



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

ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 7-1-26

(News clips from the previous month)

CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[The 250-year history of U.S. energy consumption](#) - Over the 250-year history of our nation, energy consumption has evolved from wood use in the 18th and 19th centuries to today's use of modern renewable, hydrocarbon, and nuclear technology.

[PJM Capacity Auction for 2028/2029 Delivery Year Opens](#) - PJM Interconnection opened the bidding window today, June 30, for its auction to procure capacity for the June 2028 to May 2029 Delivery Year.

[Biggest US power grid PJM moves towards managing data center demand](#) - Members of the PJM Interconnection on Tuesday voted to advance a plan to source more electricity to serve the rising data center demand that threatens to overtake regional electricity supplies on the largest U.S. power grid.

[Amid high heat, power demand in PJM territory could set records](#) - As a powerful heat wave threatens much of the eastern United States this week, the nation's largest electric grid is warning of record-high power demand.

[445 GW — mainly solar, storage — to come online by 2030 as demand growth surges: ICF](#) - ICF expects about 445 GW of nameplate capacity will come online in the United States from this year through 2030.

[Deployable reserves shrinking as coal, gas forced outage rates rise: NERC](#) - The availability of conventional generation fell in 2025, "largely driven" by declining performance of coal and gas generation, which saw a 39.8 TWh and 19.1 TWh increase in unavailable energy, respectively, the North American Electric Reliability Corp. said in its 2026 State of Reliability report.

[The Capacity Auction Is Coming. Here's What We're Doing Now](#) - PJM will open its annual capacity auction June 30 for the delivery year beginning June 2028.

[PJM Adds Emergency Procedures to Maintain Reliability](#) - PJM Emergency Procedures will expand to augment coordination with Generation and Transmission Owners and potentially leverage backup generation serving data centers and other large loads amid shrinking supply margins and increasingly extreme weather.

[Grid operators making 'significant progress' on generator interconnection reform: AEU](#) - In the last two years, grid operators have made "significant progress" on their generator interconnection queues, partly by implementing reforms mandated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, according to a report released Tuesday.

[PJM Tackling Data Center Demand Requires Federal, State Juggling](#) - Federal regulators meeting next month to untangle the knot that is PJM Interconnection LLC will have to navigate the tricky division of grid and market responsibilities under the Federal Power Act, energy analysts say.

[Mining leftovers packed with rare earth minerals offer billion-dollar opportunities in Pa.](#) - An artificial mountain lies off a gravel road in Conemaugh Township, a rural community on the western edge of Indiana County.

[New Interconnection Process Delivers](#) - PJM highlights the latest milestones of its reformed interconnection process in an updated fact sheet (PDF).

[At the cap, below CONE: Why PJM's capacity market needs a reset](#) - Analysis finds new combined-cycle gas development remains difficult to finance at today's capital costs, even under elevated capacity-price scenarios.

[Proactive Planning Lowers Connection Costs by \\$8.7 Billion, Paves Way for More Generation](#) - Proactive planning is lowering the cost barrier for generation developers to connect, which should lead to more generation being built and lower prices for consumers – and make the most efficient use of planned transmission lines and rights of way as supply begins to catch up with growing demand.

[A New Coal Plant in the U.S.? Once Unthinkable, Now a Strong Maybe](#) - A \$350 million Department of Energy (DOE) coal-revival program has put \$18.5 million toward the TerraSpark Energy Campus, a 1.6-GW greenfield project in West Virginia pairing Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) supercritical boilers with Mantel Capture’s molten borate carbon capture.

[DOE extends TransAlta Centralia Unit 2 emergency order](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy on Friday directed TransAlta Centralia Generation to ensure that the 730-MW unit 2 at the Centralia Generating Station in Washington remains available for operations. It is the last coal plant in Washington state.

[Maryland’s last coal plant likely to get another extension](#) - Maryland’s only remaining coal-fired power plant is likely to keep operating through mid-2031 — six years after it was set to close — although the plan technically still requires approval from federal regulators.

[FERC approves PJM fast-track review for ‘shovel-ready’ power projects](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Tuesday approved the PJM Interconnection’s proposal for an “expedited interconnection track” for large generating projects, rejecting concerns raised by Vistra, state regulators and others.

