COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

☑ *Original* ☐ *Amendment*

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and *file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov*, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please ***do not*** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Adison Cook
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ☐ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 24 Return: August 27
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ ***OR*** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington D.C. Destination: Minneapolis, MN; Brookings, SD; Sioux Falls, SD Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: EFI Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings and events attended included site visits to energy infrastructure sites and biofuel refineries. The meetings and events related to my official duties as a staffer who covers agriculture a
7. Attached to this form are ***each*** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
   a. ☐ a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
   b. ☐ the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor ***prior*** to the trip, ***including all*** attachments ***and*** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
   c. ☐ page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; ***and***
   d. ☐ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. ☐ I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
   b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: Adison Cook **Date:** 10/13/2026

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Jonathan L. Jackson **Date:** 10/13/2026

Signature of Supervising Member: Jonathan L. Jackson

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

☐ *Original* ☒ *Amendment*

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip *within 10 days of their return.*** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: EFI Foundation
2. Travel Destination(s): Minneapolis, MN; Becker, MN; Big Stone City, SD; Brookings, SD; Colman, SD; Chancellor, SD; Sioux Falls, SD; Viborg, SD; Salem, SD
3. Date of Departure: 08/24/2026 Date of Return: 08/27/2026
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Lila Bernardin, Ryan Blue, Adison Cook, Sam Dunford, Waverly Gordon, Adam McBride

   Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if ***all*** information is ***identical*** for each person listed.
5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total **Transportation** Expenses	Total **Lodging** Expenses	Total **Meal** Expenses	Total **Other** Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	$755.23	$408.00	$219.86	
Accompanying Family Member				

6. ☐ All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. *Signify statement is true by checking box.*

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Joseph Hezir **Date:** 10/13/2026

Name: Joseph S. Hezir **Title:** President and CFO

Organization: EFI Foundation

☐ ***I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.***

Address: 900 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20006

Telephone: 714-595-6154 **Email:** jshezir@efifoundation.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Adison Cook

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Adison Cook

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Jonathan L. Jackson

Office Address: 1632 Longworth

Telephone Number: 202-834-3674

Email Address of Contact Person: adison.cook@mail.house.gov

☐ Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: *travel.requests@mail.house.gov*.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Adison Cook
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: EFI Foundation
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Minneapolis, MN; Brookings, SD; Sioux Falls, SD
4. a. Date of Departure: 08/24 Date of Return: 08/27/2026

   b. Yes ☒ No ☐ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

   If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes ☐ No ☐ Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**

   (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____

   (2) Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

   (3) Yes ☐ No ☐ Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes ☐ No ☐ Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

   b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Yes ☒ No ☐ *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

   NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**

   As Policy Advisor for Rep. Jonathan L. Jackson, I manage the Congressman's work on the House Agriculture Committee and for the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC). EFI's trip will visit energy infrastructure sites in Minnesota and South Dakota that will provide me firsthand exposure to the technologies driving the clean energy transition and that support Agriculture communities growing biofuels. Such exposure will assist me in my day-to-day responsibilities managing the Congressman's Agriculture Committee, energy, environment, and natural resources portfolios.
9. **Yes ☐ No ☒ Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: Jonathan L. Jackson **Date:** 10/13/2026

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
   EFI Foundation
2. ☒ I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
3. ***Check only one.*** I represent that:
   a. ☒ The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
   b. ☐ The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
   c. ☐ The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
   If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): Attached to this form.
5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: 8/24/26 Date of Return: 8/27/26
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
   b. Destination(s): Minnesota/South Dakota (Minneapolis, MN; Becker, MN; Big Stone City, SD; Brookings, SD; Colman, SD; Chancellor, SD; Sioux Falls, SD; Viborg, SD; Salem, SD)
   c. City of return: Washington, DC
8. ***Check only one.*** I represent that
   a. ☐ The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
   b. ☒ The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
   c. ☐ The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. ***Check only one of the following.***
   a. ☒ I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
   b. ☐ I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
   c. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
   d. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____

10. ☒ Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. ***Check only one of the following.***
   a. ☒ I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box;* **OR**
   b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For ***each*** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip ***and*** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
   EFI Foundation: This trip directly supports EFI Foundation's mission to advance understanding of the technologies and policy options shaping the low-carbon energy transition, and as the trip's organizer, we are planning all logistics to give participants firsthand exposure to the people, projects, and technologies driving this transition.

13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:***
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☒ Car ☐ Other ☐ (specify:_____)
   b. Class of travel: Coach ☒ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (specify:_____)
   c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
   Coach for air travel; chartered bus for bus travel.

14. ☒ I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. ***Check only one.*** I represent that either:
   a. ☐ The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
   b. ☒ The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
      1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): $68
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The region offers direct access to the ethanol, RNG, and electricity infrastructure facilities where federal energy policy translates into real investment decisions.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
   Hotel Name: Hyatt Centric Downtown Minneapolis City: Minneapolis Cost Per Night: $148
   Reason(s) for Selecting: En route to first location on following day
   Hotel Name: Comfort Suites University City: Brookings Cost Per Night: $110
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to working dinner and site visits
   Hotel Name: Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Sioux Falls City: Sioux Falls Cost Per Night: $110
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to working dinner and site visits

17. ☒ I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$719.38 (including group bus & air travel)	$368	$238
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	N/A	
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. ***Check only one:***
    a. ☒ I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
    b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**
    a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
    b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
    c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Joseph S Hezir Date: 8/5/26

Name: Joseph S Hezir Title: President and CFO

Organization: EFI Foundation

Address: 900 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20006

Email: jshezir@efifoundation.org Telephone: 714-595-6154

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas
Brad Knott, North Carolina

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515–6328
Telephone: (202) 225–7103
https://Ethics.House.gov

August 19, 2026

Mr. Adison Cook
Office of the Honorable Jonathan L. Jackson
1632 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Cook:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Brookings and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, scheduled for August 24 to 27, 2026, sponsored by EFI Foundation.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than $525 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:amr

Invitees were selected because they work on energy, agriculture, climate, or natural resources policy, serve on relevant congressional committees or in key member offices, and/or represent states with significant biofuels or low-carbon fuels interests.

