

# CIGRE NEWSLETTER

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Now that 2023 has begun, there are many updates at the U.S. National Committee of CIGRE (USNC).

- First, we would like to welcome five new U.S. Collective Members: Florida Power and Light, LUMA Utility, Ampacimon, Criticality Sciences Inc., and PSEG. Thank you for joining our ranks. We are also in discussion with several other companies and utilities.
- Several webinars are being planned for members and collective members. Some are being led by the Next Generation Network (NGN) and some by the USNC. You will be notified by email (or you can find it on our website [cigre-USNC.org](https://cigre-usnc.org)).
- Marianna Vaiman is the VP of Marketing and has a marketing subcommittee that will help to improve our overall industry visibility. You will see periodic posts on LinkedIn ([CIGRE USNC](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cigre-usnc)) and I hope you follow us there.
- In April, the CIGRE Technical Council and CIGRE Steering Committee will be meeting in Chicago, IL. The USNC will be hosting them and discussing the status of the U.S. electric grid and other topics. We are excited that they chose to come to the U.S.
- The next **USNC Members** meeting will be held during the IEEE PES General Meeting in Orlando, FL on **Tues., July 18, 2023**. Please plan to join us for a luncheon, an update on the USNC, and awards.
- The **Grid of the Future (GOTF) Conference** will be **Oct. 9-12** in Kansas City, MO. Burns & McDonnell will be hosting this year's conference. The call for papers will be out shortly. We are looking to exceed last year's participation, which topped 400! **We will also be looking for sponsors to support this successful conference.** If interested, contact [Sharon Loe](#).
- Although the Paris Symposium is over a year away, the call for synopses has been issued by John McDonald, VP of Technical Activities. Please make a note of the deadlines.
- Lastly, we do recognize members who are technical leaders or support the USNC through our awards programs. If you would like to nominate someone for an award, please contact the VP of Awards and Recognition, [Beth LaRose](#).

Thank you for being members. I hope to meet you at the Member's meeting in July or at the GOTF in October. Please contact me if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

Chris Root, USNC President  
[Christop\\_root@comcast.net](mailto:Christop_root@comcast.net)

# CIGRE BEGINS ITS 2ND CENTURY

## FINANCES, STRATEGY & MEMBERSHIP

BY: MICHAEL HEYECK, PE, CIGRE VP FINANCE & TREASURER  
AND COLIN KNOX, CIGRE MARKETING CONSULTANT, ASPIRE

*CIGRE is developing a strategy in 2023 with 2030 as the horizon. These are exciting times with the energy transition globally and CIGRE is ready. The strategy documents will be developed at a meeting in Chicago the week of Apr. 24. CIGRE's Steering Committee and Technical Council will finalize them for consideration by CIGRE's Administrative Council in September. The strategic plan will be the most comprehensive in CIGRE's 100+ year history.*

*Since the USNC is hosting these meetings with G&W Electric Co., we will have USNC Day on Apr. 24 to show the participants what we are doing in the USA for the energy transition and how the USNC supports it. USNC President Chris Root is leading efforts with Nenad Uzelac. Nenad is on the Technical Council as Study Committee Chair. Enjoy the article below on CIGRE Finances and Strategy.*

### **CIGRE FINANCIALLY SOUND THROUGH THE PANDEMIC**

We celebrated the 2022 CIGRE Paris Session in person for the first time since 2018. The energy level, the networking, the CIGRE community achieved near-record levels of attendance and participation in Paris 2022, just short of the 2018 record. This is a wonderful beginning for CIGRE's 2nd century.

Thankfully, CIGRE anticipated the loss of a Paris Session in finances, and we endured; thanks go to prior treasurers, Richard Bevan, and Michel Augonnet. CIGRE was also prescient in funding a digital platform prior to the pandemic that sustained our relevancy throughout the isolation period of the pandemic. We did not have an in-person event in 2020 but held virtual events in 2020 and 2021 that were costly.