[A Goldilocks moment for RGGI?](#) - The Northeast’s cap-and-trade system just posted a record-high price for power plants to pollute.

[AI data center boom threatens breakup of America’s biggest power grid](#) - Soaring power bills are threatening to claim their biggest victim yet — the nation’s largest electric grid operator.

[China Is Developing A Technology That Converts Coal Into Electricity With Nearly Zero Carbon Emissions](#) - Chinese scientists have created a coal fuel cell that produces electricity without any carbon dioxide emissions. The system also converts the captured CO₂ into useful chemicals, showing a new way coal could be used more cleanly.

[Constellation’s Three Mile Island nuclear restart gets boost with FERC waiver](#) - Constellation Energy’s plans to restart the Crane nuclear power plant — formerly Three Mile Island Unit 1 — were boosted Monday when the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved a waiver for the company from PJM Interconnection rules.

[PJM Monitor: AI Data Center Growth Reshaping Power Markets](#) - AI-driven load growth is colliding with queue delays, supply shortages, and outdated power market assumptions, warn PJM and Pennsylvania regulators.

[Wood Mackenzie Reports Growing Momentum Behind Collocated Power Solutions For AI Data Centers](#) - Artificial intelligence companies are increasingly exploring new ways to secure electricity supplies without causing higher power bills for households, as concerns over the energy demands of data centers continue to grow.

[Load growth can help modernize grid, but cost-shift risks are significant: Concentric](#) - Large load customers are an asset for modernizing the grid and adding flexibility, as long as they are “integrated transparently and pay their fair share,” concludes a report released today by Concentric Energy Advisors.

[PJM Minimum Capitalization Proposal Would Reduce Market Risk](#) - PJM has proposed to increase the minimum capitalization thresholds required to participate in PJM’s wholesale electricity markets to keep step with inflation, better manage risk and protect all market participants from default.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL

[Supreme Court hands Trump new power over independent agencies that oversee energy development](#) - A nearly century-old precedent that has been in conservatives’ cross-hairs for years met its demise Monday, when the Supreme Court ruled to limit the independence of agencies like the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[US court rejects EPA bid to ease regulations for coal-fired power plants](#) - A U.S. federal appeals court on Friday rejected the Environmental Protection Agency's bid to withdraw Biden-era limits on soot pollution from coal-fired power plants and factories, in a setback for the Trump administration's deregulatory efforts.

[DOE emergency orders are incurring additional costs. What are the benefits?](#) - In 2025, the U.S. Department of Energy began issuing a series of “emergency” orders to keep generating units at seven power plants from retiring as planned.

[EPA Proposes Commonsense NEPA Reforms to Get America Building Again](#) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today proposed commonsense reforms to the way it carries out the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which, if finalized, would make environmental reviews faster, clearer, and more predictable so America can build more, without lowering a single environmental standard.

[Power plants under DOE emergency orders are producing way less energy than before](#) - Last year, the U.S. Department of Energy ordered the owners of 10 generating units at six power plants — five of them coal-fired — to run the units past their retirement dates to address what DOE says is a reliability emergency across most of the country’s grid.

[FERC Orders All Six Regional Grid Operators to Justify or Rewrite Large-Load Tariffs](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has voted unanimously to issue tailored show-cause orders under Section 206 of the Federal Power Act to each of the six regional transmission organizations (RTOs) and independent system operators (ISOs) under its jurisdiction, directing them to either defend or reform tariff rules governing how data centers, manufacturing facilities, and other large energy users access the transmission system.

[MSHA to award grant funding for safety training](#) - The Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) is making \$10.5 million in grant funding available to help states provide mine safety training for the nation’s miners.

[Barrasso Introduces Permitting Reform Legislation](#) - Today, U.S. Senator John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) introduced legislation to reform our nation’s broken permitting process and unleash American energy production.

[Breaking down how much Congress cut AML funds by state](#) - In January Congress passed a “minibus” bill that raided \$500 million in previously appropriated coal mine cleanup funds to pay for other federal programs. We’re now seeing the first results of that bill: \$45.5 million less in mine cleanup funding every year for the next 11 years.

[Trump administration announces \\$850M to modernize US coal capacity, build 2 new plants](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy on Thursday committed up to \$850 million to construct two new coal-fired power plants, modernize more than a dozen other facilities, and bolster coal export capabilities from the West Coast.

