

# ENERGY FORUM

AUGUST 11, 2026 | 9:00AM – 4:00PM | BURNS & McDONNELL

The Energy Forum, sponsored by the Electric League of MO & KS in Conjunction with our Local Utilities, Evergy, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, and Independence Power & Light delivers a full-day, high-value experience, designed to respect everyone's time and deliver meaningful takeaways.

## DON'T MISS OUT - JOIN US:

**Tuesday, August 11, 2026**

**9:00AM – 4:00PM**

**Burns & McDonnell-Graves  
Auditorium**

(9400 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO)

*Parking in the Summit Lot for this event*



## ACT NOW!

**This is more than an event—**  
it's a platform for ideas,  
partnerships, and growth.

## ATTACHED:

Schedule of Events  
Sponsorship Opportunities

## SIGN UP NOW:



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# ENERGY FORUM - SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 | BURNS & MCDONNELL | KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

8:00AM – 9:00AM	<p><b>CHECK IN &amp; VENDOR NETWORKING</b></p> <p>Kick off the day with a light breakfast and an opportunity to network with fellow attendees and tabletop vendors.</p>
9:00AM – 9:05AM	<p><b>WELCOME</b></p> <p><i>Carl Privitera III, President, Electric League of MO &amp; KS; Ben Frerichs, Vice President, 1898 &amp; Co.</i></p>
9:05AM – 9:30AM	<p><b>MORNING KEYNOTE: STATE OF THE ELECTRICAL GRID</b></p> <p><i>Jason Klindt, Senior Director of External Affairs, Evergy</i></p> <p>Explore the current state of the electrical grid and the increasing demands placed on it by AI along with large data centers. Understand challenges and opportunities for ensuring grid reliability and meeting future energy needs.</p>
9:35AM – 10:15AM	<p><b>FROM INTERCONNECTION TO COOLING: MANAGING DATA CENTER DEMAND</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Babette Macy, Link; Mike Fernholz, Natl Eng. Services Director, JE Dunn; Joe Hegendeffner, Director, Independence Power &amp; Light; Sarah C. Tuite, P.E., Water One</i></p> <p>This panel translates rapid data center growth into concrete local impacts on power, water, rates, and reliability. With focus on real numbers, timelines, and practical solutions that create win-wins for communities and operators alike.</p>
10:15AM – 10:30AM	<p><b>RAPID FIRE – PART ONE</b></p> <p><i>Hear from each of our tabletop vendors and sponsors about the services and products they offer in two minutes or less!</i></p>
10:30AM – 10:45AM	<p><b>BREAK – VENDOR NETWORKING</b></p>
10:45AM – 11:15AM	<p><b>BREAKTHROUGH: GRAVITY NUCLEAR REACTOR</b></p> <p><i>Jason Pottorf, Director of Thermal Hydraulics, Deep Fission</i></p> <p>This breakthrough is an underground nuclear reactor concept placing small modular reactors in boreholes, using natural hydrostatic pressure to replace much of traditional containment. The design draws on established drilling, geothermal, and pressurized water reactor technologies, using standard components and fuel. The result is a safer, faster, and dramatically more cost-efficient path to clean baseload power. This breakthrough allows us to rethink how and where nuclear energy is generated.</p>
11:20AM – 11:50AM	<p><b>NANO GRIDS: ENABLING GRID FLEXIBILITY, RESILIENCE, AND UTILITY TRANSFORMATION</b></p> <p><i>Ed Peterson, Future Proof LLC</i></p> <p>This presentation examines how nano-grids--- small, building-scale energy systems are reshaping grid operations, municipal resilience, and utility business models. It explores regulatory considerations, utility adoption strategies, and how nano-grids can support growing power demands from data centers, AI facilities, and critical infrastructure while enhancing national and community security.</p>
11:50AM - 12:00PM	<p><b>RAPID FIRE – PART TWO</b></p> <p><i>Hear from each of our tabletop vendors and sponsors about the services and products they offer in two minutes or less!</i></p>
12:00PM – 1:00PM	<p><b>LUNCH &amp; VENDOR NETWORKING</b></p> <p>Continue the conversation and network with fellow attendees and tabletop vendors over lunch.</p>
1:00PM – 1:30PM	<p><b>AFTERNOON KEYNOTE</b></p> <p><b>POWERING HUMAN NEEDS: ENERGY, AI AND THE FUTURE OF SOCIETY</b></p> <p><i>Jennifer Russell, EISE, CSEP, Director, NSI Advisory Services</i></p> <p>A people-centered exploration of how energy systems, technology, and the built environment shape the future of modern life and community well-being.</p>
1:35PM – 2:05PM	<p><b>THE ROLE OF DISPATCHABLE DERs IN RESILIENT MICROGRIDS</b></p> <p><i>Mike Sanford, Senior Sales Application Engineer, Cummins</i></p> <p>This session delves into the crucial role of dispatchable distributed energy resources (DERs) in enhancing the resilience and sustainability of microgrids.</p>
2:05PM – 2:30PM	<p><b>BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS: TECHNOLOGY, APPLICATIONS, &amp; MARKET TRENDS</b></p> <p><i>Mike Sirard and Daniel Golov, MPI-Narada</i></p> <p>The presentation will cover key market trends, including the growing impact of AI, increasing power demand, and the need for reliable, scalable energy infrastructure. We will also discuss common BESS applications, typical system considerations, and the role of Lithium Iron Phosphate, (LFP), as a widely used battery chemistry due to its safety profile, reliability, and long-term performance characteristics.</p>
2:35 PM – 3:00 PM	<p><b>POWER FACTOR CORRECTION</b></p> <p><i>Mark Cowart and Brian Branigan, P3</i></p> <p>What is power correction and what can you implement in your next project to optimize industrial electrical systems and avoid utility penalties.</p>
3:00PM – 3:30PM	<p><b>AFTER HOUR NETWORKING</b></p>

