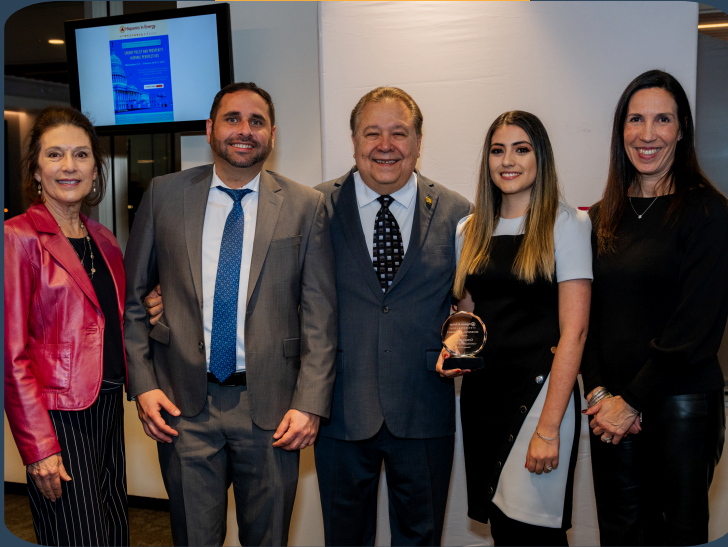




# Welcome

## GENESIS ALVAREZ

**HIE-VA President 2025-2026**



This year, HIE-VA reaches new heights under the leadership of its new president, Genesis Alvarez. A Staff Engineer at Dominion Energy, Genesis brings years of expertise in electric transmission and a strong track record in leadership to the organization.

As one of the key contributors to HIE-VA's launch, Genesis has supported numerous professional development initiatives, including GMU Summer Camp last year and the STEM Innovation Symposium this year at GMU.

She is also deeply involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) in Washington, DC—a professional network committed to empowering and connecting the region's Hispanic professional community.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions, Genesis was recently honored with the Excellence Award granted by HIE-VA. This award celebrates innovation, leadership, and member engagement.

With Genesis leading the way, HIE-VA is proud to lead its mission forward, amplify its impact within Virginia's Hispanic community and continue shaping a strong, inclusive future for everyone.

*"As President, I am proud to highlight the essential role that HIE-VA plays in shaping the future of Hispanic and Latino professionals in the energy sector. Together, we are paving the way for a future where Hispanic talent thrives, driving innovation and success across the industry. Our dedication to professional growth, mentorship, and community involvement empowers individuals to advance their careers while enriching and strengthening our community."*

—Genesis Alvarez

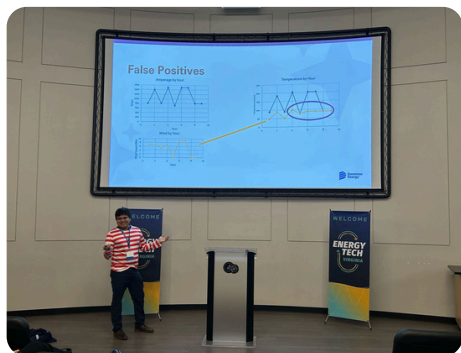
**Are you following us on social media? If not, let's connect!**



# HIE-VA MEMBERS POWER UP AT THE ENERGY TECH 2025

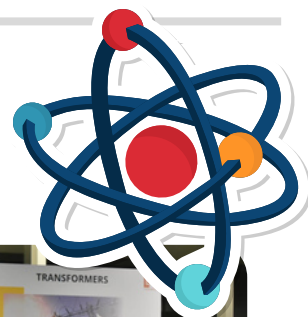


HIE-VA Board Members Joshua Bell and Tanner Cullifer joined several other presenters from the region on March 6 to deliver a presentation on robotics innovation for nuclear power and the thermal cycling of overhead transmission lines. The event, held at the Science Museum of Virginia, brought together industry leaders and innovators from across the country, offering attendees access to expert-led sessions, valuable networking opportunities, and cutting-edge insights on managing load growth in a decarbonizing world.



Thank you, Joshua and Tanner, for proudly representing HIE-VA at this exciting event and for continuing to grow professionally alongside our organization.

## STEM INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM 2025



On April 25, HIE-VA Board Member Luis Rosa of Dominion Energy joined fellow speakers Katherine Farley, Product Vision Leader at MasterControl, and Gabriel Grajeda, Manufacturing Engineer at DuPont, to share real-world insights from the energy industry at the STEM Symposium. Held at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia, the sold-out event brought together students, professionals, and leaders passionate about science, technology, engineering and math.

The impressive lineup of speakers also included Miss Puerto Rico, Victoria Richie, and Virginia House of Delegates member Holly Seibold. We're proud to see HIE-VA members like Luis contributing their expertise while learning and connecting with other like-minded individuals.

HIE-VA will continue to participate in and host STEM events throughout the year. For more information, check out our [calendar of events](#).





# Pasaporte a la Educación



## ELIZABETH SCOTT ELEMENTARY Chester, VA

In partnership with the **Hispanic Foundation** and its Executive Director, Ms. Lisa Zajur, HIE-VA participated in the “Pasaporte a la Educación” initiative. This program is designed to empower Hispanic students to become successful leaders in their communities through educational support and mentorship.

The initiative took place during the Spring 2025 semester at the Elizabeth Scott Elementary School in Chesterfield County, Virginia. Through the collaboration of community members, HIE-VA, and volunteers from the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, approximately 40 students received mentorship and guidance.

To learn how you can get involved in this rewarding initiative, visit <https://www.vahf.org/passport-to-education>.