First Name	Last Name	Chamber
Ishmael	Abuabara	House of Representatives
Charles	Adams	Senate
Clark	Agnew	House of Representatives
James	Ahn	Senate
Hannah	Albert	Senate
Jaqlyn	Alderete	House of Representatives
Josh	Altendorf	House of Representatives
Priya	Amilineni	House of Representatives
Josephine	Amusa	House of Representatives
Noah	An	Senate
Chloe	Anduiza	House of Representatives
Daniel	Auger	Senate
Chris	Avila	Senate
Maggie	Ayrea	Senate
James	Ballard	House of Representatives
Owen	Beal	House of Representatives
Sydney	Beasley	Senate
Arian	Beckwith	House of Representatives
Matt	Beiger	House of Representatives
Grace	Bellone	Senate
Shawn	Bengali	House of Representatives
Ashlynne	Beninga	Senate
Nate	Bentham	Senate

Lila	Bernardin	House of Representatives
James	Bernhard	House of Representatives
Damien	Berube	Fellow
Prerna	Bhat	Senate
Sarah	Bittleman	Senate
Jonathan	Black	Senate
Renae	Black	Senate
Ryan	Blake	Senate
Nora	Blalock	House of Representatives
Alexander	Blanton	House of Representatives
Maggie	Blomgren	Senate
Ryan	Blue	House of Representatives
Mikayla	Bodey	Senate
Patrick	Bond	Senate
Anais	Borja	Senate
Garrett	Boyle	Senate
Heath	Brandt	House of Representatives
Sydney	Branton	House of Representatives
Amelia	Breinig	Senate
Sean	Brislin	House of Representatives
Kenneth	Brooke	House of Representatives
Susanne	Brookes	Senate
Madison	Brothers	Senate
Byron	Brown	House of Representatives
Joanna	Brown	House of Representatives
Brad	Bunning	Senate
William P "Will"	Burns	House of Representatives
Mark	Burnside	House of Representatives
John	Byers	House of Representatives
Joe	Byrnes	Senate
Abbie	Callahan	House of Representatives
Clara	Cargile	House of Representatives
Nicolas	Casillas	House of Representatives

Julien	Caubel	Senate
Allie	Cavanagh	House of Representatives
Micah	Chambers	Senate
Kyle	Chapman	Senate
Dylan	Cheek	House of Representatives
Kellie	Chong	House of Representatives
Jared	Christel	House of Representatives
Keith	Chu	Senate
Kenneth "Ken"	Clifford	House of Representatives
Kimber	Colton	House of Representatives
Leo	Confalone	Senate
Thomas	Connally	House of Representatives
Kathleen	Connery	Senate
Adison	Cook	House of Representatives
Nadia	Cortez	House of Representatives
Sarah	Cox	Senate
Anna	Cullen	Senate
Ryan	Culross	House of Representatives
Jake	Curdy	Senate
Nathan	Dadap	House of Representatives
Meagan	Daly	House of Representatives
Noelle	Dana	House of Representatives
Georgia	Davies	House of Representatives
Fabian	De Armas	House of Representatives
James	Decker	House of Representatives
Andrew "Drew"	Deloney	House of Representatives
Cate	DePonte	Senate
Matt	Dernoga	House of Representatives
Andrew	Deshler	House of Representatives
Blake	Dickerson	House of Representatives
Emily	Diehl	House of Representatives
Madeleine	Dierksheide	House of Representatives
Ross	Dietrich	House of Representatives

Janelle	DiLuccia	Senate
Will	Dixon	Senate
Leilani	Doktor	Senate
Michael	Dorazio	House of Representatives
Elizabeth	DosSantos	House of Representatives
Owen	Drexel	House of Representatives
Justin	Duca	Senate
Dan	Dudis	Senate
Betsy	Dudley	House of Representatives
Monalisa	Dugue	Senate
Sam	Dunford	House of Representatives
Veronica	Duron	Senate
Ryan	Ebrahimy	House of Representatives
Patrick	Eckroth	Senate
Joe	Edgar	House of Representatives
Vic	Edgerton	House of Representatives
Jacob	Egler	Senate
Erik	Elam	Senate
Sam	Elghanayan	House of Representatives
Alexander	Eliasen	House of Representatives
Daniel	Elizalde	House of Representatives
Cody	Elkins	House of Representatives
Laura	Engquist	House of Representatives
Mark	Erste	House of Representatives
Allie	Esau	House of Representatives
Kimberley	Espinosa	House of Representatives
Susan	Falconer	House of Representatives
Nathanial	Favero	Senate
Naomi	Fecher-Davis	House of Representatives
Cristian	Figueredo	House of Representatives
Derek	Fisher	Senate
James	Fleming	House of Representatives

Kathleen	Foley	House of Representatives
Leslie	Foti	House of Representatives
Andrew	Fournier	House of Representatives
Macayle	Fuchs	House of Representatives
Kei	Fujisawa	House of Representatives
Sierra	Fuller	Senate
Andrew	Furman	House of Representatives
Martha	Gallagher	House of Representatives
Sophia	Garcia	House of Representatives
Eric	Gebhart	House of Representatives
Katherine	Getty	House of Representatives
Lisa	Ghaffari	House of Representatives
Anna	Giesting	House of Representatives
Alexandra	Gilliland	Senate
Curran	Glister	House of Representatives
Devon	Gorbey	House of Representatives
Waverly	Gordon	House of Representatives
Scott	Graber	Senate
Joshua	Grant	Senate
Hannah	Griggs	Senate
Andrew	Grossman	House of Representatives
Hali	Gruber	Senate
Tiffany	Guarascio	House of Representatives
Eric	Gustafson	Senate
Anthony	Gutierrez	House of Representatives
Colin	Gwillim	House of Representatives
Caitlin	Haberman	House of Representatives
Shelby	Haney	House of Representatives
Tobin	Hansen	House of Representatives
Chrissy	Harbin	Senate
Claire	Hardy	Senate
Michelle	Harold	House of Representatives

Michael	Harris	Senate
Kellie	Hartl	House of Representatives
Jamari	Hartley	Senate
Kelsey	Hartman	House of Representatives
Graham	Harwood	House of Representatives
Karson	Healy	House of Representatives
Emily	Hebein	House of Representatives
Alexandra	Heller	House of Representatives
Natalie	Hellmann	House of Representatives
Sean	Higgins	House of Representatives
Ethan	Hinch	Senate
Albert	Hinman	House of Representatives
Elizabeth	Hittos	House of Representatives
James	Hodges	House of Representatives
Trenton	Hoekstra	Senate
Landon	Hoffman	House of Representatives
Lara	Hopkins	House of Representatives
Jebediah	Houpt	House of Representatives
Mary	Hrinkevich	House of Representatives
Rachel	Hunter	House of Representatives
Dylan	Irlbeck	House of Representatives
Chris	Jackson	House of Representatives
Megan	Jackson	House of Representatives
Liz	Jacobson	House of Representatives
Shourya	Jain	House of Representatives
Evan	Jenkins	Senate
Audrey	Jimenez	House of Representatives
Aaron	Kane	House of Representatives
Sanjay	Kane	Senate
Cydney	Karlins	Senate
Claire	Kaufman	Senate
Evan	Kern	House of Representatives

