



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Two days of insight, ideas, and conversation across the energy industry

Grand Hyatt Denver

1750 Welton Street | Denver, Colorado 80202

November 9-10, 2026 | Up to 16 CPE Credits

REGISTRATION

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cob.unt.edu/ceas/oil-gas-conference.html

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ENERGY HORIZON 2026

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ENERGY HORIZON 2026

Grand Hyatt Denver | November 9-10, 2026

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM - 8:10 AM

Opening Chair Remarks - Jonathon Fite,
Conference Committee Chair

8:10 AM - 9:00 AM

Industry Keynote - Politics, Policy and Permitting

Melissa Simpson, President, Western Energy Alliance

This session will examine the political, policy, and permitting environment shaping the energy industry, with particular attention to developments affecting oil and natural gas companies in the western United States. The discussion will consider how regulatory change, permitting requirements, and policy uncertainty can influence business strategy, investment decisions, project development, and operations.

Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify major policy and regulatory developments affecting the energy industry.
- Understand how permitting, regulatory change, and policy uncertainty can influence business operations, investment, and growth.
- Evaluate the strategic implications of the evolving political and regulatory environment for energy companies.

9:00 AM - 9:10 AM

Transition

9:10 AM - 10:00 AM

General Session - Global Macro: Rethinking
Energy Market Forecasts

David Kirsch, Managing Director, EY

This session will examine how changing economic, political, and market conditions are making traditional energy-market forecasting less reliable. The discussion will explore why prior assumptions may no longer hold and what greater uncertainty means for planning and decision-making.

Field of Study: Economics | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify developments challenging traditional energy-market forecasting assumptions.
- Evaluate why historical relationships may no longer provide reliable guidance.
- Assess the implications for scenario planning, risk management, and strategic decisions.

10:00 AM - 10:25 AM

Networking Break & Exhibits

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026 | CONTINUED

10:25 AM - 11:40 AM

General Session - SEC Update

Jonathan Duersch, Associate Chief Accountant, U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission

This session will provide a timely update on SEC matters relevant to energy companies and financial reporting professionals. Topics may include current regulatory priorities, disclosure considerations, reporting developments, and observations affecting public companies.

Field of Study: Accounting | CPE Credits: 1.5

Learning Objectives:

- Identify current SEC priorities relevant to energy companies.
- Recognize significant financial reporting and disclosure considerations.
- Discuss SEC expectations for clear and transparent financial communication.

11:40 AM - 12:10 PM

Technology Demonstration (No CPE) - Putting AI to Work in Oil & Gas: Secure, Scalable Solutions with OutSystems

Eshwar Krishnan, Managing Partner, Xalta Technologies; Russell Youngblood, Solutions Engineer, OutSystems

Explore how oil and gas organizations can use AI to improve business processes, strengthen controls, and support growth. Xalta will demonstrate how OutSystems provides a platform to build and run AI solutions securely and at scale, combining intelligent capabilities with enterprise workflows and human oversight. The session will feature our ready-to-go accounts payable solution, showing the journey from invoice receipt and interpretation through validation, exception review, and GL coding.

Technology demonstration | No CPE credit

12:10 PM - 1:05 PM

Onsite Networking Lunch

1:05 PM - 2:20 PM

Interactive Session - Stop Calling It a Retention Problem

Kait Dinunzio, Pyxis Group

Energy organizations are facing a convergence of pressures, including an aging and changing workforce, rapid AI enablement, shifting expectations from younger professionals, M&A activity, institutional knowledge risk, evolving leadership requirements, and continued pressure to increase productivity. Rather than treating these as isolated recruitment or retention issues, this highly interactive executive session asks whether retention is simply an outcome of a larger issue: the work, workforce, and organization evolving at different speeds. Through facilitated World Cafe-style discussions, participants will examine the changing talent pyramid, institutional knowledge and succession, the next generation of energy professionals, organizational capability, and human performance and design.

Field of Study: Personnel/Human Resources | CPE Credits: 1.5

Learning Objectives:

- Evaluate how changes in technology, workforce demographics, organizational design, and leadership expectations are reshaping human-capital challenges in the energy industry.
- Identify risks associated with institutional knowledge loss, succession, and the changing development path for future finance and accounting leaders.
- Distinguish workforce problems caused by talent or retention from those created by organizational structure, processes, technology, governance, or leadership.
- Apply a Human Capability Stress Test to identify organizational gaps in work, knowledge, capability, leadership, and systems.

