



News Release

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For immediate release

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Demystifying the “Smart Grid”

Portland State Hosts Interactive Conference to Explore How New Models and Technologies Create Sustainable Communities

The “Smart Grid” has caught the attention of political, business, and community leaders from the White House to Northwest communities and electrical utilities—and for good reason. Smart Grid champions claim the updated system will borrow technologies, concepts, and models behind the Internet to virtually transform the electrical grid from a centralized network controlled by utilities to one that incorporates individual users and new producers.

To further examine these ideas, Portland State University faculty and students, along with industry and community leaders, will come together on June 18 for an interactive conference titled “Planning the Smart Grid for Sustainable Communities.” The event is open to the public and will outline such topics as Smart Grid technologies and capabilities, metrics to measure progress, costs and benefits of the Smart Grid, renewable energy sources, and engaging the community in its design and implementation. Moreover, conference organizers will create opportunities for conference participants to collaborate and identify new Smart Grid components and priorities to support a more sustainable energy plan for the Pacific Northwest.

Business leaders, regulators, government representatives, Smart Grid technology vendors, planners, engineers, architects, and home and building owners are encouraged to attend the all-day conference. Other interested parties are welcome to attend the free event as well.

For additional information, <http://extended.pdx.edu/nwsmartgrid/>

The Details

Planning the Smart Grid for Sustainable Communities Conference

June 18, Portland State University

University Place, 310 SW Lincoln, Portland

8:30 am to 5:00 pm (7:30 am registration; 8:30 keynote address)

Free

Sponsors: Climate Solutions, Executive Leadership Institute, Portland General Electric, Portland State University (School of Extended Studies), Portland State University Miller Grant

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