Wesley	King	Senate
Zane	Kinsky	House of Representatives
Devin	Kolb	House of Representatives
Meghana	Kotraiah	House of Representatives
Grace	Kubitz	Senate
Brendan	Larkin	House of Representatives
Anne	Lawless	House of Representatives
Carmen	Leal Ramirez	Senate
Mitchell	Lee	Senate
Zach	Lewis	Senate
Thomas	Liepold	Senate
Adam	Littleton	House of Representatives
Elizabeth	Lloyd	
Chris	Loftus	House of Representatives
Sean	Lokken	Senate
Jeff	Lomonaco	Senate
Shane	Londagin	Senate
Chris	Loranger	House of Representatives
Mikhail	Love	Senate
Eric	Lukoff	House of Representatives
Monica	Luna	House of Representatives
Willie	Lyles	House of Representatives
Elizabeth	Mabry	Senate
Christina	Mahoney	House of Representatives
Valerie	Manak	Senate
Taylor	Mann	House of Representatives
Mary-Eileen	Manning	Senate
Natalie	Marek	House of Representatives
Mary	Martin	House of Representatives
Molly	Martin	House of Representatives
Josh	Mathis	House of Representatives
Gayle	Mauser	House of Representatives

Jenna	Mayhew	Senate
Adam	McBride	House of Representatives
Anna	Mccollough	House of Representatives
Joe	McGarvey	Senate
Oliver	Mcintosh	House of Representatives
Fana	Meles	Senate
Luis	Mendoza	House of Representatives
Albert	Mercer	House of Representatives
Jennifer	Michael	Senate
Davis	Michols	House of Representatives
Maddie	Mitchell	House of Representatives
Vivian	Moeglein	House of Representatives
Zach	Monroe	House of Representatives
Johanna	Montiel	House of Representatives
Rune	Moore	House of Representatives
Jeff	Morgan	House of Representatives
Colen	Morrow	House of Representatives
Ryan	Mowrey	Senate
Matthew	Muirragui	House of Representatives
Ryan	Murn	Senate
Elaina	Murphy	House of Representatives
Ali	Musser	House of Representatives
Sindhu	Nathan	House of Representatives
Liz	Natonski	Senate
Brandon	Naylor	House of Representatives
Yusuf	Nekzad	House of Representatives
Sheridan	O’Kelly	House of Representatives
Mason	Ohnstad	House of Representatives
Lizzy	Olsen	Senate
Heather	Pacheco	Senate
Evan	Padilla	House of Representatives
Patrick	Paolini	House of Representatives

Pooja	Patel	House of Representatives
Katie	Paxon	House of Representatives
Richard	Perry	Senate
Miranda	Peterson	House of Representatives
Hilary	Pinegar	House of Representatives
Kris	Pittard	House of Representatives
Lewis	Player	House of Representatives
Rick	Podliska	House of Representatives
Zoe	Proegler	Senate
John	Quinn	House of Representatives
Katie	Ramos	House of Representatives
Angela	Ramponi	Senate
Thomas	Reckling	House of Representatives
Liam	Regan	House of Representatives
Emma	Reidy	Senate
Andrew	Renteria	
Arturo	Reyes	House of Representatives
Janet	Reyna	Senate
Paniz	Rezaeerod	House of Representatives
Tashia	Roberson-Wing	House of Representatives
Ashley	Roberts	House of Representatives
Derek	Roberts	House of Representatives
Nathan	Robinson	Senate
Joey	Rodriguez	House of Representatives
Julia	Rodriguez	House of Representatives
Kylea Irene	Rogers	House of Representatives
Savannah	Rogers	House of Representatives
Zoe	Rogers	Senate
Amit	Ronen	Senate
Adam	Rosenberg	House of Representatives
Owen	Rosenberg	House of Representatives
Nikki	Roy	House of Representatives

Joe	Russel	Senate
Timothy	Ryder	Senate
Alex	Sabater	Senate
Alex	Sachtjen	Senate
Harry	Samuels	House of Representatives
Marcos	Sanchez	House of Representatives
Sarah	Sandgren	Senate
Christopher	Schell	House of Representatives
Chris	Schloesser	House of Representatives
Ben	Schreiber	Senate
David	Schutt	House of Representatives
Michael	Sciacca	House of Representatives
Sydney	Scott	Senate
Alicia	Seagraves	House of Representatives
Ziyan	Sears	Representative
Navva	Sedigh	Senate
Amanda	Shafer	House of Representatives
Gabrielle	Sheitelman	House of Representatives
Elliott	Shin	House of Representatives
Marisa	Silva	Senate
Joshua	Sizemore	Senate
Sarah	Smaga	House of Representatives
Ryan	Smet	House of Representatives
Charles	Smith	House of Representatives
Kade	Smith	House of Representatives
Mitchell	Smith	Senate
Sean	Smith	House of Representatives
Kathleen	Song	Senate
Arthur	Speck	House of Representatives
Peter	Spencer	House of Representatives
Lia	Stefanovich	Senate
Alex	Stepahin	House of Representatives

Nick	Strader	House of Representatives
Rhett	Styles	House of Representatives
Medha	Surampudy	House of Representatives
Joshua	Swank	Senate
Conner	Swett	House of Representatives
Omair	Taher	Senate
Spencer	Tally	House of Representatives
Melody	Tan	House of Representatives
Adam	Taylor	House of Representatives
Daniel J.	Taylor	Senate
Nathan	Tenney	House of Representatives
Lauren	Toy	House of Representatives
Peter	Trapp	House of Representatives
Matthew	Tucker	House of Representatives
Andrea	Valdes	House of Representatives
Joe	Valente	House of Representatives
Ben	Van Sickle	House of Representatives
Ryan	Vance	House of Representatives
Jess	Vaughn	House of Representatives
Jonathan	Vecchi	House of Representatives
Jasleen	Vig	House of Representatives
Hannah	Vogel	Senate
Kyle	Vonende	House of Representatives
Sharon	Wagener	House of Representatives
JR	Walker	House of Representatives
Harrison	Walker	Senate
Kobe	Walker	House of Representatives
Zoe	Walker	House of Representatives
Josh	Walton	House of Representatives
Claire	Wang	Senate
Sophia	Warner	House of Representatives
Alex	Weeden	House of Representatives