REGISTER:



# ENERGY FORUM

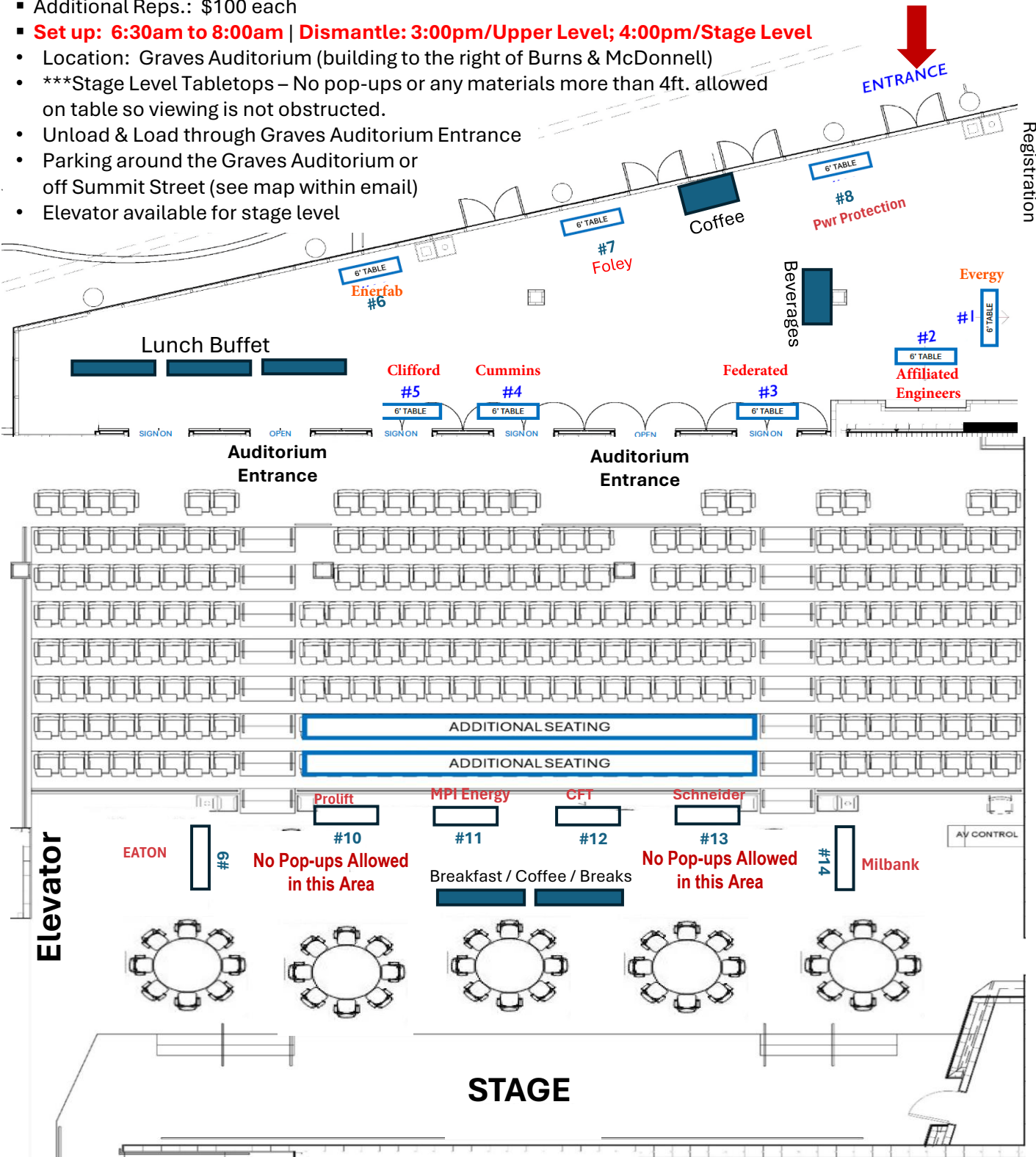
## VENDOR FLOOR PLAN

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026

Burns & McDonnell  
 Greg Graves Auditorium  
 9400 Ward Parkway  
 Kansas City, MO, 64114



- Includes: 1 6ft Table (not skirted), 2 Chairs, 2 Reprs., 2 Conference Entries, 1 ID Sign \$650
- Additional Reprs.: \$100 each
- **Set up: 6:30am to 8:00am | Dismantle: 3:00pm/Upper Level; 4:00pm/Stage Level**
- Location: Graves Auditorium (building to the right of Burns & McDonnell)
- \*\*\*Stage Level Tabletops – No pop-ups or any materials more than 4ft. allowed on table so viewing is not obstructed.
- Unload & Load through Graves Auditorium Entrance
- Parking around the Graves Auditorium or off Summit Street (see map within email)
- Elevator available for stage level



Registration

# ENERGY FORUM SPONSORSHIP TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026

Burns & McDonnell  
Greg Graves Auditorium

9400 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO, 64114



CLICK OR SCAN  
TO REGISTER



The Energy Forum provides education, networking, sponsorship and table-top opportunities. Our sponsorship packages offer a wide range of options for you to participate in this exclusive event, from a simple table presence to a two-minute on-stage presentation and video.

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS	Platinum \$6,000 (one available)	Gold \$4,000	Silver \$2,000	Dessert Bar & Beverages \$1,200	Lanyards \$1,000
Feature General Session Sponsor - Promote products and services to a captivated audience and introduce speaker (2 minutes)	✓				
Company video to play at AM General Session (2 min.) You provide	✓				
Ad on Forum webpage with website link	✓				
Litwtrature (1 page 8-1/2 x 11 flyer) or give-a-way for each attendee	✓				
Company logo on event registration page	✓				
Complimentary Supplier Display Table	✓	✓	✓		
Complimentary attendees	3	2	2		
Marketing flyer included in welcome bag no larger than 8-1/2 x 11 sheet. You provide before July 31	✓	✓	✓		
LinkedIn promotion	✓	✓	✓		
Logo'd table tents at General Session	✓	✓	✓		
Logo featured on tiered signage	✓	✓	✓	✓	
List of 2026 Attendees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Breakfast or Lunch Recognition in Serving Area		✓			
Break Sponsor - Recognition in Serving Area			✓		
Logo on bars or tables during dessert				✓	
Distribute materials during Happy Hour and Dessert - you provide				✓	
Lanyards, your design, you provide					✓

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