

KPP ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026



SCHEDULE

- 9:00 A.M. COFFEE HOUR**
Kick off the conference by networking with colleagues over complimentary coffee and breakfast. Greater Grounds will provide a full selection of espressos, lattes, pastries, and light bites.
- 9:30 A.M. WELCOME & HOUSEKEEPING**
Colin Hansen, CEO & General Manager | KPP Energy
- 9:45 A.M. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION - Building Trust Between Humans and AI to Supercharge Your City**
Jen Golbeck, AI & Digital Behavior Expert | Professor, University of Maryland
- 10:45 A.M. REFRESHMENT BREAK**
- 11:00 A.M. THE CHANGING ELECTRIC INDUSTRY - How Will It Impact Your Community?**
Colin Hansen, CEO & General Manager | KPP Energy
Kimberly Gencur Svaty, Founder & CEO | Gencur Svaty Public Affairs
- 12:00 P.M. LUNCH**
Catered by Texas Roadhouse
- 12:45 P.M. KPP - Working For You**
A comprehensive update on KPP Energy's ongoing programs, activities, and initiatives, as well as key issues affecting the Agency and its member cities.
- 1:30 P.M. MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS**
Clay Center & Lucas
- 1:45 P.M. PROPERTY TAX - What to Expect in the Property Tax Debate**
Nathan Eberline, Executive Director | League of Kansas Municipalities
- 2:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS**
Revenue Neutral, Costs Rising: Why Your City's Cash Is Quietly Disappearing
Scot Loyd, Loyd Group, LLC
What's New in NFPA 70B and Why It Matters to You
Chris Myers, Project Engineer | Interstates
- 3:15 P.M. REFRESHMENT BREAK**
- 3:30 P.M. SPEAKER**
Deep Fission
Bryan Black, Vice President of Business Development | Deep Fission
- 4:15 P.M. LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY UPDATE**
2026 Election Preview & Implications on Public Power
Chase Blasi, Kansas Senate Majority Leader
Josh Svaty, Former Secretary of Agriculture
- 4:50 P.M. PRESIDENT'S REPORT & CLOSING COMMENTS**
Tim Johnson, 2026 KPP Energy President | Director of Public Utilities, City of Augusta
- 5:00 P.M. COCKTAIL HOUR | KPP TACOS & TRIVIA NIGHT**

A white line-art illustration of several high-voltage power transmission towers and their associated power lines, set against the dark blue background.

**POWERING
WHAT'S NEXT**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



JEN GOLBECK, AI & DIGITAL EXPERT

Building Trust Between Humans and AI to Supercharge Your City

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes a game changer in the future of work, fostering trust between humans and machines is crucial for maximizing efficiency, ethical responsibility, and profitability. Join Dr. Golbeck, an accomplished computer scientist and leading expert in AI and trust, as she reveals the secrets to building trust between humans and AI, unlocking the full potential of technology, and supercharging your business's success. With her insights, you will be able to assess and build trust between your team and AI systems, paving the way for seamless collaboration and giving your team a competitive edge.

CHASE BLASI, KANSAS SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

2026 Election Preview & Implications on Public Power

Chase Blasi serves as Majority Leader of the Kansas Senate, representing District 26 in Sedgwick County. A Colwich native and Andale High School graduate, he earned his bachelor's degree from Newman University and began his public service on the Colwich City Council while still in high school. Before joining the Senate in 2023, Blasi served as legislative policy director for the Kansas Department of Revenue and chief of staff to Senate Presidents Susan Wagle and Ty Masterson. Elected Majority Leader in 2024, his legislative work includes state and local government, economic development, taxation, and public policy.

NATHAN EBERLINE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

Election Preview & Implications on Public Power

With critical state and federal elections on the horizon in 2026, this session offers a timely look at the legislative and regulatory landscape shaping public power. It will preview key races and policy fights to watch and what their outcomes could mean for municipal utilities across Kansas.

BRYAN BLACK, VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT | DEEP FISSION

Deep Fission

Nuclear energy is seeing renewed momentum nationwide as utilities look for reliable, carbon-free baseload power to meet growing demand — and Kansas is at the center of that story. This session features Bryan Black, Vice President of Business Development for Deep Fission, whose “Gravity” reactor design places small modular reactors a mile underground and has selected a Kansas site for its Department of Energy pilot program.

CHRIS MYERS, PROJECT ENGINEER | INTERSTATES

What's New in NFPA 70B and Why It Matters to You

NFPA 70B, once a recommended practice for electrical equipment maintenance, was elevated to an enforceable standard in its 2023 edition, changing what's expected of utilities and their maintenance programs.

SCOT LOYD | LOYD GROUP, LLC

Revenue Neutral, Costs Rising: Why Your City's Cash Is Quietly Disappearing

Kansas cities are feeling a quiet squeeze. The Revenue Neutral Rate holds property tax dollars to last year's level while inflation has climbed more than 30% since 2021. Cash balances shrink, electric funds are tapped more often, and many cities still lag behind average Kansas electric rates.

EVENT HIGHLIGHT

HAPPY HOUR @ 5 P.M.

Take this time to head to the Marriott via Lyft to check in and return for connection with peers during cocktail hour with your favorite drinks.

TACOS & TRIVIA

Taco Bar • Hosted Trivia • Prize Giveaways

KPP MERCH TENT

Swing by the KPP “merch tent” to choose a conference giveaway item that fits your style. Just like a good music festival, there will be a wide variety of fun and useful items to pick from. First come, first served!