With the 2022 Paris Session a success and membership growing, plus cost savings implemented, we have returned to our cash reserves at the end of 2022 to nearly 4 million euros. This will assist the non-Session year, 2023, where we expect the balance to be nearly 3 million euros at year-end. In 2024, we have plans in place to restore the cash reserves to well over 3 million euros approaching 4 million euros as we endure higher global inflation.

### **2023 STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR CIGRE THROUGH 2030**

CIGRE will not be complacent with our success in 2022 and has commissioned two strategic task forces to develop a path for CIGRE in 2030 for the exciting energy transition ahead. Michel Augonnet, CIGRE President, has appointed Michael Heyeck, VP Finance & Treasurer as Task Force convener for the business and operational track with many from the Steering Committee, and has asked Marcio Szechtman, VP Technical & Chair of the Technical Council (TC) to address the technical track with the TC's Strategic Advisory Group (SAG).

The motivation for the 2023 strategic plan is that the energy transition employed globally will have many disruptive, challenging, and exciting changes. CIGRE sees the power industry on an expansive track, in terms of its scope and range of activities. Society is aiming to become 100% electrified and the electricity sector is considered as fundamental to modern humanity as basic needs of health, food, and clean water. The electricity sector has made significant cuts in carbon emissions, and it is envisioned that other sectors, transportation, buildings, housing, and industry, will migrate significantly to the electricity sector with profound challenges and changes.

CIGRE has evolved and will evolve to assist with business and technical needs to respond to these challenges. CIGRE is a leading platform for knowledge sharing, a true on-line laboratory to assist innovators in the development of suitable products for a sustainable future of our planet. And CIGRE is well positioned to meet these challenges with its fundamental neutrality for knowledge sharing.

The focus of the remainder of this article is on the business and operational sides of CIGRE, but our commitment is to support and enhance the technical foundation of CIGRE in a quality manner. We will do so with our non-profit commitment for impartiality for the betterment of society. It is important to recognize that the business and operational side of CIGRE must be financially sustainable, with membership and registration fees absolutely affordable, to ensure our quality technical foundation always.

>>> To Continue Reading, see full article in the February ELECTRA >>> <https://electra.cigre.org/>



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## TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES UPDATE

BY: JOHN MCDONALD, CIGRE USNC VP TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

U.S. authors have two opportunities this year to prepare CIGRE papers!

First, synopses for the 2024 CIGRE Paris Session are due to me by **June 30, 2023**. Synopses must be at least 500 words and no more than two pages long. This deadline will not be extended. For the last CIGRE Paris Session, the US National Committee (USNC) submitted a record 80 synopses, with 75 accepted by the 16 CIGRE Study Committees. Remember that there is no limit regarding how many synopses we can submit. However, we ensure our synopses are of the highest quality and closely aligned with a Study Committee's Preferential Subject. You have received detailed instructions from me for the preparation and submission of the synopses.

Second, soon we will issue the Call For Papers for the 2023 CIGRE USNC Grid of the Future (GOTF) Symposium on Oct. 9-12 in Kansas City, MO. Full papers are due by **July 28, 2023**. Note that there is no abstract or synopses step with the GOTF papers – only full papers. The GOTF is one month earlier this year than last year, so we have less time for paper acceptance, review, and putting paper sessions together. Therefore, this deadline will be strictly enforced and not extended. We will limit the number of papers accepted to 100 this year (accepted 116 last year), so please don't wait until the last minute. Your paper may be rejected if 100 papers have already been accepted.

Please contact me with any questions at [johnd.mcdonald@ge.com](mailto:johnd.mcdonald@ge.com) or (770) 853-3560.

## JOIN A WORKING GROUP!

### Contact Us:

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NEXT ISSUE: SCHEDULED FOR MAY 15, 2023



**<< CLICK HERE TO PAY YOUR DUES!**



The Next Generation Network (NGN) seeks to facilitate a successful transition into the power systems industry for early career professionals and students by providing technical resources and networking opportunities for personal and technical development. The goal of the Women in Energy (WiE) network is to increase participation, contributions, and leadership from women within the CIGRE community by providing opportunities for personal, professional, and technical development. Both the NGN and WiE aim to ensure that the interests of its members are represented within CIGRE, both for their own benefit and for the future sustainability of CIGRE.

