



## WISCONSIN GOVERNOR'S CHANGES CREATE A DOMINO EFFECT



Governor Tony Evers

Newly elected Governor Tony Evers has named Rebecca Cameron Valcq as Public Service Commission Chair. Valcq has been a partner at Quarles & Brady and previously worked as attorney for WE Energies. Valcq's Executive Assistant (EA) will be Carrie Templeton who has worked at PSC since 2011. Templeton's previous experience also includes working as Director of Legislative Relations and Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Jim Doyle, as an Executive Assistant at the Department of Corrections, DOR and DFI, and as Chief of Staff to Senator Jon Erpenbach (D-Middleton).

As a result of Evers' changes in other Departments, there have been additional changes at the PSC. Bob Seitz, who had been Deputy Secretary at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, has returned to the PSC as Executive Assistant to Commissioner Ellen Nowak, replacing Bill Jordahl. Alex Ignatowski will be PSC's Communications and Legislative Director. Ignatowski was previously a PSC advisor and worked in various positions in Governor Scott Walker's administration. Ignatowski replaces Matt Spencer who is returning to the legislature to work for Representative Rob Stafsholt (R-New Richmond).

## ALLIANT ENERGY SWITCHES STOCK LISTING FROM NYSE TO NASDAQ

Alliant Energy Corporation has moved its stock exchange listing to Nasdaq from the New York Stock Exchange. The move was effective December 28th.

"Alliant Energy is thrilled to join the many innovative, creative and consumer-focused companies on Nasdaq. Our partnership with Nasdaq will enable us to leverage their technology platform, target new investors and continue to provide excellent service to our shareowners," according to Patricia Kampling, Alliant Energy Chair and CEO.

The company now trades under the ticker symbol IPLDP. Cedar Rapids-based Interstate Power and Light Co. (IPL) is also transferring its stock listing to Nasdaq.



### WHAT'S INSIDE:

**WEC Energy Group Makes \$145 Million Investment in South Dakota Wind Farm** ..... 2

### PEOPLE

- **WEC Energy Group Makes Personnel Changes**
- **Alliant Energy Names New Vice President of Business Planning**

**S&P Slashes PG&E Rating to Junk Status** ..... 3

**Alliant Energy Selected for 2019 B Gender-Equality Index** ..... 3

**Bucking Recent Trends, State Utilities Burned More Coal in 2017** ..... 3

**Meetings Canceled Because of Federal Government Shutdown** ..... 3

### EARNINGS

- **WEC Energy Group Raises Quarterly Dividend**

**Upcoming Events** ..... 4

# WEC ENERGY GROUP MAKES \$145 MILLION INVESTMENT IN SOUTH DAKOTA WIND FARM

Milwaukee-based WEC Energy Group has paid \$145 million to acquire an 80 percent stake in the Coyote Ridge Wind Farm currently under construction in Brookings County, South Dakota. The 97 megawatt project is being developed by Avangrid Renewables, a subsidiary of Connecticut-based Avangrid that will operate the wind farm. The project is expected to be complete by the end of the year, and Avangrid has an agreement in place with Google for the tech giant to purchase 100 percent of the energy produced at the site.

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**“We continue to see promising opportunities to deploy capital in renewable energy assets that will serve strong, growing companies for years to come.”**

*Gale Klappa, chairman and chief executive officer of WEC Energy Group*

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“We continue to see promising opportunities to deploy capital in renewable energy assets that will serve strong, growing companies for years to come,” said Gale Klappa, chairman and chief executive officer of WEC Energy Group.

Last year, WEC Energy Group paid \$148 million for an 80 percent stake in the 132 megawatt Bishop Hill III Wind Energy Center in Henry County, Illinois. That project has an offtake agreement with Sun Prairie-based WPPI Energy for 22 years.

## PEOPLE

### WEC ENERGY GROUP MAKES PERSONNEL CHANGES

The Board of Directors of WEC Energy Group has established an Office of the Chair to provide senior leadership for the next chapter of the company’s growth, development and service to customers. The following appointments to the Office of the Chair were effective February 1st.

Gale Klappa, age 68, currently Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, will serve as Executive Chairman. He has agreed to remain with the company for three years.



*Gale Klappa,  
Executive  
Chairman,  
Office of the  
Chair*

Kevin Fletcher, age 60, currently President of WEC Energy Group, will be promoted to President and Chief Executive Officer and will serve on the board of directors. Fletcher will continue to report to Klappa.