[U.S. Reps. Dean and Evans ask regulators for answers on data centers](#) - As the debate around data centers continues in Pennsylvania, a pair of lawmakers have penned a letter pushing for answers and transparency at the federal level.

[SEC proposes rule rescinding Biden-era climate risk disclosures](#) - The Securities and Exchange Commission proposed a rule Friday to formally rescind the climate-risk disclosure regulation adopted under prior SEC Chair Gary Gensler in 2024. Though adopted in 2024, the final rule never went into effect.

[Pennsylvania lawmakers push federal bill to boost clean energy](#) - The Energy Bills Relief Act would reinstate tax incentives and speed the development of new clean energy projects.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE

[Pennsylvania budget deadline passes without deal as negotiations continue in Harrisburg](#) - Pennsylvania lawmakers missed another state budget deadline Tuesday, with negotiations continuing between Senate Republicans, House Democrats and Gov. Josh Shapiro over a spending plan for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

[Energy leaders talk crisis facing state | This Week in Pennsylvania](#) - Pennsylvania has always had a unique relationship with energy.

[Pennsylvania House passes governor's data center plan, local moratoriums](#) - A proposal backed by Gov. Josh Shapiro that would tie tax incentives for data centers to environmental, energy and transparency requirements cleared a key hurdle in the Pennsylvania House with bipartisan support.

[Pa. House passes \\$1.7B tax cut on electricity, reins in utility company profits](#) - State lawmakers want to put a cap on how much utility companies can profit from customers, while giving Pennsylvanians a tax cut on electricity. Some have called the proposed cut the largest in state history.

[Virginia budget with data center tax moves to Spanberger's desk](#) - Averting a potential state government shutdown, Virginia legislators passed a \$207 billion compromise budget Monday that includes an electricity consumption tax on data centers that will bring in \$1.2 billion in revenue over the next two years.

[House Energy Committee advances legislation to optimize electric grid, accelerate interconnection to meet rising energy demand](#) - Continuing its efforts to address the root causes of rising energy prices in Pennsylvania, the House Energy Committee voted favorably to advance key bills that leverage the state's existing grid infrastructure and next-generation technologies to meet rising demand and improve grid reliability.

[PA House Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate](#) - On June 16, the House passed House Bill 2264 (Davidson-D-Cumberland) to establish a framework for a virtual power plant to use existing energy resources more effectively, increase grid reliability and address rising energy bills

[Virginia lawmakers question RGGI costs](#) - Virginia lawmakers on Tuesday questioned the potential cost of the Commonwealth's return to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative as Dominion Energy projected residential customer bills could increase by about \$13 per month under a proposed carbon-trading rider.

[Fiedler, Burgos bill to rein in utility profits, protect consumers reported out of House Consumer Protection Committee](#) - Today, the Pennsylvania House Consumer Protection, Technology and Utilities Committee voted 17-9 to advance the Return on Equity bill, which is co-sponsored by Committee Chair Danilo Burgos, D-Phila., and House Energy Committee Chair Elizabeth Fiedler, D-Phila.

[GOP bill would make Pa. law from Trump administration accords on data centers](#) - Last winter, the Trump administration signed accords with tech companies and 13 governors, including Gov. Josh Shapiro, whose states share the PJM Interconnection electricity grid, pledging to put people before data centers.

[PUC Issues Decision in PPL Electric Rate Proceeding](#) - The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today voted to modify and approve a Joint Petition for Settlement resolving the base rate proceeding involving PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL Electric), which provides electric distribution service to approximately 1.5 million customers across eastern and central Pennsylvania.

[State House unanimously adopts Matzie resolution to study costs, benefits of remaining with grid operator PJM](#) - The Pennsylvania House today unanimously adopted Rep. Rob Matzie's resolution (H.R. 361) directing the state to study the financial costs and benefits of remaining part of the PJM Interconnection – the regional transmission organization that manages Pennsylvania's electric grid.

[Battery storage would ease stress on Pa.'s power grid, panel hears](#) - As higher electricity rates took effect Monday in Pennsylvania, state lawmakers heard broader deployment of battery storage technology could help improve the stability of the region's power grid and lower the price of power.