

UIC Workshops on Beneficial Electrification of Transportation

June 15 UIC EV Workshop on Transportation Electrification Infrastructure

1:00-3:00 PM on Monday, June 15, 2020

[Eventbrite Link](#) | [Detailed Program Link](#)

SPEAKER BIOS



Michael Abba

Director – Smart Grid Integration & System Improvement
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Michael S. Abba is Director of Smart Grid Integration and System Improvement at Ameren Illinois, a utility serving 1.2 M electric and 800,000 gas customers in central and southern Illinois. He has been involved with Ameren’s smart grid and innovation initiatives for the past ten years, and before that held various engineering, operations, and supervisory positions at Ameren Illinois since 1990.

Michael is currently responsible for supporting Ameren Illinois' new technology and innovation strategies, including efficient electrification, voltage optimization, distribution automation, and distributed energy resource integration. Michael also supports Ameren's larger innovation strategy efforts.

Michael holds a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, and an MBA from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Michael lives near Herrin Illinois with his wife Kristie and son Nathan.

For more information about the UIC EV Workshops, please contact the organizer, Dr. Elizabeth A. Kócs at ekocs@uic.edu or 708.267.4097.

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Philip Roy
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Philip Roy is Manager of Energy Policy at ComEd, which delivers electricity to more than 4 million residential and business customers across northern Illinois. In his current role, Philip facilitates development, analysis, and execution of strategies related to renewable energy, distributed generation, electrification technologies, and the utility business model.

Prior to joining ComEd, Philip served in local government as a public policy professional. He is a graduate of Lawrence University (B.A., Government) and Northeastern Illinois University (M.A., Political Science).



Andrew Lewis
Program Manager, EV Infrastructure
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Andrew Lewis is the Program Manager of EV Infrastructure with MidAmerican Energy Company, working in the areas of electric vehicle planning and system development. During his tenure as an engineer, Andrew has led and participated in many cross-functional business and industry teams related to cutting-edge industry topics such as robotic natural gas pipeline inspection, 5G cellular infrastructure deployment, and electric vehicle charging. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

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Moderator



Elizabeth A. Kócs, PhD

Director, Partnerships & Strategy, UIC Energy Initiative
Co-Founder, Center for Urban Resilience and Environmental Sustainability
NREL Energy Executive, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
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Dr. Elizabeth A. Kócs is an environment-behavior scientist and planning strategist at the intersection of social, economic, policy, and technological advances in energy, sustainability and urban resilience. At the UIC Energy Initiative, she has a strong focus on energy and technology for transportation, the electrical grid and smart cities. She brings years of expertise in relationship building and partnership engagement to grow the UIC energy and sustainability network, programs and impact, and to cultivate local, regional, national and international initiatives to support collaborative efforts fostering Chicago's growing energy, mobility, and urban sustainability ecosystems. Dr. Kócs is a founding leader of the Center for Urban Resilience and Environmental Sustainability (CURES), a University of Illinois collaborative focused on providing cities with knowledge and pathways for achieving climate resilience. As a National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Energy Executive Leader, she works with academia, national laboratories, public sector and private industry to leverage expertise, tools and resources to develop benchmarking and strategic planning, analytic, and strategic pathways for addressing climate-related energy and transportation challenges. She continues to serve on the Materials Research Society *MRS Bulletin Energy Quarterly* Board and the MRS Focus on Sustainability Subcommittee, leveraging her knowledge and network to strengthen the energy and sustainability dialogue in the materials community, and connecting industry with materials research community. Dr. Kócs earned a Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute, an Executive MBA from the University of Illinois, and a PhD from the City University of New York.

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