



# U.S. National Committee

2025 Awards



**cigre**  
United States

# USNC Awards

## The Philip Sporn Award

For career contributions advancing electric power systems in theory, design and/or operation for the benefit of society in the United States, and for aspiring to Philip Sporn's 'Locus of Discontent' approach; i.e., always challenging the status quo to advance technology for the betterment of society.

## Dale Douglass Award for Technical Achievement

For leadership and participation in CIGRE technical activities internationally at the Study Committee or Working Group levels aspiring to the level of dedication exhibited by Dale Douglass.

## Attwood Associate Award

This award is made to honor the contributions and memory of Frederic Attwood of the U.S.A., who, with J. Tribot Laspierre of France, foresaw the need for an international organization in the field of power engineering and who became the first Chairman of the U.S. National Committee upon the founding of CIGRE in the year 1921.

## Virginia Sulzberger Service Award

For notable volunteer contributions to CIGRE USNC. This award is named in honor of the contributions of Virginia Sulzberger who actively served as USNC Secretary-Treasurer from 2000 to 2008, and was recognized with the CIGRE Distinguished Member Award in 2006.

## 2025 Honorees

**Mark McVey**  
**Christopher Root, P.E.**

**Julia Matevosyan**

**Dr. Tapan Manna**  
**Douglas Proctor**

**Amanda Olson**

## Collective Member Award

---

For outstanding leadership and continuing managerial, technical, and financial support of the activities of the U.S. National Committee and CIGRE over an extended period of time.

**ISO New England**

## Special Recognition

### VP Technical Activities Emeritus

---

For significant leadership and career contributions to advance CIGRE technical activities.

**John D. McDonald, P.E.**



# Mark McVey

## The Philip Sporn Award

---

**Mark McVey** is Electric Transmission Equipment & Technology Sr. Strategic Advisor with Dominion Energy. He has over 40 years of experience and is currently part of operations engineering. Mark provides technical support to all business units of power delivery as an advisor for major electrical equipment and subject matter expert for flexible AC transmission devices. Over his career with Dominion Energy, Mark has held positions in substation engineering, power quality, division and district operations supervisory roles and field engineering control operation. Mark holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from VA Tech where he is a member of the ECE advisory board. He is the IEC USNC Chair of TC 33 and is an IEEE Fellow.

Mark has made significant contributions to the technical work of CIGRE notably in the area of study committee, B3 substations where he is currently the chair. From 2019-2024 he served as a B3 advisor for air insulated substations. He's been the special reporter for B3 2018 through 2024 Paris sessions, convener for two brochures, WG member and contributing author of at least eight brochures. Mark has presented six tutorials at various CIGRE symposia and Paris sessions based on Air Insulated Design for Severe Climate Conditions, Guidelines for Safe Work Methods in Substations and Fundamentals of grounding. Since 2016. He's been a technical expert judge for the USNC NGN paper competition and conference papers as well as panel presenter at the USNC GOTF.

Mark has authored or co-authored over 25 papers, articles, handbooks and several CIGRE publications notably the CIGRE Substation Green book in 2019. He has published articles in *Electra* #311 August 2020 Guidelines for Safe Work Methods in Substations and CIGRE-IEC 2019 Conference on EHV and UHV (AC & DC) MMC -STATCOM application at Dominion Energy Colington Substation. He is recipient of the CIGRE Technical Council Award B3 2018, recipient of CIGRE Pioneer 2020 E-session Achievement Award, CIGRE Distinguished Member Award 2022 and the Dale Douglas Award for Technical Achievement 2023. In addition, he has been recognized with multiple Southeastern Electric Exchange (SEE) Substation and Chairman Awards for Dominion Energy projects.



## Christopher Root, P.E.

### The Philip Sporn Award

---

**Christopher E. Root, PE**, Quanta Technology Industry Advisor, is an accomplished utility executive with over 40 years' experience with two utilities. He was a Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President in multiple T&D and engineering areas for 26 years. He has vast experience in the operations, construction, and maintenance of a T&D utility and all phases of the engineering and design of the power system.

Chris is the IEEE Division VII Director, on the PES Governing Board and is the President of the US National Committee of CIGRE. He has received the 2022 IEEE PES Leadership in Power Award, the 2021 Meritorious Service Award for Leadership in PES and the 2021 Attwood Associates Award from the US National Committee of CIGRE. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in MA and RI. He has a BSEE from Northeastern University, MEng of Power Systems from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and attended the Program for Management Development at the Harvard Business School. He is a member of both Eta Kappa Nu and Tau Beta Pi.



## Julia Matevosyan

### Dale Douglass Award for Technical Achievement

**Julia Matevosyan** is Associate Director and Chief Engineer at Energy Systems Integration Group (ESIG) and has more than 25 years of experience in the power industry. Prior to joining ESIG, Julia was the Lead Planning Engineer of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT). Areas of her interest include adequacy of essential reliability services and performance issues related to high penetration levels of inverter-based generation and loads. Julia received her BSc from Riga Technical University in Latvia, and her MSc and PhD from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Sweden. Julia is very active in CIGRE, IEEE, NERC and ERCOT stakeholder process in various leadership roles.



## Dr. Tapan Manna

### Attwood Associate Award

---

**Dr. Tapan Manna** is a Technical Consultant at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City, with over 30 years of experience in the power industry and academia. Since 2009, he has held key technical roles at Burns & McDonnell. He previously worked with URS (now AECOM), Black & Veatch, and Tennessee Tech University. Earlier in his career, he spent over a decade with Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation Ltd. and West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd., two major utilities in eastern India. He also taught two years at the College of Engineering & Management, Kolaghat, India.