## STEM DAY INITIATIVE



On May 14, 2025, HIE-VA Volunteers hosted a STEM Workshop Day at the school with active participation from the “Pasaporte a la Educación” initiative. The 40 students from the program received lessons on Power Generation, and a spark in STEM Careers accompanied by highlights on HIE-VA’s mission. With the guidance of the HIE-VA STEM volunteers, Students jumped into hands on engineering by building scaled model Renewable Energy Circuits boards, showcasing different methods for power generation and delivery. The kids had the opportunity to explore what a future in energy, science, and engineering could look like. To celebrate this fun and educational event, two lucky students, won the raffle, taking home a circuit board experiment set. In addition, HIE-VA donated ten re-usable energy, science and Renewable circuit board sets that will help students from the school with immersive scientific and fun experiences.



# CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS!



## Dominion Energy's Joshua Bell Recognized for Innovation in Robotics and Battery Storage Solutions

Last April, Joshua Bell, Nuclear Technology & Innovation Consultant at Dominion Energy, was selected as Enterprise Innovator of the Year at Energy Tech.

Energy Tech is an energy-focused innovation conference hosted by Simple Thread. The event honors individuals driving innovation in entrepreneurship, research and policy within large organizations.

The Enterprise Innovator of the Year award specifically recognizes a leader who has spearheaded transformative projects, introduced groundbreaking technologies, or cultivated a culture of innovation and collaboration that has significantly shaped their organization and advanced the energy sector in Virginia.

Joshua received the award based on his pioneering work in robotics—earning back-to-back Best of the Best TIP Awards from NEI—and for leading Dominion Energy's Lyra team in the development of the Mobile BESS, now licensed and in production by Power Up.

***"It was an honor to have the support of my leadership and peers who took the time to nominate me for this award, and I was very humbled to be selected among all the incredible people around the state who are doing amazing things every day,"*** said Joshua.

Your friends at HIE-VA are so proud to watch you shine, Josh. Cheers to many more accomplishments ahead!



## KAITLYN LEWIS: FROM INTERN TO LEADER

Kaitlyn Lewis has been promoted to Engineering Supervisor at Dominion Energy, effective May 1, 2025. Her journey with the company began as an intern while studying Mechanical Engineering at George Mason University. She joined full-time in 2019 as an Engineer I on the same team she now leads. In 2024, Kaitlyn earned a degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, further strengthening her foundation in engineering and leadership. In her new role, she leads a team supporting Dominion's solar and battery storage operations. Previously, as a Business Performance Analyst, Kaitlyn stood out for her analytical skills and process improvements that enhanced efficiency across the organization. She looks forward to contributing to a clean energy future in this leadership role.

## ALEJANDRO FUMERO ADVANCES TO PROJECT MANAGER AT DOMINION ENERGY

Originally from Havana, Cuba, Alejandro Fumero began his career as a Telecommunications Engineer, later founding a 3D animation studio and a successful tour agency managing Airbnbs, transportation, and experiences across the country. After moving to the U.S. in 2018 and settling in Richmond in 2020, he worked in logistics and IT before joining Dominion Energy as a Business Performance Analyst.

Alejandro quickly stood out for his analytical skills and process improvements, earning him a promotion to Senior Analyst. Now, just two years later, he is stepping into the role of Project Manager, where he will lead complex initiatives and draw on his diverse experience and leadership to drive success. His rapid progression reflects both his talent and commitment to continuous growth. **Congratulations Alejandro!**





## CAREER CONNECTIONS MIXER

Marlu Deverick, Santiago Solis Salguero and Alex Guaman, employees at Dominion Energy, represented Dominion Energy Virginia (DEV) and Hispanics in Energy–Virginia (HIE-VA) at the Career Connections Mixer held at VCU on April 16. They engaged with students and discussed DEV's and HIE-VA's missions while distributing DEV merchandise. VCU students were encouraged to explore opportunities within DEV and the broader energy industry.

DEV and HIE-VA plan to continue partnering throughout the year to host similar events across university campuses, aiming to inform students and grow HIE-VA's membership.

*Know someone who would like to be part of the HIE-VA family? if so, have them visit [hispanicsinenergyvirginia.com](http://hispanicsinenergyvirginia.com) or contact Ally Escobar for more information.*

## SAY CHEESE!

HIE-VA members struck a pose at the BHE GT&S Glen Allen headquarters for a headshot session that brought fresh new looks and lots of good energy! Around 20 members stopped by to update their professional photos, catch up with one another, and enjoy some delicious food catered by Chicken Fiesta.

It was great seeing everyone dressed to impress and camera-ready! We're excited to host more events like this in the future—so stay tuned and get ready to smile for the next one!



On March 27, the Dominion Energy Innsbrook office hosted the Virginia Energy Workforce Consortium (VEWC).

During the event, Gene Thompson, a nuclear energy expert from Day & Zimmermann, spoke with HIE members about his organization and the many opportunities available in today's evolving energy landscape.

VEWC's mission is to engage the energy industry and its partners to strengthen the energy workforce through career awareness and skill development. Virginia's energy industry serves as an economic engine, driving innovation and technological advancement across multiple sectors. This progress highlights the growing need for a coordinated, statewide effort to ensure the workforce is well-supported, equipped, and prepared for the future.

## COMING UP!



### Member Happy Hour at VMFA

Date: June 25

Location: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
200 N Arthur Ashe Blvd Richmond, VA

Time: 5-8 p.m.

### HIE-VA General Body Meeting

Date: July 15

Location: Dominion Energy Innsbrook  
5000 Dominion Blvd. Glen Allen, VA

Time: 4-6 p.m.

### Toastmasters BHE GT&S, Dominion Energy & HIE-VA

Date: Fall 2025 (TBD)

Location: BHE GT&S Headquarters  
Glen Allen, VA

*Would you like your event added to the newsletter? Contact **Natalia Giraud** for more information*