

PRE-FORUM WORKSHOP

MORE THAN ZERO: BUILDING THE VALUE OF ZERO NET ENERGY TO THE GRID

GRAND HYATT DENVER | 1 to 5 p.m.



Description

This workshop has been curated by Rocky Mountain Institute as a deep dive into the subject of the “grid edge,” or the intersection of buildings, distributed renewable energy resources, energy storage, and the utility grid. Understanding this intersection allows us to better value the services that buildings and other distributed resources can bring to the utility grid, and will lead to more thoughtful building designs that support the utility grid’s transition to a clean energy future. The session will draw upon the knowledge of key content experts (representing perspectives from the **electric utility, building developer, research, and commercial services** industries) and facilitated breakout sessions to inform and inspire workshop participants.

Objectives:

1. Familiarize attendees with what it means for buildings to serve as a grid resource, and the related implications for net-zero energy buildings
2. Identify and address key barriers to the realizing the potential of buildings as grid resources through facilitated breakout groups
3. Provide attendees with access to key content experts that can provide insights on building-grid interactivity from various points of view
4. Provide content experts and industry professionals the opportunity to draw upon the collective knowledge of the audience to solve issues that prevent buildings from achieving true value as grid resources.

Agenda

1-2 p.m. Panel Introduction, Presentations and Discussion(60 minutes)

- Expert panelists will share perspectives on why this topic is important to their field, and identify the biggest barriers to their field moving greater interactivity between buildings, distributed energy resources, storage, and the grid.

2-2:10 p.m. Break (10 minutes)

2:10-3:40 p.m. Working Session – Barriers and solutions (90 minutes)

- Small groups will work through collaborative sessions focused on (1) identifying barriers to realizing grid interactivity that drives value and (2) how industry could overcome these barriers. These groups will each be joined by an expert panelist and a facilitator.

3:40-3:50 p.m. Break: 10 minutes

3:50-5 p.m. Group Discussion (70 minutes)

- Small group report out to all workshop attendees on key barriers and potential solution followed by group discussion around solutions and mapping of ties between groups’ findings and identify key conclusions from the overall session, including a potential roadmap toward addressing some of the barriers identified.