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**MGA Co-Sponsors Smart Grid Symposium**

**Washington, DC** – The Midwestern Governors Association (MGA) announced today that it will be co-sponsoring the *Great Lakes Symposium on Smart Grid and the New Energy Economy* taking place October 18-19 in Chicago. The Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition, the Illinois Institute of Technology, Argonne National Laboratories and others are also co-sponsoring this event.

This symposium will examine best practices on how to build a smarter electric grid. Participants will engage policy and thought leaders on opportunities for job creation, spurring innovation and increasing financial investments into smart grid technology.

Advancing innovative technologies, such as grid improvements and industrial energy efficiency, is a focus area of Illinois Governor Pat Quinn’s agenda as MGA Chair.

“We must ensure the Midwest remains a leader in developing cutting-edge and new energy technology solutions. Working together, the Midwest can be more competitive, attract new investment dollars and be a leader in job creation,” Quinn said. “I encourage people to attend this event to help increase awareness and understanding of ways we can build a better grid.”

Registration and additional information on the symposium are available at: http://greatlakessymposium.com/.