Starting January 2023, the NGN and WiE are partnering to create a mentorship program for members seeking professional development guidance and networking opportunities within CIGRE. This survey is for CIGRE members interested in becoming a mentor or mentee within the NGN or WiE. By completing this survey, you will be entered into a database and contacted about potential pairings based on your responses. Note no commitment is required to fill out the survey, see link below to fill out the survey.

### NGN & WiE MENTOR SIGN-UP

**Jul. 18, 2023**

Annual Members Meeting  
11:30-1:00  
in Orlando, FL

**Oct. 9-12, 2023**

Grid of the Future  
(GOTF) Symposium  
in Kansas City, MO

# WELCOME TO CIGRE!

Chad Abbey • Amin Abedi • John Alexander • Omid Alizadeh • Alicia Allen • Inalvis Alvarez Fernandez • Mahraz Amini • Samer Arafa • Kaveh Ashenayi • Philip Basdekis Jens Boemer • Michael Brown • Sven Burkard • Terry Carmichael • Robert Carritte Zach Caruso • Steve Castaneda • Tony Chen • Pochen Chen • Cristina Chertes Gilbert Chiang • Anthony Colozza • Stephen Conant • Ian Coulter • Haley Creech Rich Creegan • Peter Curtiss • Tushar Damle • Kennedy Darko • Katy Deihl • Paul Donga • Marcelo Elizondo • Motaz Elshafi • Alicia Farag • Zlatan Fazlic • Josh Filus Dale Fox • Atsufumi Fujita • Anish Gaikwad • David Gianamore • Leonard Gilchrist Jonathan Glass • Ali Gulistani • Qing Guo • JD Hammerly • Jon Hilgenkamp • Jason Huang • Aminul Huque • Nick Italiano • Christopher Johnson • Suma Jothibasu Sean Kantra • Jagdeep Kaur • Mandar Kavimandan • Molly Khan • Benjamin Klene Kameron Kline • Bryan Knowles • Robert Laverne • Meagan Leshner • Michael Levy Bob Limp • Mitch Lindsey • Mike Liska • Michael Longoria • Yidan Lu • Christopher Mactal • Thomas Mahar • Michael McMaster • Sydney Metzmaker • Tyler Miller Jacob Moody • Jesse Moran • Martin Mucha • Mark Muir • Kishore Nathan • Shiori Ogi • Kevin Orban • Kim Page • Siddharth Pant • James Parejko • Sid Parmar Joaquin Peirano • Dwayne Pickett • Siby Plathottam • Mark Poulin • Steven Powers Robert Reid • Meaghan Rollins • Victor Rundquist • Nicolas Salazar • Jorge Salinas Isaac Salomon • Maima Samah • Surya Santoso • John Shaffer • Rohit Sharma Mehrdad Sheikholeslami • Nicholas Skoff • James Slagle • David Smith • Drew Smith • Jorge Soto • Kaleb Spencer • Asa Sproul • Swetha Srinivasan • Karl Stefanski Matt Swan • Shahzad Syed • Akira Taniguchi • Jason Theodoropoulos • Juan Toral Samuel Utomi • Bryce Washebeck • Aaron Wilson • Andre Wolosewicz • Hooman Yousefizadeh • John Zarb



*DataCenterDynamics:*  
EU rules that France can use nuclear energy to make "green" hydrogen



*The Harvard Crimson:*  
U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary Discusses Future of Clean Energy at Harvard...



*Utility Dive:* Utility regulators must make smart decisions about smart meters: delays could be costly...



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The Evergreen Action Path to Reaching 100% Clean Energy

# Thank You!

## Grid of the Future Sponsors

HOST



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We continue to solicit and accept sponsorships. Sponsorships can be purchased [at this link](#) on the CIGRE-USNC webpage. Request more information by emailing: Sharon Loe at [s-loe@tamu.edu](mailto:s-loe@tamu.edu).

We are also looking for hosts of the Women in Energy (WiE) Breakfast, the NGN Dinner, session breaks, and our Welcome Reception.

### PATRON, SUSTAINING, AND PRINCIPAL MEMBERS:

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