Zachary	Weidlich	House of Representatives
Sarina	Weiss	House of Representatives
Adam	Wek	Senate
Megan	Wenrich	House of Representatives
Jack	West	House of Representatives
James	Whaley	Senate
Abraham	White	House of Representatives
Colin	Witman	House of Representatives
Zoe	Wong	House of Representatives
John Henry	Woods	Senate
Nick	Wooldridge	House of Representatives
Tuley	Wright	House of Representatives
Justin	Yamamura	House of Representatives
Anna	Yelverton	Senate
Matt	Yetter	Senate
Andrew	Zach	House of Representatives
James	Zandstra	House of Representatives
Alec	Zender	House of Representatives
Mark	Zientek	House of Representatives
Nate	Zimpher	House of Representatives

Final Attendee List

First Name	Last Name	Chamber
Jaqlyn	Alderete	House
Lila	Bernardin	House
Damien	Berube	Fellow
Maggie	Blomgren	Senate
Ryan	Blue	House
Adison	Cook	House
Fabian	De Armas	House
Sam	Dunford	House
Alexandra	Gilliland	Senate
Waverly	Gordon	House
Wesley	King	Senate
Taylor	Mann	House
Jenna	Mayhew	Senate
Adam	McBride	House
Jennifer	Michael	Senate
Liz	Natonski	Senate
Sarah	Smaga	Fellow
Melody	Tan	House

Subject: Invitation — Energy in Practice: A Midwest Tour of Clean Fuels and Electricity Infrastructure | August 24–27, 2026

EFI Foundation is pleased to extend a formal invitation to join us for a program in Minnesota and South Dakota this August:

Energy in Practice: A Midwest Tour of Clean Fuels and Electricity Infrastructure

August 24–27, 2026 | Minneapolis, MN to Sioux Falls, SD

Organized and funded by the EFI Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization

Relevance to Official Duties

The subject matter of this program is directly relevant to congressional staff whose work involves energy, agriculture, and environmental policy. Topics covered across site visits, briefings, and working dinners will include the Renewable Fuel Standard, the 45Z clean fuel production credit, agricultural conservation programs under the farm bill, clean energy tax provisions, and electricity infrastructure — all areas that fall within the legislative jurisdiction of Congress and may be subject to upcoming authorization, appropriations, or oversight activity. EFI Foundation Founder and CEO Ernest J. Moniz will participate throughout the program.

Program Overview

All scheduled time during this program will be devoted to officially connected activity.

I have attached a preliminary itinerary for your reference. All site visits are confirmed; dinner speakers are still being finalized. Please treat this document as confidential and do not share it.

Participants will engage with facility operators, utility executives, state regulators, former federal officials, and regional energy experts at a series of operating facilities in western Minnesota and South Dakota:

- **Xcel Energy Sherco Energy Hub** (Becker, MN): A coal campus in transition to a multi-technology clean energy hub, including large-scale solar, long-duration iron-air battery storage, and a new 170-mile high-voltage transmission line. Discussion will examine how transmission investment and storage enable coal capacity replacement and how workforce transition policy is being implemented in coal-dependent communities.

- **POET Bioprocessing** (Big Stone City, SD and Chancellor, SD): Two corn ethanol biorefineries, including a first-of-kind commercial deployment of Antora Energy's thermal battery technology displacing natural gas in the production process, and a facility whose low carbon intensity score has opened premium export markets largely independent of domestic federal mandates. Discussion will address how carbon intensity scoring and federal clean fuel provisions are reshaping competitive dynamics for domestic ethanol producers.
- **T&R Electric Supply Co.** (Colman, SD): The nation's largest supplier of remanufactured distribution and power-class transformers. Discussion will address how transformer supply chain constraints — with new-manufacturer lead times now stretching two to three years — are limiting grid expansion and the connection of new generation.
- **Low-Carbon Agricultural Practices** (Turner County, SD): A working corn farm implementing USDA-supported conservation practices, including cover cropping, reduced tillage, and precision nutrient management. Discussion will focus on how federal farm bill programs shape on-farm decision-making and upstream carbon intensity outcomes.
- **Tri-Cross Dairy Renewable Natural Gas Facility** (Viborg, SD): A dairy operation producing approximately one million gallons of pipeline-quality RNG annually. Discussion will examine how livestock methane capture projects are structured and financed, and how negative-carbon fuel pathways from agricultural operations could scale across the region.

Working dinners in Brookings and Sioux Falls will bring together state legislators, regulators, former federal officials, and regional energy and agriculture experts to examine how federal policy is translating into investment decisions and operational outcomes across the Midwest. The program concludes with a structured staff debrief. Approximately one week following the trip, EFI Foundation will convene a follow-on session in Washington, D.C. to synthesize observations with the full group of participating staff.

Logistics

Participants will depart DCA on the afternoon of Monday, August 24, and return to DCA on the evening of Thursday, August 27. All transportation, accommodations, and meals during the program will be provided by EFI Foundation in accordance with federal per diem rates.

Ethics

This trip has been reviewed and cleared through the congressional ethics process. Given those requirements, we ask that you not forward this invitation or recommend a colleague as a substitute participant.

To confirm your participation or ask any questions, please contact me directly at bdowdy@efifoundation.org. We ask that you respond by June 17, 2026.

Upon confirmation, we will share access to a private website that will include the full itinerary and a checklist of documents required for the ethics approval process.

We look forward to having you with us.

Sincerely,

Energy in Practice: A Midwest Tour of Clean Fuels and Electricity Infrastructure

With financial support from unrestricted funding for the EFI Foundation, 501(c)(3)

South Dakota and Minnesota

August 24-27, 2026

MISSION GOALS: The goal of this trip is to connect congressional staff with the realities of clean energy deployment across industrial supply chains in the Midwest. EFI Foundation will facilitate site visits to ethanol biorefineries, corn farms, a dairy-based renewable natural gas facility, and electricity infrastructure in Minnesota and South Dakota, examining how policy incentives shape real-world operational decisions across agriculture, fuels, and power systems.

