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GridWise™ Architecture Council elects new chairman

RICHLAND, Wash. – The [GridWise Architecture Council](#), or GWAC, has elected a new chairman, David Forfia of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, or ERCOT.

“I hope to build upon the excellent leadership of the former GWAC Chairs and together with the existing and incoming GWAC members continue working to advance grid modernization,” said Forfia, who was elected Jan. 21.

Forfia is the director of ERCOT’s enterprise architecture and IT transformation, making him responsible for the architecture of systems that operate the Texas electric grid and for implementing programs that transform the delivery of IT services to ERCOT’s stakeholders. He has served in many roles during his tenure at ERCOT, including director of infrastructure & operations, director of application services, and multiple roles on the Texas nodal implementation. He has more than 25 years of experience in the industry, and began his career at Austin Energy in 1987. Forfia received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas and an MBA from St. Edward’s University, both in Austin. Forfia is PMP certified and currently serves on the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel Board of Directors, where he chairs the nominating and governance committee, and serves on the executive, technical and audit committees.

GWAC is also seeking six new council members this year. Its call for candidates closes Jan. 31. Member terms last two years and members should represent interests in a number of areas. GWAC conducts a membership renewal campaign each year and roughly one-quarter of its membership is refreshed annually with new members.

For more information on GWAC and its current members, current activities, desired candidate attributes and submission guidelines, please visit <http://www.gridwiseac.org>.

About the GridWise Architecture Council

The GridWise Architecture Council was convened in 2004 by the Department of Energy with support from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. As a volunteer council, the GWAC includes practitioners and leaders with broad-based knowledge and expertise in power, information technology, telecommunications, financial systems and other fields who are working together toward a coordinated GridWise vision—the transformation of the nation's energy system into a rich, collaborative network filled with decision-making information exchange and market-based opportunities.

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