

Annual Meeting:
Coordinated Electricity Planning
September 13-15, 2021
This will be a virtual meeting.

Speaker Bios
(In order of approximate appearance)

Hon. Ted J. Thomas, Chairman, Arkansas Public Services Commission

Ted Thomas of Conway was appointed Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission by Governor Asa Hutchinson in January 2015.

He has served as Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the 20th Judicial District, Administrative Law Judge at the Public Service Commission, Budget Director for Governor Mike Huckabee and in the Arkansas House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee during his final term.

Chairman Thomas received a Bachelor of Arts with High Honors in Political Science from the University of Arkansas in 1986 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1988. He is licensed to practice law before the United States Supreme Court, the Arkansas Supreme Court, the United States Courts of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and the Eight Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas.

Chairman Thomas is past president of the Organization of MISO States (OMS) and continues to serve on the Executive Committee. He also serves on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Committee on Electricity.

Danielle Sass Byrnett, NARUC

Danielle Sass Byrnett joined NARUC in December 2017. She is the Director of the Center for Partnerships & Innovation (formerly known as Domestic Grants or the Research Lab). She leads this grant-funded team focused on identifying emerging challenges and connecting State commissions with expertise and strategies to navigate complex decision-making. CPI builds relationships, develops resources, and delivers training in areas ranging from energy efficiency and distributed energy resources to natural gas infrastructure to cybersecurity and more. Danielle's subject matter expertise includes energy efficiency policies and programs, clean energy workforce development, residential clean energy financing, combined heat and power, State energy planning, and related topics.

Prior to joining NARUC, Danielle served in the federal government and consulting roles at the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She holds a B.A. in biology and environmental studies from Swarthmore College, and an M.P.P. with an energy and environment concentration from Duke University.

Johanna Zetterberg, U.S. Department of Energy

Johanna Zetterberg is a clean energy professional with over ten years of experience at the U.S. Department of Energy. She manages a team with a diverse portfolio of partnership-based initiatives to effectively address emerging needs related to clean energy deployment, electricity system planning, resilience, recovery, and critical infrastructure protection. These include place-based long-term energy sector recovery efforts in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and U.S. Virgin Islands; the Energy Transitions Initiative which advances self-reliant island and remote communities through resilient energy systems; leading DOE's support for the Joint Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO); developing and implementing strategies to energy-assure critical U.S. national defense and security missions against all threats and hazards; and coordinating the State and Local Energy Efficiency Action ("SEE Action") Network to help lower energy costs for Americans through the advancement of best practices for state, local and utility energy efficiency policies and programs.

Johanna entered public service at the DOE through the Presidential Management Fellows Program. She served as Deputy to the Director of the Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Office, co-leading a small leadership team managing administration of \$11.3B in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to over 2,300 state, local and tribal governments through formula and competitive financial assistance.

Prior to DOE, Johanna was a Regulatory Analyst at the California Public Utilities Commission, Conservation Coordinator at the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, and team member of the Sustainable Development Program at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Johanna holds a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and a B.A. in Psychology from Pomona College

Kirsten Verclas, National Association of State Energy Officials

Kirsten Verclas leads NASEO's electricity program, which informs and educates the states on a wide variety of issues including grid modernization, energy security planning, microgrids and renewable energy, and cybersecurity.

Prior to NASEO, Ms. Verclas was an ORISE Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the U.S. Department of Energy, where she worked on clean energy, state and local energy policy, cybersecurity issues and emergency response. She also served as a Program Manager in the International Department of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) working on regulatory partnerships in Africa, as well as a Senior Program Manager at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS) at Johns Hopkins University.

Ms. Verclas has written extensively on energy and climate as well as security policy in the transatlantic context. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Franklin and Marshall College, a Master of Arts in International Relations from The George Washington University, and a Master of Science in Energy Policy and Climate from Johns Hopkins University.

Dave Danner, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

David “Dave” Danner was appointed chair of the Utilities and Transportation Commission in February 2013 and re-appointed him to a second term in December 2018 by Gov. Jay Inslee.

Danner had been the agency’s executive director since 2005 and secretary since 2008. Before that, he served as executive policy advisor to Washington Gov. Gary Locke on energy, telecommunications, finance and elections issues. In 2004, Gov. Locke named Danner to the state Pollution Control Hearings Board and Shoreline Hearings Board, where he served before moving to the commission.

