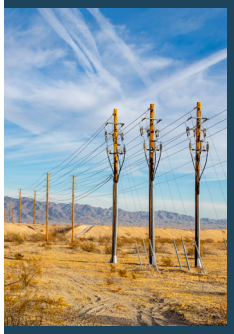
2026 Webinar Schedule




Hi-Line Engineering is excited to offer twelve webinars, one per month, throughout 2026, all geared toward keeping you up-to-date on industry issues and standards.

Each webinar will consist of one hour of instruction and a thirty-minute question and answer session.

All webinars will begin at 10:00 a.m. Central Time.

NESC Extreme Wind & Ice Loading January 13	Poles and conductors greater than 60 feet above grade must be evaluated for extreme ice with concurrent wind to meet the requirements of the National Electrical Safety Code. This webinar will focus on methods for determining if the standard length and class of poles have sufficient strength to withstand the impact of extreme ice with concurrent wind.
Infrastructure Changes for the Green Revolution February 10	This webinar will explore how the electrical utility industry is evolving to meet the demands of a sustainable future. From beneficial electrification, EV chargers, smart grids, flexible demand-side management, and renewable integration to policy shifts and technological breakthroughs, this course will unpack the infrastructure changes needed to keep up with the “Green Revolution”.
LED Flicker March 24	This webinar explores the causes of flicker in LED systems, its physiological and operational impacts, and how to design and specify lighting that minimizes flicker risk. Methods for testing, measuring, and mitigating flicker using industry best practices and real-world examples will be discussed.
Pole Foundations April 21	The strength of a distribution pole relies on the stability of the pole foundation. This webinar will discuss various methods to improve foundation stability, including pole foam, deeper setting depths, gravel backfill, and pole keys. The discussion will also include methods for evaluating the stability of the soil.
Pole Buckling May 12	This webinar covers an overview of the primary causes and effects of pole buckling, including insufficient pole class and short guy leads. The methods to design a wood pole distribution structure to prevent pole buckling will be discussed. The calculations and variables involved in performing a structural analysis will also be discussed.

Relay Coordination June 9	This webinar will discuss methods used by utilities to coordinate station relays with downline reclosers. This will include selecting phase and ground trips, curve selections, and operating sequences. Coordination with down stream devices will address margins between protective curves, sequence coordination, and zones of protection.
Protection Relays for High Impedance Faults July 7	When energized conductors contact poorly conductive surfaces, they create High Impedance Faults (HIFs) that are difficult to detect and problematic to clear by traditional equipment creating a safety concern for the public. This webinar explains the characteristics of HIFs and the system conditions that can lead up to the occurrence of these faults. The presentation will discuss some of the HIF detection methods used, as well as some new and emerging technologies under use and development.
Transformer Banking August 11	A designer's goal should be to provide the most efficient, economical, and reliable power to the consumer. To achieve this goal, a designer must consider the numerous configurations to combine two or three distribution transformers to supply power to a service, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of each configuration.
Characteristics of Overhead Conductors September 15	Proper sag and tension management is critical to the safety, reliability, and longevity of overhead power lines. This webinar explores the mechanical behavior of conductors under varying environmental and loading conditions, with a focus on sag and tension calculations, design standards, and field practices.
Introduction to Power Supply Planning October 13	This course offers a foundational overview of power supply planning for the electric utility. Power supply consists of essential principles including methodologies and techniques required to maintain a dependable, efficient, and resilient energy supply. The core components of power supply systems such as load demands, reserve planning, generation options, and portfolio structuring will be presented. Various influences on planning decisions will also be discussed, such as regulatory frameworks, market dynamics, and emerging technologies.
Microgrids November 10	Microgrids are small power grids operating either within a larger power grid or independently. Microgrids are increasingly becoming advantageous to customers such as college campuses, industrial complexes, and military bases. This webinar provides insight into the various microgrid scenarios, development of a microgrid system, and the technologies to integrate the microgrid system.
Demand-Side Management Systems December 8	Due to the technological advances in the smart grid, electric utilities now possess the tools necessary to manage demand-side energy consumption. To ensure the sustainability of demand-side management models, utilities must consider a myriad of factors including the electric generation market, the power system configuration, smart grid components on the system, and distributed generation.

About Hi-Line Engineering

Hi-Line Engineering specializes in providing engineering consulting services to electric utilities. The firm is a wholly owned subsidiary of GDS Associates, Inc.

Hi-Line's mission is to provide quality energy delivery consulting services at rates conducive to the demands of the deregulated marketplace. We specialize in safe, reliable, and efficient planning, design, and contract administration.

Our staff exhibits diverse experience in the planning, design, operation, and maintenance of electric distribution systems. We have designed hundreds of miles of distribution lines in all types of terrain and loading conditions. Many of these projects included contract administration and right-of-way acquisition. Our planning services include experience in a variety of environments consisting of dense urban, resort beach, rural agricultural, and sparsely populated areas. Hi-Line has prepared planning studies for rural electric cooperatives, municipals, and military bases.

About Webinar Instructor

Kevin Mara, P.E., a Vice President of GDS Associates and the Principal Engineer of Hi-Line Engineering, a GDS Company, is considered an expert in many of the facets of power distribution systems, including system planning, system operation, power system modeling and analysis, and system design. He has over 30 years of experience as a distribution engineer, including six years as a Distribution Engineer at Savannah Electric and Power.

Kevin has extensive knowledge in power quality analysis, system reliability, loss analysis, territory, joint-use issues, as well as management and operation of electric utilities. He has designed SPCC plans, broadband over power lines (BPL), street lighting systems, system valuations, and substations.

Kevin manages a team of engineers and analysts who together assess the valuation of electric distribution systems for privatization. His team has reviewed and reported on more than 50 systems located throughout the United States. Kevin earned his BS in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology and is a Registered Professional Engineer in 22 states.

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2026 WEBINAR REGISTRATION FORM

	Webinar Dates and Subjects	Check desired webinars
1.	**January 13** – NESC Extreme Wind & Ice Loading	☐
2.	**February 10** – Infrastructure Changes for the Green Revolution	☐
3.	**March 24** – LED Flicker	☐
4.	**April 21** – Pole Foundations	☐
5.	**May 12** – Pole Buckling	☐
6.	**June 9** – Relay Coordination	☐
7.	**July 7** – Protection Relays for High Impedance Faults	☐
8.	**August 11** – Transformer Banking	☐
9.	**September 15** – Characteristics of Overhead Conductors	☐
10.	**October 13** – Introduction to Power Supply Planning	☐
11.	**November 10** – Microgrids	☐
12.	**December 8** – Demand-Side Management Systems	☐

Pricing Subscriptions and Savings

# of Attendees	# of Webinars and Pricing (check desired subscription below)					
	1 webinar		6 webinars		Complete Series	
Single	$195	☐	$880	☐	$1,755	☐
6 to 20	$975	☐	$4,388	☐	$8,775	☐
20 to 50	$1,950	☐	$8,775	☐	$17,550	☐

Checkmark desired webinars above, based on selected pricing subscription checked at left.

Please fill in the information below and email to **rachael.harms@gdsassociates.com**
Questions? Call Rachael Harms at **334-887-3297** or email rachael.harms@gdsassociates.com

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City_____ State____ Zip_____ Contact Phone_____

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Student 5_____ Email 5_____

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