RELEVANCE TO OFFICIAL DUTIES: The subject matter of this trip is directly relevant to congressional staff whose work involves energy, agriculture, and environmental policy. Topics of discussion will include, but are not limited to, the Renewable Fuel Standard, clean fuel standards, agricultural conservation programs, clean energy tax provisions, and electricity transmission infrastructure — all areas that fall within the legislative jurisdiction of Congress and may be subject to upcoming authorization, appropriations, or oversight activity.

LOCATION: The purpose of travel to Minnesota and South Dakota is to attend site visits and stakeholder meetings across the eastern region of the state. EFI Foundation will take participants to facilities in Western Minnesota, the Sioux Falls area, Turner County, and northeastern South Dakota.

ITINERARY

FLIGHT INFORMATION

The EFI Foundation will cover the cost of all air travel for trip participants, including the group American Airlines booking that will include most participants. For those traveling from or to destinations outside of Washington, D.C., individual flight itineraries have been arranged.

Group Flight — American Airlines

Leg	Flight	Route	Date	Departs	Arrives
Outbound	AA4785	DCA → MSP	Aug 24	3:50 p.m. EDT	5:45 p.m. CDT
Return (Leg 1)	AA2872	FSD → DFW	Aug 27	12:57 p.m. CDT	3:10 p.m. CDT
Return (Leg 2)	AA472	DFW → DCA	Aug 27	5:20 p.m. CDT	9:27 p.m. EDT

Individually Arranged Flights

Traveler	Direction	Flight(s)	Route	Date	Departs	Arrives
Jaqlyn Alderete	Outbound	UA215	ORD → MSP	Aug 24	10:25 a.m.	12:05 p.m.
Taylor Mann	Outbound	DL2383	SJC → MSP	Aug 24	1:24 p.m.	6:58 p.m.
Taylor Mann	Return	AA2872 / AA472	FSD → DFW → DCA	Aug 27	12:57 p.m.	9:27 p.m.
*Melody Tan**	Return	UA5492 / UA2424	FSD → DEN → LAS	Aug 27	1:33 p.m.	4:59 p.m.
*Fabian De Armas**	Return	UA5492	FSD → DEN	Aug 27	1:33 p.m.	2:27 p.m.

**Note that Melody and Fabian are on the group booking for the outbound flight.*

MONDAY, AUGUST 24: TRAVEL

City Washington, DC → Minneapolis, MN

Hotel Hyatt Centric Downtown Minneapolis
615 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Emergency contact Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule

3:50 PM EDT Flight AA 4785 scheduled to depart from DCA. Meet at gate before boarding.

5:45 PM CDT	*Arrive at MSP (Minneapolis—St. Paul Regional Airport)* *Take EFIF-ordered Ubers to hotel* *Check into Hyatt Centric Downtown Minneapolis*
~7:30 PM CDT	*We are offering an informal dinner at the hotel after everyone gets settled, which is not mandatory/part of programming but is still open to all. If you would prefer to dine separately, reimbursement is available up to the official per diem rate ($38). Please note that reimbursement requires submitting a W9.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25: ETHANOL & RURAL ELECTRIC (NORTHERN LOOP)

City	Minneapolis, MN → Brookings, SD
Sites	*Xcel Energy Sherco Energy Hub* 14300 Sherco Dr Becker, MN 55308 *POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City* 48416 144th St Big Stone City, SD 57216
Hotel	Comfort Suites University 929 25th Avenue Brookings, SD 57006
Emergency contact	Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule
All times in CDT

6:30 AM	*Hyatt's on-site SIX15 Bar and Restaurant opens.* *Complimentary breakfast will be available for all bootcamp participants.*
7:00 AM	*Bring luggage to lobby.*

7:15 AM **Pre-Trip Site Briefing**

Board motorcoach and drive to Xcel's Sherco Energy Hub (~1 hour).

EFI Foundation staff will provide an overview of the facilities to be visited during the trip, key policy issues associated with clean fuels and electricity infrastructure, and a framework for evaluating the operational, economic, workforce, and regulatory considerations discussed throughout the program. Participants will discuss questions and policy topics they intend to examine during site visits.

8:30 – 10:00 AM **Site Visit: Xcel Energy Sherco Energy Hub – Becker, MN**

Participants will tour Xcel Energy's Sherburne County Generating Station (Sherco) campus as the site transitions from one of the Midwest's largest coal facilities to a multi-technology clean energy hub. Three coal units totaling approximately 2,400 MW are being retired on a phased schedule (Unit 2 retired December 2023; Units 1 and 3 retiring 2026 and 2030), with replacement capacity that includes 710 MW of solar across three project phases — the largest solar development in the Upper Midwest — a 10 MW / 1,000 MWh Form Energy iron-air long-duration battery storage system, 300–600 MW of short-duration battery storage, and a new 170-mile high-voltage transmission line.

Discussion will examine how transmission investment and long-duration storage are enabling the practical replacement of coal capacity, and how the site's worker transition plan — including a no-layoff pledge for existing employees — addresses workforce policy challenges in coal-dependent communities.

Presenter: Brian Behm, Senior Director; Jamie Smith, Business Process Specialist; Trystin Artiga, Manager, Renewable Operations; Luke Molus, Senior Manager, Operations; Michelle Schmitz, Manager, Operations

10:15 AM *Pick up lunch from Dueling Brews*

10:30 AM *Drive ~2.5 hours to Big Stone. Eat lunch on the bus.*

1:30 – 3:30 PM **Tour and Briefing: POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City**

Participants will tour POET's 105-million-gallon-per-year corn ethanol biorefinery and receive a briefing on the facility's integration with Otter Tail Power and Antora Energy's thermal battery technology. Antora's system uses electricity to heat solid carbon blocks, storing energy as heat that generates steam piped directly into POET's ethanol production process — displacing the natural gas that would otherwise provide that process heat. Discussion will examine what it takes to deploy first-of-kind clean energy technology at commercial industrial scale — including how private capital, utility partnerships, and carbon market incentives aligned to make this project viable without a direct federal mandate driving the investment.

Presenters: Blaine Gomer, General Manager, POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City

3:30 – 5:30 PM *Drive ~2 hours to hotel and check in.*

6:45 PM *Meet in the lobby and drive to Good Roots Farm.*

7:00 – 9:00 PM **Working Dinner: Low-Carbon Energy Technology, Local Investment & State Policy (Brookings)**

This dinner will examine the role of state universities and research institutions in bridging the gap between laboratory innovation and commercial-scale deployment, and what that pipeline means for local economic development — exploring how academic research partnerships, industry collaboration, and regional investment are turning emerging clean energy technologies into operating facilities and jobs.

