

SIGHTLINES

INSIGHTS FOR GREATER SAFETY



Fourth Quarter 2024

Welcome to Sightlines, your source for leadership insights into infrastructure safety and traffic control. This issue covers the role sustainable, resilient power grids have in supporting the high utility demands of a world increasingly powered by AI.

WHAT'S TRENDING: GRID MODERNIZATION AND RESILIENCE



In the last decade, wind and solar power [increased eightfold](#) to bolster clean energy and supplement traditional sources, but there are still challenges. McKinsey says two main hurdles are the [inadequacy and instability](#) of North America's existing power grid. Electric utility companies are rapidly restructuring transmission and distribution systems to accommodate renewables and increasing customer demand.

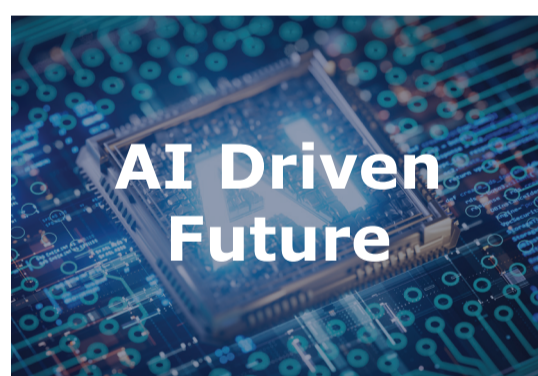


THOUGHT LEADERSHIP: CHANGING SAFETY LANDSCAPE IN UTILITIES

Tim Kratt is a 38-year veteran of the energy industry and AWP Safety's senior vice president of operations - East. He shares how partnering with a traffic control partner that offers concierge service and a deep dive into metrics can elevate your safety KPIs, ROI and operational efficiency. [Full article](#)

INSIGHTS: WHY POWER TRANSMISSION EXPANSION IS CRUCIAL

The U.S. power transmission system could [more than double](#) in size by 2050. Here's why:



AI is powered by data centers that use a lot of energy. The U.S. currently has **5,321 data centers**, with more planned.¹

Data centers consume **10-50x** than a typical office building.²



Interregional transmission will grow **1.9-3.5x** to support uninterrupted, reliable service to areas impacted by severe storms.³



Transmission upgrades are a good long-term investment. An estimated **\$1.60-\$1.80** could be saved for every \$1 a utility invests in transmission upgrades.³

Sources:

1 [Statista](#)

2 [U.S. Department of Energy](#)

3 [NREL](#)

PARTNERS IN POWERING AI

AWP Safety safeguards one million worksites annually. Customers rely on AWP Safety to protect crews and communities during data center construction, upstream electrical utility projects that power data centers, and broadband upgrades that connect data centers to the public. Learn more at [awpsafety.com](#).