Scott Lauber, age 53, currently Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, will be named Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

Rick Kuester, age 68, will continue to serve as Senior Executive Vice President with broad responsibility for the company’s capital investment plan, information technology and power generation.

“The team that will work together in the Office of the Chair has delivered industry leading results over many years with a clear commitment to reliability, customer satisfaction and shareholder value,” according to Klappa. “Our focus remains on the fundamentals of our business and on continuing to develop the next generation of senior leadership. Our future is bright.”

### ALLIANT ENERGY NAMES NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS PLANNING

John Larsen, President and Chief Operating Officer of Alliant Energy Corporation, has announced that JP Brummond has been named Vice President of Business Planning.



*JP Brummond,  
Vice President  
of Business  
Planning*

In his role, Brummond will be responsible for developing an energy resource and infrastructure plan that takes advantage of newer technologies to meet customer needs for cleaner, affordable energy.

“Evolving customer expectations and emerging technologies are driving changes in how our local power grids can work,” said Larsen. “JP will play a critical role in helping us develop a technologically advanced power grid that can deliver the affordable, sustainable energy customers are demanding.”

Brummond has been with Alliant Energy since 2002, holding leadership positions in corporate strategy, energy markets, generation and field operations. He earned a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and an MBA from the University of Chicago. He currently serves as an Advisory Board Member of the UW – Madison Erdman Center for Operations and Technology Management.

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**“Evolving customer expectations and emerging technologies are driving changes in how our local power grids can work,”**

*John Larsen, President and Chief Operating Officer of Alliant Energy Corporation*

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## S&P SLASHES PG&E RATING TO JUNK STATUS

California utility Pacific Gas and Electric, facing billions of dollars in claims over the deadly 2018 Camp Fire, is headed to bankruptcy court. PG&E, the state's largest utility, has filed for bankruptcy. PG&E needs to use the bankruptcy process, which will allow it to shed some of its debt, to pay for damages and stay in business providing gas and electric service to its customers. The company, in a public filing, cited at least \$7 billion in claims from the Camp Fire. The wildfire caused 86 deaths and destroyed 14,000 homes along with more than 500 businesses and 4,300 other buildings.

## ALLIANT ENERGY SELECTED FOR 2019 B GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX

Alliant Energy is one of 230 companies worldwide selected for the 2019 Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI), which distinguishes companies committed to transparency in gender reporting and advancing women's equality. The GEI includes firms from 10 sectors headquartered across 36 countries.



"Alliant Energy places great value on diversity and is pleased to be included in the Bloomberg Gender Equality Index," according to Alliant Energy Chairman and CEO Patricia Kampling. "We are only successful if we create a workplace where all people feel like they belong."

Bloomberg's standardized reporting framework offers public companies the opportunity to disclose information on how they promote gender equality across four separate areas – company statistics, policies, community engagement, and products and services. Reporting companies that score above a globally established threshold, based on the extent of disclosures and the achievement of best-in-class statistics and policies, are included in the GEI.



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## BUCKING RECENT TRENDS, STATE UTILITIES BURNED MORE COAL IN 2017

Despite the growing use of renewable energy and natural gas, new data shows Wisconsin utilities burned more coal in 2017. Coal-fired generation, which accounted for 55 percent of all electricity produced in Wisconsin, was up about 7.5 percent from the previous year, according to numbers by the federal Energy Information Administration. Natural gas and nuclear-powered generation were both down as overall electricity use fell about one percent.



## MEETINGS CANCELED BECAUSE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utility Service, overseeing the federal environmental review of the proposed transmission line between Dubuque and Madison, had to cancel a number of scheduled meetings as a result of the federal government shutdown. Six meetings had been scheduled between January 22 and January 29 at locations along the proposed route.

## EARNINGS

### WEC ENERGY GROUP RAISES QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

WEC Energy Group has declared a quarterly cash dividend of 59 cents per share on the company's common stock, an increase of 6.8 percent over the current quarterly dividend of 55.25 cents a share. This raises the annual dividend rate to \$2.36 a share. The higher dividend is payable March 1, 2019, to stockholders of record on February 14, 2019. This marks the 306th consecutive quarter, dating back to 1942, that the company will have paid a dividend to its stockholders.



"With this action by our board, 2019 will be the sixteenth consecutive year of dividend increases for our stockholders," according to Gale Klappa, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "We will continue to target a dividend payout of 65 to 70 percent of earnings."





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[wuiinc.org](http://wuiinc.org)

**May 22**  
WUI'S DAY AT THE CAPITOL

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

WUI ANNUAL MEETING  
**September 19**

Mark your calendar. More information coming.