Danner has also been a telecommunications attorney in private practice, counsel to the Washington Senate Energy and Utilities Committee, and senior policy advisor at the Washington State Department of Information Services.

Danner serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), and the National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI). He is Chair of the International Consortium of Energy Regulators, and a member of the State Technology Services Board and the Executive Council of the National Council on Energy Policy. He also serves on advisory boards of the Critical Consumer Issues Forum and the Center for Public Utilities at the New Mexico State University College of Business.

Carrie Gill, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

Dr. Carrie Gill has over a decade of experience in energy and environmental fields, including academic, government, and industry experience. As Administrator, Grid Modernization and Systems Integration for Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, Dr.

Gill primarily focuses on statewide systems-level integration in order to advance state policy goals. She works closely with all electric and natural gas utilities in Rhode Island, collaborates across agencies, and engages stakeholders around focus areas of distribution system planning, grid modernization, non-wires solutions, energy efficiency, program evaluation, and climate resilience.

Dr. Gill also serves on the Statewide Planning Council's Technical Advisory Committee. She has a Ph.D. in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, a Masters in Business Administration, and a Masters in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island, and a Bachelors in Physics and Mathematics from Loyola College.

Chris Ayers, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Christopher J. Ayers has served as Executive Director of the North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff since July 1, 2013 and currently serves as President of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA). The Public Staff represents the using and consuming public and investigates electric, gas, water, wastewater, and transportation matters before the North Carolina Utilities Commission. Prior to joining the Public Staff, he practiced law in Raleigh, North Carolina with the law firm of Poyner Spruill LLP from June 2009 to July 2013 and Hunton & Williams LLP from August 2003 to June 2009. He served a two-year term on the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission from July 2011 through June 2013.

Mr. Ayers also serves on the Consumer Advocates for the PJM States Board of Directors, the Department of Energy Electricity Advisory Committee, the Critical Consumer Issues Forum Executive Committee, the Financial Research Institute Advisory Board, Keystone Energy Board, New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities Advisory Council, and is the Vice Chairman of the State Employees Credit Union Board of Directors.

Mr. Ayers graduated from Duke University in 1999 and received his Juris Doctor with Honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2002.

Dan Scripps, Michigan Public Service Commission

Dan Scripps was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Public Service Commission in February 2019 and was named chair in July 2020.

Mr. Scripps is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and also serves on the executive committees of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference and the Organization of MISO States. He currently chairs the MISO Regional Expansion Criteria and Benefits Working Group, which is considering cost allocation proposals relating to MISO's Long-Range Transmission Planning Process, and serves on the Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission.

Mr. Scripps served one term in the Michigan House of Representatives, where he chaired the House Banking and Financial Services committee. An attorney, Mr. Scripps practiced law in the Washington D.C. office of leading global law firm where he advised on cutting-edge domestic and international energy projects, and has held leadership positions with advanced energy trade organizations.

Eric Koch, Indiana State Senate

Indiana State Senator Eric Koch is a member of the NCEP Executive Committee. He has served in the Indiana Senate, where he serves as Chairman of the Senate Utilities Committee, since 2016 and prior to that as a member of the House of Representatives, where he served as a Chairman of the House Utilities, Energy & Telecommunications Committee, from 2002-2016.

He is Co-Chairman of the National Conference of State Legislatures Energy Supply Task Force and a member of the Federal Communications Commission Consumer Advisory Committee. He focuses on energy, telecommunications, and water policy interactions in Indiana and nationally. Sen. Koch is a graduate of Georgetown University and the Indiana University School of Law. He also holds a Graduate Certificate in Energy Policy Planning from the University of Idaho.

Kathryn Cox-Arslan, Borrego Solar

Kathryn (Kat) Cox-Arslan is Borrego Solar's Director of Interconnection Policy based out of the company's regional headquarters outside of Boston, Massachusetts. Kat advocates for improved interconnection processes and policies that enable and unlock renewable energy development across all of Borrego's US Markets. Kat joined Borrego Solar in January 2020 after a decade of experience interconnecting large-scale renewable projects and leading the wholesale interconnection team for National Grid.

Joe Daniel, Union of Concerned Scientists

Joseph Daniel is a senior energy analyst and manager of electricity markets with the Climate & Energy program at the Union of Concerned Scientists. In his role, he serves as the primary point person for coordinating UCS's utility regulatory work at state public utility commissions, independent system operators, and the federal energy regulatory commission.

