



63rd Annual Conference on Rural Energy Issues

Conference Agenda: Radisson Hotel, La Crosse WI

Wednesday February 11, 2026

12:45pm **Registration in the Hotel Foyer (lunch is on your own)**

All Sessions are in the Hotel Ballroom

1 – 3 pm Dairyland's Artificial Intelligence Journey: VoltWrite's Impact on the Utility
– *Nate Melby, Kyle Overby, Ellie Rundahl, Vlad Tsoy*, Dairyland Power Cooperative

- Overview of Dairyland's VoltWrite AI journey - from early pilots to production-scale solutions that are reshaping how energy utilities can operate.
- Uses of AI that are breaking new ground in improving reliability, asset maintenance, "winning back time", and workflows, while unpacking the practical applications of AI for utilities.
- Innovating at scale, and the practical steps toward safe and effective use of AI.

3:00pm Break

3:20 - 5 PM We are All Managers Now: Effective Collaboration with AI – *Paul Ortmann*, Idaho Power

- Understanding AI Fundamentals
- Collaborating Effectively with AI
- Real-World Applications

5:00pm Adjourn