



ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSMISSION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 27, 2025
Ellendale Opera House, 55 Main Street
Ellendale, North Dakota

- 9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Comments by the Chairman
- 9:05 a.m. Tour of the Applied Digital data center and presentations by a representative of Applied Digital
- 11:30 a.m. Recess
- 12:20 p.m. Review of the [Supplementary Rules of Operation and Procedures of the North Dakota Legislative Management](#)
- 12:25 p.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a [background memorandum](#) regarding impacts of large energy consumers on the electrical grid
- 12:30 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Don Flaherty, Mayor, City of Ellendale, regarding how Ellendale has adapted and responded to the changing dynamic of the data center project
- 12:45 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Darcy Neigum, Vice President of Electric Supply, MDU Resources Group Inc., regarding impacts and costs of large energy consumers
- 1:15 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Zac Smith, Communications & Government Relations Director, North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, regarding cooperative business models and onboarding large load customers to the power grid
- 1:45 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Jean Schafer, Senior Legislative Representative, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, regarding the Large Load Program
- 2:15 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Claire Vigesaa, Executive Director, North Dakota Transmission Authority, regarding the strength and reliability of the state's power grid
- 2:45 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Jason Weiers, Transmission Project Development Manager, Otter Tail Power, regarding an update on the JETx transmission line
- 3:15 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Randy Christmann, Public Service Commissioner, regarding the impacts of large energy consumers and data centers on the state
- 3:45 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Jeff Ringstad, Superintendent, Ellendale Public Schools, regarding local workforce and classes relating to data centers
- 4:00 p.m. Comments by interested persons
- 4:15 p.m. Committee discussion
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Representatives: Anna S. Novak (Chairman), Dick Anderson, Mike Brandenburg, Austin Foss, Pat D. Heinert, Alisa Mitskog, Todd Porter

Senators: Brad Bekkedahl, Keith Boehm, Ryan Braunberger, Mark Enget, Kathy Hogan, Greg Kessel, Kent Weston, Desiree van Oosting

Staff Contact: Austin Gunderson, Counsel