Mr. Daniel establishes policy positions, develops strategy, and produces analytics that spur innovation in energy markets to facilitate greater reliance on renewable energy, a low-carbon electricity system, and a more flexible, modern electricity grid. His work helps advance science-based public policy around renewable energy at the state and regional levels. He also leads UCS research and advocacy efforts to shape federal, regional, and state

electricity markets, regulations, and policies to develop an equitable electricity system, one that is reliable, clean, and affordable for all.

Mr. Daniel began his career in 2005 modeling energy use and fugitive emissions at a petrochemical facility outside of Mobile, Alabama. He went on to work as an engineering consultant at more than 30 oil refineries, natural gas facilities, and power plants. Since 2011, his work has focused on the electric utility industry where he has worked on over 100 utility proceedings across the country and has authored technical comments in response to state, regional, and federal energy policy proposals. He also formerly served as an electric sector analyst with the Sierra Club, where he focused on federal policy, fossil fuel economics, and regional energy markets. Prior to that, he was an associate at Synapse Energy Economics analyzing utility planning and economics.

Tanuj Deora, Uplight

Tanuj Deora is Vice President, Market Development and Regulatory Affairs at Uplight, the product of the recent merger of Simple Energy, Tendril, FirstFuel, EnergySavvy, and eeme, and the leading solutions provider for delivering energy consumer centric innovation. In addition to leading Uplight's regulatory affairs squad, he engages utility executives, investors, and other thought leaders to explore how to best align industry incentives and deploy cutting edge technology to deliver a cleaner, more resilient, consumer-centric energy system.

Prior to joining Uplight, Tanuj served as Chief Strategy Officer of the Smart Electric Power Alliance, ran the commercial portfolio of IHS Markit's North American Power, Gas, and Renewables business, was a wind energy project developer for EDPR, and served as an energy industry strategy consultant with McKinsey. From 2011 to 2012 he served in the cabinet of Governor John Hickenlooper as director of the Colorado Energy Office.

Tanuj has held board positions with Renewable Energy New England and the Interwest Energy Alliance and helped lead the education committee for Solar Power International / Energy Storage International. He was an advisor to the Rational Middle Energy Series and NREL's solar deployment program, and currently serves as an advisory to Hygge Power, a residential energy storage company.

Sarah Freeman, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Sarah Freeman was appointed by Governor Mike Pence as Commissioner on September 19, 2016 and was reappointed by Governor Eric Holcomb on December 29, 2017.

Commissioner Freeman chairs NARUC's Subcommittee on Education and Research and is a member of the NARUC Committee on Telecommunications. Commissioner Freeman is Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Organization of MISO States (OMS) and serves on the Board of Directors for the Universal Service Administrative Company as well

as the Advisory Board for the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri. She previously represented the Commission on the Board of Directors for the Organization of PJM States (PJM).

Prior to her appointment, Commissioner Freeman served as a senior staff attorney with the nonpartisan Indiana Legislative Services Agency for 16 years, where she drafted utility and transportation legislation and served as counsel to numerous legislative committees.

Patricia Hoffman, Office of Electricity (OE) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Patricia Hoffman is the Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Electricity (OE) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Prior to her current position, Ms. Hoffman served in a dual capacity as Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Research and Development (R&D) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) within OE. During her tenure as the DAS for R&D, she developed the long-term research strategy and improved the management portfolio of research programs for modernizing and improving the resiliency of the electric grid. This included developing and implementing sensors and operational tools for wide-area monitoring, energy storage research and demonstration and the development of advanced conductors to increase the capacity and flexibility of the grid. She also initiated a new research effort focused on integrating and distributing renewable energy through the electric grid, such as promoting plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and implementing smart grid technologies to maintain system reliability. As COO, she managed the OE business operations, including human resources, budget development, financial execution, and performance management.

Michelle L. Manary, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Michelle L. Manary is the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Energy Resilience Division in the Office of Electricity (OE) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Ms. Manary helps lead DOE's division focused on national transmission infrastructure policy issues in support of national clean energy objectives.

Prior to joining OE, Manary worked at Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) where early in her careers she successfully held several management positions within the agency's Corporate, Power and Transmission organizations, including as BPA's director of Strategy Integration. She also gained extensive transmission expertise in her role as the agency's vice president for Transmission Marketing and Sales for three years. In that position, she oversaw transmission sales, customer relations and contracts, transmission commercial automated systems, products and rates, the open access tariff and available transfer capability. Manary then served as executive vice president and chief financial officer (CFO) at BPA, having held the position since September 2018.