Speakers:

1. **Joshua Livermore, Ph.D.**
   - President/CEO, Dakota BioWorx: **https://www.dakotabioworx.org/teams**
   - Focus on translating scientific innovation into commercial-scale technologies — with direct experience leading strategy, bioprocess development, and commercialization at Formo, where he helped transform precision fermentation IP into manufacturing-ready platforms through cross-functional leadership spanning R&D, scale-up, and regulatory strategy.
   - Strongest operating lead tied to technology commercialization, industrial scale-up, and strategic evaluation of emerging technologies.
2. **Stephen Gent**
   - Professor and Director, North Central Regional Sun Grant Center, Mechanical Engineering, SDSU
   - Focus on how federally funded university research programs translate into regional energy and agricultural innovation, with direct experience leading the Sun Grant initiative, which connects land-grant universities across the region to advance bioenergy and bioproducts research from the lab to commercial application.
   - Strong academic voice on the research-to-market pipeline and the role of federal investment in sustaining regional innovation ecosystems.

<u>The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.</u>

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26: GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, ETHANOL, AND AGRICULTURE (SOUTHEAST SD)

City	Brookings, SD → Sioux Falls, SD
Sites	*T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc. -- Colman* 308 SW 3rd St Colman, SD 57017 *POET Bioprocessing -- Chancellor* 27716 462nd Ave Chancellor, SD 57015 *Kurt Stiefvater's Farm* 25108 445th Avenue Salem, SD 57058
Hotel	Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Sioux Falls 200 E 8th St Sioux Falls, SD 57103
Emergency contact	Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule
All times in CDT

6:00 AM	*Hotel complimentary breakfast opens.*
8:00 AM	*Bring luggage to lobby, board, and leave for T&R Electric.*
9:00 – 10:30 AM	**Site Visit: T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc. – Colman** Participants will tour T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc., the nation's largest supplier of remanufactured distribution and power-class transformers, operating a 61-acre campus with 221,000 square feet of manufacturing space and an inventory of 42,000 units. Discussion will focus on the critical role of transformer availability in grid expansion — including the connection of new wind generation and large industrial loads such as ethanol biorefineries — and how post-COVID supply chain disruptions, with new-manufacturer lead times now stretching two to three years, are straining utilities' ability to grow and maintain the grid. **Presenter:** Ryan Schneider, Chief Electrical Engineer; Keaton Westover, VP of Sales/Executive Management; Shane Roth, VP of Operations/Executive Management
10:30 AM	*Drive ~1 hour to Chancellor, SD.*

11:30 – 2:00 PM **Tour and Working Lunch: POET Bioprocessing – Chancellor**

Participants will tour POET's 125-million-gallon-per-year corn ethanol biorefinery and receive a briefing on facility operations, feedstock sourcing, energy inputs, and carbon intensity reduction efforts. Discussion will focus on how carbon intensity scoring is reshaping competitive positioning for ethanol producers — including how Chancellor's low CI profile has opened premium export markets on the West Coast and in Canada that are largely independent of domestic federal mandates. A working lunch will be served on-site.

Presenter: Terry Hurlbert, General Manager, POET Bioprocessing – Chancellor

The entirety of the allotted time for the working lunch will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

2:15 – 3:15 PM *Drive to Kurt Stiefvater's Farm.*

3:15 – 4:45 PM **Low-Carbon Agricultural Practices Site Visit – Salem**

Participants will visit a local farm implementing USDA-supported conservation practices — including cover cropping and no-till — that lower the carbon intensity of ethanol feedstocks. The farm has ~1,800 acres of corn, soybeans, oats, and sorghum and ~125 heads of cattle. Stiefvater won ASA's 2025 Conservation Legacy Award, and the farm has been featured in soil health research.

Presenter: Kurt Stiefvater, owner and 4th generation farmer; Cindy Zenk, Executive Director, SD Soil Health Coalition; James Reedy, P.E.,State Conservation Engineer, USDA NRCS South Dakota

5:00 PM *Drive back to Sioux Falls (~1 hour). Check into Country Inn & Suites.*

7:15 PM *Meet in the lobby to walk to Chef Lance's on Phillips for dinner.*

7:30 – 9:00 PM **Working Dinner: Energy, Agriculture & the Federal Policy Landscape (Sioux Falls)**

This dinner will bring together former federal officials, state leadership, and regional energy and decarbonization experts to examine how federal energy policy is landing in the Midwest — and what state and regional actors need from Washington to sustain clean energy momentum across agriculture, fuels, and the grid.

Speakers:

1. **Ernest Moniz**
    - Former U.S. Secretary of Energy and Founder, EFI Foundation Focus on the federal policy landscape for industrial decarbonization, clean fuels, and energy security — and how the tools Congress has available compare to what the private sector and states are actually deploying.

2. **Hunter Roberts**
    - South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture: **https://governor.sd.gov/office/cabinet.aspx**
    - Focus on how South Dakota's agricultural sector is engaging with clean fuel markets, conservation programs, and the federal policy signals that shape on-farm decision-making, and what the state needs from Congress to keep producers competitive.
3. **Louise Miltich, Executive Vice President, Great Plains Institute**
    - Prior to joining GPI, Louise served as Assistant Commissioner of Regulatory Analysis at the Minnesota Department of Commerce, where she oversaw the Department's work with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on regulatory issues.

The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27: RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS, DEBRIEFING, AND TRAVEL

City	Sioux Falls, SD → Washington, DC
Sites	*Tri-Cross Dairy Renewable Natural Gas Facility – Viborg* 45144 289th Street Viborg, SD 57070
Emergency contact	Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule
All times in CDT, unless otherwise specified

6:00 AM	*Hotel complimentary breakfast opens, grab and go options available.*
6:50 AM	*Bring luggage to lobby and board bus.*
7:00 – 8:30 AM	*Drive ~1 hour south to Viborg, SD.*
8:30 – 10:30 AM	**Site Visit: Tri-Cross Dairy Renewable Natural Gas Facility – Viborg** Participants will tour Clean Energy Fuels Corp.'s RNG production facility at Tri-Cross Dairy, a 5,000-cow dairy operation that produces approximately one million gallons of pipeline-quality renewable natural gas annually. Discussion will examine how dairy methane capture fits into the broader landscape of agricultural carbon programs — how RNG projects are structured and financed, what they mean for farm economics, and how negative-carbon fuel pathways from livestock operations could scale across the region. **Presenters:** Will Flanagan, Vice President of Strategic Development

