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Sustainable Growth Coalition Champions Expansion of Transmission Grid as Midwestern Governors Association Holds 10th Annual Transmission Summit

Regional Employers See Benefit of Transmission Expansion to Drive Regional Economic Competitiveness

Minneapolis, Minn.—This week, the [Midwestern Governors Association](#) (MGA) and the [Midcontinent Independent System Operator \(MISO\)](#), an independent, not-for-profit organization delivering power across 15 U.S. states, are hosting a three-day [Transmission Summit](#). The Summit is focused on grid optimization and ways advanced technology is providing new pathways to optimize and unleash the potential of the Midwestern electric grid.

The [Sustainable Growth Coalition](#), a business-led partnership harnessing expertise to lead into the next frontier of corporate sustainability — the circular economy, is underlining the strong business case for transmission investments as the regional power generation portfolio evolves. In April, the Coalition unveiled its [Transmission Guiding Principles](#) that will help advance the Midwest region’s competitiveness and meet customer and community needs.

“Long range transmission planning is critical to meet our region’s long-term needs, and comprehensive planning spends investment dollars optimally. From improved public health to creating a more resilient economy, the Coalition supports investments in our grid. I’m appreciative of MISO and the Midwestern Governors Association’s collaboration and leadership on planning for our system’s future needs — critical to ensure our region is economically competitive, and for our businesses, communities and every person to have access to clean, reliable and affordable energy,” said Amy Fredregill, Managing Director of the Sustainable Growth Coalition.

Sustainable Growth Coalition members support enhancing transmission grid capacity because it is critical to meeting clean energy needs as the regional power generation portfolio evolves. Enhancing grid capacity also drives regional economic competitiveness.

“At Uponor, we are advancing solutions around renewable energy, greenhouse gas emissions reduction and climate change because it’s important to meet the needs of our customers and protect the health of our planet,” said Ingrid Mattsson, Director of Sustainability, Uponor North America. “Uponor is collaborating with the Sustainable Growth Coalition to advocate for improved performance and efficiency of electricity transmission and distribution systems because it will benefit all users and conserve resources.”

"Throughout Andersen Windows and Doors' time working on our 2020 sustainability goals, a few things have become clear. One is that purchased electricity is one of our most material issues for the business. Another is that our next set of goals should have an energy target that is not limited to efficiency alone

but based in climate science and focused on greenhouse gas emissions reductions. In order to meet these goals, we'll need a robust transmission system to bring new renewable energy online in a cost effective, safe, and reliable way," said Jon Smieja, Corporate Sustainability Manager at Andersen Corporation.

The [Sustainable Growth Coalition website](#) includes guiding principles, focus area content, and the charter and vision.

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The **Sustainable Growth Coalition** is building a vision and completing steps to achieve a circular economy by developing energy, materials and water projects and initiatives. Members from nearly 30 businesses and organizations including 3M, Ackerberg, Andersen Corporation, Antea Group, Aveda, Barr, Best Buy, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, Ecolab, Ever-Green Energy, Great Plains Institute, Great River Energy, Greater MSP, HealthPartners, HGA, Metropolitan Airports Commission, Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Department of Administration, Mortenson, National Grid Renewables, Organix Solutions, Target, Tennant, University of Minnesota, Uponor, Wenck, and Xcel Energy.