Andrew Wishnia, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

Andrew Wishnia serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy in the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Wishnia previously served at the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, including as Senior Policy Advisor, and also served at the Federal Highway Administration as Special Assistant for Policy to the FHWA Administrator, and as a Senior Program Manager at the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Wishnia previously served in the U.S. House of Representatives as a legislative assistant to Congressman John Yarmuth, now Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on the Budget.

ToNola Brown-Bland, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland was appointed to serve on the North Carolina Utilities Commission in 2009 and re-appointed in 2017. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Utility Commissioners (NARUC) as Treasurer; Co-Chair of the NARUC Washington Action Committee and a member of both NARUC's Critical Infrastructure and Gas Committees. In addition, she currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Regulatory Research Institute, of which she is past Chair, as Vice President of the National Council on Electricity Policy, and on the Advisory Council for the Center for Public Utilities at New Mexico State University. She is a Past President of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received her Juris Doctorate from Duke University School of Law.

Tim Burdis, PJM Interconnection

Tim Burdis is a lead strategist within the State Government Policy Department at PJM Interconnection. He assists in outreach and strategy development for state government engagement; focusing on policy assessment, market design and transmission planning. He is responsible for PJM's engagement with the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI).

Before his current post, Mr. Burdis worked on PJM emerging markets; responsible for the planning and integration management of changes to the wholesale electricity market. He specialized in changes brought about by state policy, renewable energy and infrastructure investment. He was also responsible for conducting industry research and analysis impacting electricity markets, and facilitating PJM's corporate strategic planning process.

Michael Milligan, Milligan Grid Solutions

Dr. Michael Milligan retired from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in 2017, and he is now an independent power system consultant. With 36 years' experience in power

systems and wind/solar power integration, he has authored/coauthored more than 220 technical articles, book chapters, and reports. He is one of GridLab's experts, and has worked with nearly 20 other consulting clients that include the power system industry and environmental and renewable energy organizations.

Zach Smith, NYISO

Zach Smith is responsible for the oversight and implementation of system planning and strategic initiatives for the New York State transmission system. These include ensuring a reliable electric grid for the future, identifying economic opportunities for transmission investment beneficial to ratepayers, and implementation of system upgrades to enable public policies. Mr. Smith also oversees the interconnection process through which renewable resources and other new generation technologies reliably connect to the New York State electric grid.

Since joining the NYISO in 2004, Mr. Smith has spearheaded numerous renewable integration and transmission planning initiatives through key positions of increasing responsibility, and he actively represents the NYISO on interregional coordination committees.

He earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Technological University.

Michael G. Dowd, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Michael G. Dowd is Director of the Air and Renewable Energy Division for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. In that position, Mr. Dowd oversees the air quality planning, permitting, compliance, monitoring and mobile source programs, as well as the Small Renewable Energy Permit by Rule program for the Commonwealth. Prior to becoming Air Director, Mr. Dowd served as DEQ's Enforcement Director. Before joining DEQ, Mr. Dowd was an attorney in private practice with law firms in Richmond, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Dowd is a graduate of Columbia University and holds a J.D., cum laude, from Vermont Law School. He is a recipient of EPA's Bronze Medal. Mr. Dowd is co-chair of the Enforcement Committee of the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA), Chair of the Southeast States Air Resource Managers, Inc. (SESARM), on the Board of Directors and Past Chair of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association (MARAMA), and on the Executive Committee of the National Council on Electricity Policy.

Colton Ching, Hawaiian Electric

Colton Ching is senior vice president of planning and technology. He has responsibility for planning Hawaiian Electric's 100 percent renewable energy grid and for the procurement of cost-effective, reliable and resilient renewable generation.

Ching is also responsible for developing and managing Hawaiian Electric's strategies and budgets for the transmission and distribution system. He previously served as vice president of Energy Delivery, as well as vice president of System Operation and Planning and has 30 years of utility experience.

In addition to his work at Hawaiian Electric, Colton serves on the Metro Board of Directors of the YMCA of Honolulu and the Executive Board of the Aloha Council of the Scouts BSA. Colton is also one of 13 inaugural cohorts in the Pierre Omidyar Fellows Leadership program.