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	**Congressional Staff Debrief and Working Lunch** *Drive to Sioux Falls Regional Airport (FSD) (~1 hour).* During transit, EFI Foundation staff will facilitate a structured policy synthesis session designed to integrate lessons from the site visits and discussions conducted throughout the program. Participants will compare observations across electricity infrastructure, ethanol production, renewable natural gas, and agricultural conservation practices; examine common themes related to technology deployment, infrastructure needs, workforce development, and market incentives; congressional responsibilities involving energy, agriculture, environmental, tax, and infrastructure policy. The entirety of the allotted time will be spent covering officially connected activity. **Participants:** Congressional staff; EFI Foundation staff
11:30 AM	*Arrive at FSD. Grab lunch.*
12:57 PM	*Depart FSD on flight AA2872 to Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW)*
3:10 PM	*Arrive at DFW*
5:20 PM	*Depart DFW on flight AA472 to DCA*
9:27 PM EDT	*Arrive at DCA, end of trip*

Energy in Practice: A Midwest Tour of Clean Fuels and Electricity Infrastructure

With financial support from unrestricted funding for the EFI Foundation, 501(c)(3)

South Dakota and Minnesota

August 24-27, 2026

MISSION GOALS: The goal of this trip is to connect congressional staff with the realities of clean energy deployment across industrial supply chains in the Midwest. EFI Foundation will facilitate site visits to ethanol biorefineries, corn farms, a dairy-based renewable natural gas facility, and electricity infrastructure in Minnesota and South Dakota, examining how policy incentives shape real-world operational decisions across agriculture, fuels, and power systems.

RELEVANCE TO OFFICIAL DUTIES: The subject matter of this trip is directly relevant to congressional staff whose work involves energy, agriculture, and environmental policy. Topics of discussion will include, but are not limited to, the Renewable Fuel Standard, clean fuel standards, agricultural conservation programs, clean energy tax provisions, and electricity transmission infrastructure — all areas that fall within the legislative jurisdiction of Congress and may be subject to upcoming authorization, appropriations, or oversight activity.

LOCATION: The purpose of travel to Minnesota and South Dakota is to attend site visits and stakeholder meetings across the eastern region of the state. EFI Foundation will take participants to facilities in Western Minnesota, the Sioux Falls area, Turner County, and northeastern South Dakota.

ITINERARY

FLIGHT INFORMATION

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Group Flight — American Airlines

Leg	Flight	Route	Date	Departs	Arrives
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Individually Arranged Flights

Traveler	Direction	Flight(s)	Route	Date	Departs	Arrives
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*Melody Tan**	Return	UA5492 / UA2424	FSD → DEN → LAS	Aug 27	1:33 p.m.	4:59 p.m.
*Fabian De Armas**	Return	UA5492	FSD → DEN	Aug 27	1:33 p.m.	2:27 p.m.

**Note that Taylor is on the group booking for the return flight. Melody and Fabian are on the group booking for the outbound flight.*

MONDAY, AUGUST 24: TRAVEL

City Washington, DC → Minneapolis, MN

Hotel
Hyatt Centric Downtown Minneapolis
615 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Emergency contact Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule

3:50 PM EDT — Flight AA 4785 scheduled to depart from DCA. Meet at gate before boarding.

5:45 PM CDT — *Arrive at MSP (Minneapolis—St. Paul Regional Airport)*

Take EFIF-ordered Ubers to hotel

Check into Hyatt Centric Downtown Minneapolis

~7:30 PM CDT — *We are offering an informal dinner at the hotel after everyone gets settled, which is not mandatory/part of programming but is still open to all. If you would prefer to dine separately, reimbursement is available up to the official per diem rate ($38). Please note that reimbursement requires submitting a W9.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25: ETHANOL & RURAL ELECTRIC (NORTHERN LOOP)

City Minneapolis, MN → Brookings, SD

Sites

Xcel Energy Sherco Energy Hub
14300 Sherco Dr
Becker, MN 55308

POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City
48416 144th St
Big Stone City, SD 57216

Hotel	Comfort Suites University 929 25th Avenue Brookings, SD 57006
Emergency contact	Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule
All times in CDT

6:30 AM *Hyatt's on-site SIX15 Bar and Restaurant opens.*

Complimentary breakfast will be available for all bootcamp participants.

7:00 AM *Bring luggage to lobby.*

7:15 AM **Pre-Trip Site Briefing**

Board motorcoach and drive to Xcel's Sherco Energy Hub (~1 hour).

EFI Foundation staff will provide an overview of the facilities to be visited during the trip, key policy issues associated with clean fuels and electricity infrastructure, and a framework for evaluating the operational, economic, workforce, and regulatory considerations discussed throughout the program. Participants will discuss questions and policy topics they intend to examine during site visits.

8:30 – 10:00 AM

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Discussion will examine how transmission investment and long-duration storage are enabling the practical replacement of coal capacity, and how the site's worker transition plan — including a no-layoff pledge for existing employees — addresses workforce policy challenges in coal-dependent communities.

Presenter: Brian Behm, Senior Director; Jamie Smith, Business Process Specialist; Trystin Artiga , Manager, Renewable Operations; Luke Molus, Senior Manager, Operations; Michelle Schmitz, Manager, Operations

10:15 AM	*Pick up lunch from Subway*
10:30 AM	*Drive ~2.5 hours to Big Stone. Eat lunch on the bus.*
1:30 – 3:30 PM	**Tour and Briefing: POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City** Participants will tour POET's 105-million-gallon-per-year corn ethanol biorefinery and receive a briefing on the facility's integration with Otter Tail Power and Antora Energy's thermal battery technology. Antora's system uses electricity to heat solid carbon blocks, storing energy as heat that generates steam piped directly into POET's ethanol production process — displacing the natural gas that would otherwise provide that process heat. Discussion will examine what it takes to deploy first-of-kind clean energy technology at commercial industrial scale — including how private capital, utility partnerships, and carbon market incentives aligned to make this project viable without a direct federal mandate driving the investment. **Presenters:** Blaine Gomer, General Manager, POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone City
3:30 – 5:30 PM	*Drive ~2 hours to hotel and check in.*
6:45 PM	*Meet in the lobby and drive to Good Roots Farm.*
7:00 – 9:00 PM	**Working Dinner: Low-Carbon Energy Technology, Local Investment & State Policy (Brookings)** This dinner will examine the role of state universities and research institutions in bridging the gap between laboratory innovation and commercial-scale deployment, and what that pipeline means for local economic development — exploring how academic research partnerships, industry collaboration, and regional investment are turning emerging clean energy technologies into operating facilities and jobs. **Speakers:** Daniel Scholl - Vice President for Research & Economic Development and Professor, SDSU, Joshua Livermore, Ph.D., President/CEO, Dakota BioWorx, Stephen Gent, Professor and Director, North Central Regional Sun Grant Center, Mechanical Engineering, SDSU The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26: GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, ETHANOL, AND AGRICULTURE (SOUTHEAST SD)

