

# Membership/Networking Event Agenda – Nov 13, 2025

**3:00 – 3:30      General Admission, Registration Open**

**3:30 – 3:45      Chairman of the Board, Lane Gunn: Opening Remarks and Gigawatt Acknowledgement**

**3:45 – 4:00      Project Hub Introduction and Project HUB Update**

**4:00 – 4:45      Scaling Up: Preparing Your Business for EPC Partnership**

This session offers practical guidance for local contractors and service providers looking to partner with engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) firms on large-scale clean-energy projects. Panelists will discuss what EPCs look for in local partners, from prequalification and safety standards to staffing and compliance readiness. Attendees will learn how to position their businesses for success, build strong relationships with EPCs, and take advantage of the growing pipeline of energy and infrastructure projects across South-Central Virginia.

Panelists Include:

- Meg O'Brien of Dominion Energy (Moderator)
- Cesar Navarro of Kiewit
- Tyler Dick of Sun Tribe
- Matthew Shinkwin of Strata Clean Energy

**4:45 – 5:30      Powering Opportunity - Battery Storage in Our Community**

As the energy transition accelerates, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) have become the critical bridge between renewable generation, grid reliability, and a resilient clean-energy future. Today's discussion explores how BESS is transforming modern infrastructure—from stand-alone systems that support peak shaving and frequency regulation to integrated solutions that enhance grid flexibility and project efficiency. We'll touch on permitting, zoning, fire safety, and community engagement, highlighting how thoughtful planning builds public trust and ensures safe, responsible development. Finally, we'll look ahead to emerging technologies like sodium-ion and iron-air batteries and AI-driven management systems, and what they mean for the next generation of solar + storage projects.

Panelists Include:

- Greg Habeeb of Gentry Locke (Moderator)
- Sandeep Nimmagadda of Axial Energy
- Geovanni Castano of Dominion
- Benjamin Hadlock of Strata Clean Energy
- Mary McNamara of Kimley-Horn

**5:30 – 7:00      Networking Reception**

After the panel discussions, join us for a relaxed networking reception — an opportunity to connect with industry leaders, project developers, and local partners who are shaping energy infrastructure. Enjoy the chance to exchange ideas, share insights, and build new relationships in an informal setting while sampling some of the region's best local craft beers, canned cocktails, fine wines, and delicious food. The perfect way to power new connections in the energy community.