



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **EIPC Planning Coordinators Elect New Officers**

On December 6, 2023, the electric system Planning Coordinators that formed the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC) announced the election of Sharda Scott, general manager of transmission planning at Southern Company, to be the chair of the EIPC Executive Committee for the 2024 – 2025 term. David Kelley, vice president of engineering for the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) was elected to serve as vice chair.

EIPC is a first-of-its-kind collaborative made up of the major U.S.-based Transmission Planning Coordinators responsible for planning the bulk power grid throughout the Eastern Interconnection which represents approximately two-thirds of the U.S. and Canada. The EIPC was formed to provide a forum to coordinate and conduct interconnection-wide transmission analysis, while also providing policymakers and regulators with relevant, complete and technically sound information.

“The Eastern Interconnection is one big machine. Various organizations each have a piece of that machine, but in the end, it is one big machine. The value of EIPC is in working together to ensure that this machine continues to operate in the most efficient and reliable manner to supply electricity to meet consumers’ energy demands at all times,” said Scott. “EIPC is a unique and invaluable organization, well positioned to address the challenges stemming from the rapid transformation of the power industry, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to contribute to this effort.”

As the general manager of transmission planning for Southern Company, Scott is responsible for the strategic and reliable planning of Southern Company’s bulk electric system. This includes working with key stakeholders to develop effective transmission solutions to ensure the timely expansion of the transmission system to reliably serve customer loads and integrate new generation sources.

Since joining Southern Company, Scott has led in various capacities, including in the areas of transmission control center operations, substation maintenance and construction, along with project management. She is also active across industry groups and recently served as the chair of the SERC Reliability Risk Working Group (RRWG).

Scott earned her electrical engineering degree and an executive MBA from the University of Alabama. She is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Alabama.

At SPP, Kelley is responsible for the ongoing development of SPP's transmission expansion plan, tracking expansion projects, administration of generator interconnection processes, performance of engineering studies and the development of regional resource adequacy policies.

Kelley has more than 20 years of experience in the electric utility industry, having served 14 of those years in various engineering and markets leadership roles at SPP. He also serves on the board of directors of the Division of Science and Technology of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. He has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Louisiana Tech University, an MBA from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Arkansas.

### **About the EIPC**

Formed under an agreement by 18 planning authorities from the Eastern United States and Canada, the EIPC has developed a "bottom-up" approach to transmission planning, starting with a roll-up of the existing grid expansion plans of electric system planning authorities in the Eastern Interconnection. The EIPC membership currently includes Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Cube Hydro Carolinas, LLC; Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.; Duke Energy Carolinas, Duke Energy Florida, and Duke Energy Progress; Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company; Georgia Transmission Corporation (An Electric Membership Corporation); ISO New England, Inc.; Midcontinent Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.; Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia; New York Independent System Operator, Inc.; PJM Interconnection; PowerSouth Energy Cooperative; South Carolina Public Service Authority; Southern Company Services Inc., as agent for Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, and Mississippi Power Company; Southwest Power Pool, Inc.; and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

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