

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [AI and Other Tricks are Bringing Power Lines Into the 21st Century](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.economist.com/business/2024/05/05/ai-and-other-tricks-are-bringing-power-lines-into-the-21st-century>

Author(s)	Economist Staff
Publication	The Economist
Publication Date	May 14, 2024

**Tweet:** The Department of Energy estimates that efficiency improvements such as upgraded transmission lines and better management of America's electrical grid could yield 100GW or 13% of current peak power demand.

**Summary:** America's Department of Energy reckons that AI and other improvements to the country's existing grid could liberate as much as 100 gigawatts (GW) in transmission and distribution capacity over the next three to five years without the need to build new lines. That is about 13% of current peak demand of around 740gw. Some of these "grid-enhancing technologies" are now being rolled out, thanks to doughty startups developing them, their financial backers, and utilities, which are becoming less resistant to innovation. gets, as they are known for short in the industry, fall into two main categories: hardware upgrades to transmission grids and software upgrades to those grids' brains.

**Related Articles:** Generational Growth AI, Data Centers and the Coming US Power Demand Surge and The U.S. Urgently Needs a Bigger Grid. Here's a Fast Solution and Electricity Grids and Secure Energy Transitions

**Primary Topic:** Energy

**Topics:** Database, Energy, Fiscal Policy, Investment, News article, Productivity

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/the-department-of-energy-estimates-that-efficiency-improvements-such-as-upgraded-transmission-lines-and-better-management-of-americas-electrical-grid-could-yeild-100gw-or-13-of-current-peak-power-de?view=detail>

**Featured Image Link:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/21009-ai-and-other-tricks-are-bringing-power-lines-into-the-21st-century-space-filling-graphic.png>