He received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Tech University in 2006. His expertise and interests include power systems, protection and control, HV/EHV systems including 765 kV, HVDC, FACTS, grounding, lightning transients, harmonics, geomagnetic disturbances (GMD), and electromagnetic pulse (EMP).

Dr. Manna has delivered over 50 technical presentations. He is an IEEE PES Distinguished Lecturer and a Senior Member of IEEE, and he holds PE, PMP, and Chartered Engineer credentials. He has contributed to over 20 IEEE PES and CIGRE working groups and authored numerous technical publications. His work at Burns & McDonnell has been recognized with several prestigious honors, including the 2019 Keith W. Jeffers Technical Excellence Award and the 2023 Blue Quill Hall of Fame Award.



# Douglas Proctor

## Attwood Associate Award

---

**Mr. Douglas Proctor**, president of Proctor Engineering, Inc. has over 50 years of engineering, project management, and construction management experience on transmission, substation, and distribution projects. He is experienced in all aspects of transmission and substation projects at voltages ranging from 7.2-kV to 500-kV. Mr. Proctor is a registered professional engineer in California. He is familiar with a full range of software including Microsoft Project, Microsoft Access and Excel, Sag10, PLSCAD, and many others. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois and Master of Science in Engineering, University of Colorado.

Mr. Proctor served as the Director of Engineering for the California-Oregon Transmission Project, a 340-mile, 500-kV transmission line interconnecting the Pacific Northwest with California. The project was placed in service in 1993. He assisted PG&E with their Field Switch Project between 2002 and 2008 by completing a switching standard to determine appropriate disruption of charging currents during switching operations. He oversaw the installation motor operators and remote-control activation of field switches on the northern half of the PG&E 60 and 70-kV system. He developed the use of voltage transformers as a source of power to charge the motor operator batteries. Mr. Proctor served as the Project Manager for the Desert Southwest Transmission Project (DSTP) since 2002, when the project goals were established. During that time, he coordinated the efforts of the environmental contractor, surveyor, land agents, and agencies to complete the Draft and Final EIS/EIR. The BLM granted a right of way for the project in 2005.

Mr. Proctor served CIGRE as a Regular Member of Study Committee B2 and served as SCB2 liaison to the IEEE Overhead Lines Subcommittee under the Transmission and Distribution Committee of the PES. He also served on Study Committee C4 Lightning and was a Technical papers reviewer for the National Committee for the Grid of The Future and Technical Brochures.

Mr. Proctor is a senior member of the IEEE and has been active on various committees and working groups since 1982. He has served in the capacities of: Member NESC Subcommittee SC4 – Clearances; Vice-Chairman of the TP&C Committee; Chairman of the Construction Work Group; Paper Presentations coordinator for ESMO; Editor for IEEE Transactions for TP&C under the Power Engineering Society.



## Amanda Olson

### Virginia Sulzberger Service Award

---

**Amanda (Mandy) Olson** serves as the Vice President of Engineering for Transmission & Distribution Services at Burns & McDonnell, focusing on market strategy and engineering excellence. She holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology and an MS in Business Administration from the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Mandy's serves as the US C3 Study Committee Representative and Chair of the ELECTRA Editorial Board where she collaborates with global leaders to curate informative content, fostering knowledge exchange in Power Systems worldwide.



## ISO New England Collective Member Award

---

### **“Keeping the lights on in New England**

ISO New England is the independent, nonprofit corporation responsible for keeping electricity flowing across the six New England states and ensuring that the region has reliable, competitively priced wholesale electricity today and into the future.”

For more information, please visit [www.iso-ne.com](http://www.iso-ne.com).



## John D. McDonald, P.E.

### VP Technical Programs Emeritus

---

John has been a member of CIGRE for 19 years, and has been the CIGRE USNC VP, Technical Activities for 16 years! In the 104-year history of the CIGRE USNC, the longest a Chair of the US Technical Committee had served is 8 years! John has established the USNC as the best practice in technical activities regarding number of US subject matter experts serving on CIGRE WGs, number of US NGN members (young experts) serving on CIGRE WGs, number of US women serving on CIGRE WGs, and number of US women serving as WG Conveners. The USNC sets records every two years with the number of synopses submitted for the CIGRE Paris Session and consistently receives 100 papers for the annual Grid of the Future Symposium.

**John D. McDonald, P.E.**, is Founder & CEO of JDM Associates, LLC. John has 51 years of experience in the electric utility transmission and distribution industry. John received his B.S.E.E. and M.S.E.E. (Power Engineering) degrees from Purdue University, and an M.B.A. (Finance) degree from the University of California-Berkeley. John is a Life Fellow of IEEE (member for 54 years), member of IEEE-HKN (inducted 54 years ago), and was awarded the IEEE Millennium Medal, the IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) Excellence in Power Distribution Engineering Award, the IEEE PES Substations Committee Distinguished Service Award, the IEEE PES Meritorious Service Award, the 2024 CIGRE US National Committee (USNC) Philip Sporn Award, the 2016 CIGRE Distinguished Member Award, the 2016 CIGRE USNC Attwood Associate Award, and the 2021 CIGRE Honorary Member Award. John is Past President of the IEEE PES, the VP for Technical Activities for the USNC of CIGRE, the Past Chair of the IEEE PES Substations Committee, the IEEE Division VII Past Director, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering. John was on the Board of Governors of the IEEE-SA (Standards Association), is an IEEE Foundation Director and Vice President of Development, and is a Governor At-Large on the IEEE-HKN Board of Governors. John has published one hundred fifty papers and articles, has co-authored five books and has one US patent.