Ching was born and raised on Maui and is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he received a degree in mechanical engineering.

Nathan Gagnon, Duke Energy

Nate Gagnon is an Integrated Planning Coordinator in Duke Energy's Integrated System Planning & Operations (ISOP) organization, which is developing a planning framework to optimize capacity and energy resource investments across generation, transmission, customer delivery (distribution) and customer solutions. Nate joined Duke Energy in 2016 as a member of the Midwest IRP team, and has broad experience in planning and strategy across a variety of power market structures, from the vertically integrated, fully regulated environment in the Carolinas, to vertically integrated utilities operating in RTOs, to fully deregulated markets. Prior to Duke, Nate worked for PSEG in M&A and Business Development focusing on utility-scale solar project acquisitions, and before that he was with IHS Markit analyzing North America's renewable power markets.

Justin Gundlach, Institute for Policy Integrity

Justin Gundlach is a Senior Attorney at the Institute for Policy Integrity. His work focuses on state-level energy and climate policy. He is the co-editor, along with Michael Burger, of *Climate Change, Public Health, and the Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), and the author of numerous articles, book chapters, white papers, and amicus briefs on legal and policy issues related to the impacts of energy use on the climate and of climate change on infrastructure and public health.

Before joining Policy Integrity, Justin was a member of the Policy Development team at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), a Staff Attorney at the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia Law School, a Staff

Attorney and Clinical Teaching Fellow at Georgetown University Law Center's environmental litigation clinic, and an associate at Crowell & Moring LLP.

Jennifer Easler, Office of the Consumer Advocate of Iowa

Jennifer Easler has been an attorney in the Office of Consumer Advocate since 1996 and served as interim director from June 2010 until January 2011. She has represented the public consumer sector in transmission matters at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and served as the consumer advocate representative and chair of the Iowa Energy Center Advisory Council.

Easler co-chairs the Electric Committee for the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates. She served on the executive committee of the State Energy Efficiency Action Network facilitated by the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 2010 to 2016, and she received the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance Leadership Award.

She has a bachelor's in finance from the University of Iowa and a law degree from Drake University.

Kelli Joseph, Power Edison

Dr. Kelli Joseph works across both wholesale and retail electricity markets on regulatory policy, market design, and power system economics throughout the United States and internationally. She led U.S. regulatory and market strategy for several of the largest independent power producers in the wholesale electricity markets, state retail electricity markets, and worked in grid operations at the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO). In the Global Energy Practice at The World Bank, she focused on renewable, storage, and distributed energy resource integration, and her work is published in Rethinking Power Sector Reform. Dr. Joseph participated in the NARUC-NASEO Task Force on 21st Century Electricity Planning as an invited subject matter expert, is an Advisor with the Future Power Markets Forum at the Columbia SIPA Center on Global Energy Policy, an Adjunct Professor in the Clarkson University Business of Energy Program, and on the Board of Directors for the Energy Storage Association. Dr. Joseph is the Vice President of Electricity Markets and Policy for Fifth Third Bank, a leading regional bank investing in renewable and clean technologies.

Dr. Joseph holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy from the University of Virginia, an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Virginia, and an MBA, with a concentration in Finance, from IE Business School in Spain, where she was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar.

Matthew McDonell, Strategen

Matthew McDonnell serves as Managing Director of US Consulting at Strategen. Matthew is an experienced regulatory attorney who leverages his background as Commission Counsel to deliver valuable insights to clients. Matthew is a champion of new utility business models and innovative regulatory frameworks to responsibly accelerate the clean energy transition. Matthew has experience in a variety of energy issues, including energy storage, power system planning, rate design, grid modernization, and distributed energy resources (DER).

For five years, Matthew served as Commission Counsel at the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (HPUC), a regulatory body that is a global leader in market design for the deployment of clean energy technologies. Matthew supported the thought leadership, organization, and execution for critical projects from advanced DER program design, to establishing a statewide community solar framework, to articulating guidance for innovative grid modernization that earned the Hawaiian Electric Companies SEPA's 2018 Utility of the Year. He also led the HPUC's investigation into performance-based regulation (PBR) as process architect, project manager, and thought leader. He designed a regulatory process approach that won broad support from local stakeholders as well as national acclaim. The PBR template has since been adopted for similar efforts in Minnesota, Nevada, and North Carolina and continues to gain traction nation-wide.

