Electric Price Changes](#) - The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) is alerting consumers that energy supply prices for all PUC regulated electric utilities will adjust on December 1.

[\\$1.44 billion investment announced for coal-fired plants](#) - Governor Patrick Morrisey announced a \$1.44 billion investment into coal-fired plants in West Virginia.

[PA approves air quality permit for massive Homer City gas plant to power data centers](#) - A proposed 3,200-acre campus to power Pennsylvania's growing data centers hotbed with natural gas just cleared a major state environmental hurdle.

[Breaking the Pa. budget impasse hinged on ditching a major climate initiative](#) - Pennsylvania lawmakers traded a major climate initiative to break a more than four-month budget impasse, freeing up funds for public schools and social services while angering environmentalists.

[PUC Advances Plan to Balance Data Center Growth and Consumer Protection](#) - The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today voted 3-2 to advance its ongoing review of large-load growth — including hyperscale data centers — by issuing a Tentative Order proposing a statewide model tariff to guide how large electric customers connect to the grid and share costs responsibly.

[Study: Pennsylvania power prices are lower than all RGGI states](#) - Pennsylvania continues to have lower electricity prices than every state participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) — even as prices have climbed nationwide, according to a recent journal article from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL).

[Two years later, RGGI decision still pending before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court](#) - A case that has been pending for two years before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court remains there after Tuesday's retention vote that returned Justices Christine Donohue, Kevin Dougherty, and David Wecht for up to 10 more years on the state's high court.

[Democrats ride energy issues to election sweep](#) - Tuesday's elections delivered Democrats something more than a pair of governor's mansions: It offered them a midterm strategy.

[Lawmaker departures won't upend Pa. House control, but budget gridlock persists](#) - Four members of the state House of Representatives will need to resign their posts after winning seats in Tuesday's municipal and judicial elections.

[West Virginia lawmakers hear arguments for, against a deregulated electric market](#) - With the West Virginia Legislature expected to tackle electric utility issues during the next 60-day regular session in January, lawmakers received a crash course on how the electric utility market works.

[Pennsylvania Superior Court and Commonwealth Court election results: Democrats sweep races](#) - The Pennsylvania Supreme Court retention races weren't the only judicial elections being decided by voters in Tuesday's elections. There were also races for state Superior Court and Commonwealth Court.