City	Brookings, SD → Sioux Falls, SD

Sites

T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc. -- Colman
308 SW 3rd St
Colman, SD 57017

POET Bioprocessing -- Chancellor
27716 462nd Ave
Chancellor, SD 57015

Kurt Stiefvater's Farm
25108 445th Avenue
Salem, SD 57058

Hotel

Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Sioux Falls
200 E 8th St
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

Emergency contact

Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule
All times in CDT

6:00 AM	*Hotel complimentary breakfast opens.*
8:00 AM	*Bring luggage to lobby, board, and leave for T&R Electric.*
9:00 – 10:30 AM	**Site Visit: T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc. – Colman** Participants will tour T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc., the nation's largest supplier of remanufactured distribution and power-class transformers, operating a 61acre campus with 221,000 square feet of manufacturing space and an inventory of 42,000 units. Discussion will focus on the critical role of transformer availability in grid expansion — including the connection of new wind generation and large industrial loads such as ethanol biorefineries — and how post-COVID supply chain disruptions, with new-manufacturer lead times now stretching two to three years, are straining utilities' ability to grow and maintain the grid. **Presenter:** Ryan Schneider, Chief Electrical Engineer; Keaton Westover, VP of Sales/Executive Management; Shane Roth, VP of Operations/Executive Management
10:30 AM	*Drive ~1 hour to Chancellor, SD.*

11:30 – 2:00 PM	**Tour and Working Lunch: POET Bioprocessing – Chancellor** Participants will tour POET's 125-million-gallon-per-year corn ethanol biorefinery and receive a briefing on facility operations, feedstock sourcing, energy inputs, and carbon intensity reduction efforts. Discussion will focus on how carbon intensity scoring is reshaping competitive positioning for ethanol producers — including how Chancellor's low CI profile has opened premium export markets on the West Coast and in Canada that are largely independent of domestic federal mandates. A working lunch will be served on-site. **Presenter:** Terry Hurlbert, General Manager, POET Bioprocessing – Chancellor The entirety of the allotted time for the working lunch will be spent covering officially-connected activity.
2:15 – 3:15 PM	*Drive to Kurt Stiefvater's Farm.*
3:15 – 4:45 PM	**Low-Carbon Agricultural Practices Site Visit – Salem** Participants will visit a local farm implementing USDA-supported conservation practices — including cover cropping and no-till — that lower the carbon intensity of ethanol feedstocks. The farm has ~1,800 acres of corn, soybeans, oats, and sorghum and ~125 heads of cattle. Stiefvater won ASA's 2025 Conservation Legacy Award, and the farm has been featured in soil health research. **Presenter:** Kurt and Kathy Stiefvater, owners and 4th generation farmers; Cindy Zenk, Executive Director, SD Soil Health Coalition; James Reedy, P.E., State Conservation Engineer, USDA NRCS South Dakota
5:00 PM	*Drive back to Sioux Falls (~1 hour). Check into Country Inn & Suites.*
7:15 PM	*Meet in the lobby to walk to Chef Lance's on Phillips for dinner.*
7:30 – 9:00 PM	**Working Dinner: Energy, Agriculture & the Federal Policy Landscape (Sioux Falls)** This dinner will bring together former federal officials, state leadership, and regional energy and decarbonization experts to examine how federal energy policy is landing in the Midwest — and what state and regional actors need from Washington to sustain clean energy momentum across agriculture, fuels, and the grid. **Speakers:** Ernest Moniz, Former U.S. Secretary of Energy and Founder, EFI Foundation; Hunter Roberts, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27: RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS, DEBRIEFING, AND TRAVEL

City	Sioux Falls, SD → Washington, DC

Sites	*Tri-Cross Dairy Renewable Natural Gas Facility – Viborg* 45144 289th Street Viborg, SD 57070
Emergency contact	Tatiana Bruce da Silva

Schedule

All times in CDT, unless otherwise specified

6:00 AM	*Hotel complimentary breakfast opens, grab and go options available.*
6:50 AM	*Bring luggage to lobby and board bus.*
7:00 – 8:30 AM	*Drive ~1 hour south to Viborg, SD.*
8:30 – 10:30 AM	**Site Visit: Tri-Cross Dairy Renewable Natural Gas Facility – Viborg** Participants will tour Clean Energy Fuels Corp.'s RNG production facility at Tri-Cross Dairy, a 5,000-cow dairy operation that produces approximately one million gallons of pipeline-quality renewable natural gas annually. Discussion will examine how dairy methane capture fits into the broader landscape of agricultural carbon programs — how RNG projects are structured and financed, what they mean for farm economics, and how negative-carbon fuel pathways from livestock operations could scale across the region. **Presenters:** Frank Yenchick, Director of Operations; Tyler Betz, Operations Manager
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	**Congressional Staff Debrief and Working Lunch** *Drive to Sioux Falls Regional Airport (FSD) (~1 hour).* During transit, EFI Foundation staff will facilitate a structured policy synthesis session designed to integrate lessons from the site visits and discussions conducted throughout the program. Participants will compare observations across electricity infrastructure, ethanol production, renewable natural gas, and agricultural conservation practices; examine common themes related to technology deployment, infrastructure needs, workforce development, and market incentives; congressional responsibilities involving energy, agriculture, environmental, tax, and infrastructure policy. The entirety of the allotted time will be spent covering officially connected activity. **Participants:** Congressional staff; EFI Foundation staff
11:30 AM	*Arrive at FSD. Grab lunch.*
12:57 PM	*Depart FSD on flight AA2872 to Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW)*
3:10 PM	*Arrive at DFW*

5:20 PM	*Depart DFW on flight AA472 to DCA*
9:27 PM EDT	*Arrive at DCA, end of trip*