After departing the HPUC, Matthew served as Associate Director at Navigant (n/k/a Guidehouse). There, he authored a forthcoming report for the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) that provide in-depth analysis of alternative regulatory mechanisms available to regulators, with a section dedicated to examining regulatory sandbox best practices.

Justin Gundlach, Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU

Justin Gundlach joined Policy Integrity in April 2019. His work focuses on state-level energy and climate policy. He is the co-editor, along with Michael Burger, of *Climate Change, Public Health, and the Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), and the author of numerous articles, book chapters, white papers, and amicus briefs on legal and policy issues related to the impacts of energy use on the climate and of climate change on infrastructure and public health.

Before joining Policy Integrity, Justin was a member of the Policy Development team at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), a Staff Attorney at the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia Law School, a Staff Attorney and Clinical Teaching Fellow at Georgetown University Law Center's environmental litigation clinic, and an associate at Crowell & Moring LLP.

Upendra Chivukula, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

Upendra J. Chivukula was nominated by Governor Christopher J. Christie as a Commissioner to the N.J. Board of Public Utilities on September 18, 2014 and confirmed by the Senate on September 22, 2014

Prior to his nomination, Mr. Chivukula served in the New Jersey Assembly representing the 17th legislative district, where he served as chair of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee. He also had the honor of serving as Vice Chair of Homeland Security and State Preparedness, Commerce and Economic Development, and Environment and Solid Waste.

Mr. Chivukula was also a founding member and Co-Chair of the NJ Science & Technology Legislative Caucus and the NJ World Languages & International Studies Legislative Caucus. He was a member of the Commission on Science and Technology, and the Health Information Technology Commissions.

Before becoming a state legislator, Mr. Chivukula served as Mayor of Franklin Township for a year and on Town Council for another seven years. He also served on the National Council of State Legislatures and on the Council of State Governments.

Ben Sloan, Organization of MISO States

Ben Sloan began working with the Organization of MISO States in March 2019. Previously he worked for the Mississippi Attorney General's Office in the Public Utilities Staff Division. There he followed and participated in various MISO-related stakeholder forums representing the Mississippi Public Service Commission. Prior to that he represented the Mississippi Department of Human Services for the Attorney General's Office. He received a bachelor's in English and Political Science as well as a law degree from the University of Mississippi. He is admitted to practice in Mississippi, Washington, D.C., and before the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He is also a member of the Energy Bar Association.

Branden Sudduth, WECC

Branden Sudduth, Vice President of Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, is responsible for WECC's technical and analysis functions, including Reliability Planning and Assessments, Standards Development, Performance Analysis, Event Analysis, and Situation Awareness.

In his previous role as Director of Reliability Risk Management, Branden provided leadership and strategic direction for the Performance Analysis and Event Analysis/Situation Awareness departments and was responsible for supporting several industry stakeholder efforts through WECC's Operating and Market Interface Committees.

Branden holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Brigham Young University, a Master of Engineering degree in electrical engineering from the University of Idaho, and an MBA from Weber State University.

Paul Suskie, Southwest Power Pool

Paul Suskie serves SPP as executive vice president of regulatory policy and general counsel. He is responsible for managing the organization's legal and regulatory policy groups and serves as corporate secretary.

Prior to joining SPP, Suskie was appointed by Gov. Mike Beebe as chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission and a member of the Governor's cabinet — positions in which he served from 2007-2010. At the time of his appointment to the Commission, he was in his third elected term as North Little Rock's city attorney. Prior to joining the city attorney's office, Suskie worked for former United States Sen. David Pryor and for Arkansas Attorney General Winston Bryant. Suskie is a retired colonel in the U.S. Army where he served in the JAG Corps. He has served as a military judge for the Arkansas Army National Guard and is a veteran of both wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hon. Paul Kjellander, Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Paul Kjellander rejoined the Commission (PUC) in April 2011 following his service as Administrator of the Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER). Kjellander, who serves as Commission President, was appointed to his current six year term by Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter. Kjellander is the longest serving President and CEO of the Idaho PUC. During Commissioner Kjellander's public service, Idaho has maintained some of the lowest cost electricity and natural gas rates in the nation.

