Forging Sustainable Solar (and Storage) Incentives for New England
December 14, 2018
Bios of Speakers/Moderator

Judith Judson was appointed as Commissioner of the Department of Energy Resources in April 2015. Prior to joining the DOER, Judith worked at Customized Energy Solutions as Director of Emerging Technologies for the U.S., where she advised clients on using innovative technologies to cost-effectively modernize the US electric grid. Prior to her work at Customized Energy Solutions, Judith served as Vice President of Asset Management and Market Development at Beacon Power LLC, a Massachusetts-based clean energy technology company. As a nationally recognized expert on energy storage, Judith has participated in numerous hearings and technical conferences at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Judith chairs the Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council and represents Massachusetts on the Boards of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Inc., and Massachusetts Clean Energy Center. Previously Judith served as Chairman and Commissioner of the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission during the Romney Administration. She holds an M.B.A. from Harvard and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Kettering.

Mary Sotos is the Deputy Commissioner for Energy at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). She was appointed to this position in February 2017. Prior to joining DEEP, Mary led renewable energy and greenhouse gas accounting at World Resources Institute (WRI), a highly respected Washington D.C.-based non-profit organization.

Mary graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota with a bachelor’s Environmental Studies and a concentration in Social Sciences. On a Fulbright Fellowship, she pursued graduate coursework in Science and Environmental Management at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, in Brussels, Belgium.

Evan Dube is Senior Director of Public Policy for Sunrun. Evan has more than 12 years of experience working in energy policy and focuses on federal and state regulatory and legislative matters.

Prior to joining Sunrun, Evan served as Assistant Commissioner to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, and as Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust Fund. He also served in the Massachusetts legislature as General Counsel to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, and the House Committee on Ways and Means. Evan holds a B.A. from Boston University, and a J.D. from Villanova.
Ilan Gutherz is Borrego Solar’s national Senior Director of Policy and Strategy, working out of the company’s regional headquarters in the Boston area. Ilan is responsible for setting Borrego Solar’s national policy direction, driving policy changes that promote the development of renewable energy, and catalyzing the organization’s entry into new markets.

Prior to joining the Borrego Solar team, Ilan worked in a range of legal and policy roles for clients and organizations in the electric utility, clean energy, storage, transportation, environment, and land use spaces.

Ilan is a graduate of the University of Virginia. He earned a Master of Environmental Management (MEM) from Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and a law degree from Pace University, where he graduated with highest honors.

Juliana Mandell is the Director of Market Development and Policy at ENGIE Storage. She brings experience working on market strategy, business development and policy across the renewable energy sector. Prior to ENGIE Storage, Juliana spent time at GE, Sungevity, and working abroad in Latin America. She holds a bachelor’s degree from UC Berkeley and a master’s degree from Columbia University.

Jesse Jenkins is a postdoctoral Environmental Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Center for the Environment, where he researches electricity market design, regulation, and policy.

He has published peer-reviewed papers in Joule, The Energy Journal, and Economics of Energy and Environmental Policy, among other journals. Jesse has delivered invited testimony before the US Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and his research has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Time Magazine, Newsweek, National Public Radio, and other media outlets.

Previously, Jesse worked at the MIT Energy Initiative, the Breakthrough Institute, and at the Renewable Northwest Project. He holds a PhD in Engineering Systems and an MS in Technology and Policy from MIT, and a BS in Computer and Information Science from the University of Oregon.
Mark LeBel is Staff Attorney at Acadia Center, based in the Boston office. He works on electricity rate design, distributed energy resource compensation, grid modernization, and transportation issues, notably including electric vehicles. Mark is an appointed member of the Zero Emission Vehicle Commission in Massachusetts. He is the co-author of Charging Up, a joint report on regional electric vehicle policy, and of UtilityVision, Acadia Center’s roadmap for creating a fully integrated, flexible, and low-carbon energy grid. He has also led Acadia Center’s work in several electricity rate proceedings.

Mark holds a JD with honors from NYU and an AB with honors in Applied Mathematics with a focus in Economics from Harvard. Prior to law school, he was an Associate Analyst with NERA Economic Consulting in Boston.

Dr. Jonathan Raab has served as the convener and moderator of the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since 1995, and of the Energy Policy Roundtable in the PJM Footprint since 2016. A national leader in applying consensus building processes to energy, environmental, and regulatory issues, some of his major cases include the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI); the New England Demand Response Initiative (NEDRI); the Greenhouse Gas planning processes for the City of Boston, Maine, and Rhode Island; RPS rules for Massachusetts and Rhode Island; the energy plan for Tennessee; energy efficiency stakeholder processes in California, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts; market rules for Alberta; and Grid Modernization in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. He has also run stakeholder processes for U.S. DOE, U.S Fish & Wildlife, and U.S. EPA. Jonathan assisted both PJM and MISO in reforming their respective stakeholder processes.

Prior to establishing Raab Associates, Jonathan was the Assistant Director of the Electric Power Division at the Massachusetts DPU. He holds a Ph.D. from MIT, and an M.S. and A.B. from Stanford. He has taught courses at the University of Oregon, Stanford, UMass (Boston) and MIT and is the author of Using Consensus Building to Improve Utility Regulation.