2:20 PM - 2:30 PM

Transition

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026 | CONTINUED

2:30 PM - 3:20 PM

Moderated Panel Discussion - Generative AI and Cybersecurity: Emerging Threats and Defenses

Moderator: Jose Lineros, University of North Texas

Panelists: Shad Higdon, Deloitte; Jesus Vega, Whitley Penn

Generative AI is changing both sides of the cybersecurity equation. Organizations can use AI to strengthen cybersecurity capabilities, while threat actors can use the same technology to increase the speed and sophistication of attacks. This moderated discussion will examine emerging AI-enabled cyber risks, evolving defensive strategies, and the governance and control challenges facing organizations.

Field of Study: Information Technology | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify cybersecurity threats emerging from the increased use of generative AI.
- Explain how generative AI can affect both cyberattack and defensive capabilities.
- Discuss governance, controls, and risk-management practices for managing AI-related cybersecurity risks.
- Evaluate practical considerations for organizations adopting generative AI while protecting systems and information.

3:20 PM - 3:40 PM

Networking Break & Exhibits

3:40 PM - 4:30 PM

General Session - Hot Topics in Financial Reporting and Accounting

Taylor Peruso, EY

This session will provide an update on significant accounting and financial reporting developments affecting the oil and gas industry. Topics will include current standard-setting activity, emerging reporting issues, and other developments finance and accounting professionals should have on their radar.

Field of Study: Accounting | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify recent accounting and financial reporting developments relevant to oil and gas companies.
- Discuss current standard-setting activities and emerging reporting issues.
- Evaluate the potential implications of these developments for financial reporting by energy companies.

4:30 PM - 4:40 PM

Transition

4:40 PM - 5:30 PM

General Session - Financial Markets Update

Jonathon Fite, KMF Investments and University of North Texas

This session will examine current financial market conditions and the economic forces influencing investment markets. The discussion will consider interest rates, inflation, monetary policy, equity markets, and other developments affecting investors and businesses.

Field of Study: Finance | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify major economic and market forces currently affecting financial markets.
- Explain how interest rates, inflation, and monetary policy influence investment markets.
- Evaluate current market developments and their potential implications for investment decisions.

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Onsite Networking Reception

DAY 1 CONCLUDES

ENERGY HORIZON 2026

Grand Hyatt Denver | November 9-10, 2026

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

**General Session - Washington Policy Landscape:
Post-Election Outlook**

Rohit Kumar, PwC

With the 2026 elections complete, this session will examine the emerging policy landscape in Washington and what it may mean for the energy industry. The discussion will address legislative, regulatory, tax, and other policy developments likely to affect energy companies and their advisors.

Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify significant post-election policy developments affecting the energy industry.
- Understand potential legislative and regulatory changes emerging from Washington.
- Evaluate the implications of federal policy developments for energy companies.

8:50 AM - 9:00 AM

Transition

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Industry Keynote - Fireside Chat

Michael N. Kennedy, CEO and President, Antero Resources

Moderator: Lindsay Holliday, Riveron

In this fireside chat, Michael N. Kennedy of Antero Resources will join Lindsay Holliday of Riveron for an executive-level discussion of the major business, financial, and strategic issues facing the energy industry. The conversation will explore current market conditions, operating priorities, capital decisions, and other developments shaping the outlook for energy companies.

Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify major strategic issues currently affecting energy companies.
- Understand how senior industry leaders are responding to changing market and operating conditions.
- Evaluate implications of current industry developments for finance and accounting professionals.

9:50 AM - 10:10 AM

Networking Break & Exhibits

10:10 AM - 11:00 AM

General Session - Ethics Discussion

Bill Pollard and Jasmine Fehlman, Deloitte

This session will examine ethical issues faced by accounting and finance professionals through practical situations and professional judgment. The discussion will focus on recognizing ethical challenges, evaluating competing responsibilities, and applying professional standards when the appropriate course of action is not immediately obvious.