As a member of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC), Kjellander has served on the Electricity, Telecommunications, and Consumer Affairs Committees. He was also appointed by the Chairman of the Federal Communication Commission to the Federal/State Board of Jurisdictional Separations and served as chairman. Kjellander currently serves as NARUC's Second Vice President and previously served as Chairman of the NARUC Committee on Telecommunications. He is also a member of the North American Numbering Council and serves as President of the National Council for Electricity Policy as of May 8, 2018.

Samir Succar, ICF

Samir develops innovative approaches to distribution system planning, grid modernization strategy, and distributed energy resource (DER) integration. He focuses on the impact of DER and the implications for utility business models and system planning processes.

Samir's work also includes distribution system operations and DER aggregation, optimization, and coordination. He leads energy infrastructure resilience and integrated distribution planning efforts, including DER forecasting, locational value assessment, and hosting capacity analysis. Additional focus areas include the alignment of distribution system planning, transmission planning, and integrated resource planning processes to reflect DER impacts and contributions to system needs. Samir has extensive experience in wholesale power markets modeling, power market supply-demand fundamentals, forward price curve assessments, and generation asset valuations.

Samir's prior work includes wholesale market design, energy storage optimization, and gas-electric integration. His research has touched on macroeconomic modeling of carbon abatement policies to facilitate renewable integration and accelerate deployment of low carbon generation. He has also examined integration issues associated with utility-scale renewable energy and enabling technologies for variable energy resources. This work centers on implementing energy storage as a strategy for enhancing transmission infrastructure utilization and mitigating the variability of renewable energy with particular attention to large-scale energy storage systems.

Paul De Martini, Newport Consulting Group

Paul De Martini is a leading expert on the business, policy and technology dimensions of a more distributed power system. His work draws upon a unique set of successful executive experiences in transforming utility operations, building successful competitive energy services firms and growing technology ventures. His extensive writings and consulting work have influenced industry transformation efforts in Australia, Canada, and across the US.

Paul was previously the Chief Technology & Strategy Officer, Energy Internet of Things at Cisco Systems and Vice President, Advanced Technology at Southern California Edison. Currently, he is a visiting scholar at Caltech and adjunct professor at the University of San Francisco. Paul holds an MBA, University of Southern California and BS, Applied Economics, University of San Francisco.

Karl Rábago, Rábago Energy

Karl Rábago operates an energy consultancy as Rábago Energy LLC, based in Denver, Colorado. Karl recently led the Pace Energy and Climate Center, at the Pace University Elisabeth Haub School of Law in White Plains, New York, where he also taught energy law. Karl has 30 years of experience in energy and climate policy and markets and is recognized as an innovator in utility regulatory issues relating to clean and distributed energy services and technologies. Rábago is a frequent author on electricity industry issues and has provided testimony as an expert witness in more than 100 electric and gas utility regulatory proceedings. Karl serves as Chair of the Board of the Center for Resource

Solutions, a San Francisco-based non-governmental organization that manages the Green-e Certification program for green power products, and on the Board of Solar United Neighbors. Rábago has been a Commissioner on the Texas Public Utility Commission; a Deputy Assistant Secretary at the US Department of Energy; Vice President of Distributed Energy Services at Austin Energy; Director of Regulatory Affairs for the AES Corporation and AES Wind; Managing Director & Principal of the Rocky Mountain Institute; and Energy Program Manager for the Environmental Defense Fund. While on active duty in the US Army, Karl served as an Armored Cavalry officer, as a Judge Advocate, and as assistant professor of law at the US Military Academy at West Point, NY.

Jeff Ackerman, North Star Collaborative

Jeff Ackermann served as chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) from January 2017 until January 2021. During that tenure Jeff presided over some of the most dramatic clean energy developments in Colorado's regulated electric sector, spanning from accelerated retirement of fossil-fuel generating resources to grid modernization and electrification of the transportation sector. Concurrently in 2019-2020, Jeff served as chair of the Energy Resources and the Environment Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Prior to serving as PUC chair, Jeff served as director of the Colorado Energy Office in the Hickenlooper Administration for four years, starting in 2013. In this capacity, Jeff provided leadership for various initiatives that expanded the state's clean energy agenda.

Jeff draws upon extensive experience in staff and leadership roles, within the Colorado PUC and various organizations developing and implementing innovative energy efficiency programs and addressing the needs of income-stressed households. Jeff has a Master's of Nonprofit Management degree from Regis University and an Environmental Economic Policy degree from Albion College.