



**Western Dakota Energy Association  
Annual Membership Meeting  
October 11-12, 2023  
Astoria Hotel & Events Center, 363 15th St W  
Dickinson, North Dakota**

**Wednesday, October 11**

11:00 am MDT – Registration Opens

12:00 noon – Exhibits Open

1:00 pm – Welcome – WDEA President Trudy Ruland, Mountrail County Commission  
– Welcome to Dickinson, Mayor Scott Decker

1:10 pm – Oil & Gas Production Review, County-by-County results and other comments – Lynn Helms

1:50 pm – Processing and Pipeline Capacity Update – Justin Kringstad, ND Pipeline Authority

2:15 pm – Oil Industry Panel – Moderator Brady Pelton, ND Petroleum Council – Industry members TBD

**3:00 p.m. – Networking Break**

3:15 pm – NDLTAP Key Efforts – Bryon Fuchs, Local Technical Assistance Program Director

3:30 pm – Transportation Panel – Moderator Dana Larsen, Panel members NDLTAP Director Bryon Fuchs,  
Stark County Highway Supt. Al Heiser; Dunn County Highway Supt. David Lym

4:15 pm – LoadPass Permits Expansion/Enhancements – Joelle VanderLinden and Brent Bogar

4:30 pm – EERC Portfolio of Projects – John Hamling, EERC

5:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Social and hors d'oeuvres, Entertainment TBD  
Remarks by Cal Klewin, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association

## **Thursday, October 12**

7:30 – 8:30 am – Continental Breakfast, Exhibits Open

8:30 am – Opening Remarks and Welcome - WDEA President Trudy Ruland, Mountrail County Commission  
– Welcome to Stark County, Commission Chairman Dean Franchuk

8:40 am – WDEA Oil Industry Impact Study Update – Brent Bogar, AE2S

9:00 am – GROW, Ukraine Worker Program – Brent Sanford, ND Petroleum Council

9:15 am – Promoting Economic Sustainability in the West – Deb Nelson, Vision West

9:30 am – Grid Reliability: Is it a crisis? – PSC Commission Chairman Randy Christmann

9:45 am – Transmission and Generation Update - Claire Vigesaa, ND Transmission Authority

### **10:00 a.m. – Networking break**

10:15 am – Southwest Area Career & Technical Education Academy – Director Aaron Anderson

10:30 am – School Construction Panel, moderated by Alexander Superintendent Leslie Bieber  
– Panelists - Asst. Supt. Keith Harris, Dickinson; Supt. Daren Kurle, Belfield;  
Supt. Jeff Simmons, Killdeer; Rep. David Richter, Williston

11:15 am – Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library update – Robbie Lauf, TRPL Programming & Partnerships

11:30 am – 2023-24 Legislative Interim Activity – House Majority Leader Mike Lefor, Dickinson

### **12:00 noon – Lunch**

12:30 pm – Keynote Speaker – Rich Garman, ND Commerce Dept. Director, Economic Development & Finance

1:15 pm – Lignite Research update – Mike Holmes Lignite Energy Council

1:35 pm –The EPA’s War on Fossil Fuels – Jonathan Fortner, LEC

2:00 pm – Annual Business Meeting  
– Treasurer’s Report  
– Bylaws Amendment  
– County/City/School Committee meetings  
– Election of Officers

3:00 pm - Adjourn