Field of Study: Behavioral Ethics | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Recognize ethical issues that can arise in accounting and finance settings.
- Evaluate competing professional responsibilities in situations requiring judgment.
- Apply ethical reasoning to practical workplace scenarios.
- Discuss approaches for responding to ethical concerns while maintaining professional integrity.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026 | CONTINUED

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM

Transition

11:10 AM - 12:00 PM

General Session - Private Capital Markets Update

Mike Bock, Co-Founder, President and CFO, Petrie Partners

This session will examine current conditions in private capital markets and their implications for the energy industry. The discussion will consider capital availability, investor expectations, transaction activity, and the evolving role of private capital in financing energy businesses.

Field of Study: Finance | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Describe current trends in private capital markets relevant to energy companies.
- Understand factors influencing investor appetite and capital availability.
- Evaluate how changing private capital conditions affect energy financing and investment decisions.

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM

Onsite Networking Lunch

12:45 PM - 1:35 PM

General Session - Peeling Back the Reserve Report to Its Component Parts

David Loucks, Opportune

Reserve reports sit at the intersection of engineering, economics, valuation, and financial reporting. This session will peel back the reserve report to explain its principal components, the assumptions underlying them, and how financial and accounting professionals should interpret the information produced by reserve engineers.

Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the principal components of an oil and gas reserve report.
- Understand key assumptions and estimates underlying reserve information.
- Explain how reserve information connects with financial reporting and business decisions.
- Improve communication between accounting, finance, and engineering professionals regarding reserve information.

1:35 PM - 1:45 PM

Transition

1:45 PM - 2:35 PM

General Session - State and Local Sales Tax Update

Tanner Owens and Patrick Crumpton, Weaver

This session will examine current state and local sales tax developments relevant to businesses operating across multiple jurisdictions. The discussion will address emerging issues, compliance challenges, and practical considerations for energy companies.

Field of Study: Taxes | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify current state and local sales tax developments affecting businesses.
- Recognize common multistate sales tax compliance challenges.
- Evaluate practical approaches for addressing evolving SALT obligations.

2:35 PM - 3:05 PM

Networking Break & Exhibits

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026 | CONTINUED

3:05 PM - 3:55 PM

General Session - Generative AI for Finance and Accounting

Catheryne Hasley, Accenture

This session will explore how generative AI is being applied within finance and accounting functions. The discussion will focus on practical use cases, implementation considerations, governance, and the ways AI may reshape financial processes and the work performed by accounting professionals.

Field of Study: Information Technology | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify practical generative AI applications in finance and accounting.
- Understand implementation and governance considerations associated with generative AI.
- Evaluate how generative AI may change finance and accounting processes and professional roles.

3:55 PM - 4:10 PM

Transition

4:40 PM - 5:30 PM

General Session - Year-End Energy Tax Update

Kurt Lowery and Teresa Garza, Weaver

This session will cover important year-end federal tax developments affecting energy companies. The discussion will highlight recent legislation, administrative guidance, and practical planning considerations for energy taxpayers.

Field of Study: Taxes | CPE Credit: 1.0

Learning Objectives:

- Identify significant federal tax developments affecting energy companies.
- Discuss the implications of recent tax guidance and regulatory developments.
- Recognize year-end tax planning considerations for energy taxpayers.

DAY 2 CONCLUDES

Tentative Program - Session times, speakers, topics, and other program details are subject to change.



CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (CPE)

Energy Horizon 2026 | November 9-10, 2026 | Grand Hyatt Denver

UP TO 16
CPE CREDITS

50 MINUTES
= 1.0 CPE CREDIT

GROUP LIVE
DELIVERY METHOD

CPE Credit and Attendance

One CPE credit is based on a 50-minute hour. Participants must sign in and sign out to receive CPE credit. Final CPE credit is based on verified attendance and applicable sponsor requirements.

Prerequisites: None. Advance Preparation: None.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Cancellations received 30 days or more before the conference will receive a full refund. Cancellations received 15 to 29 days before the conference will receive a 50% refund. Cancellations received 14 days or fewer before the conference are nonrefundable. No refunds will be issued for no-shows.

Conference registration is nontransferable. Registration is for the full two-day conference and may not be split between attendees or conference days.

NASBA National Registry

The Center for Energy Accounting and Sustainability, University of North Texas is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: www.NASBARegistry.org.

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Registration and Questions

Registration: <https://cob.unt.edu/ceas/oil-gas-conference.html>

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