



Transition from Gas; New Technologies; and Keynote from FERC Commissioner

Friday, December 8, 2023

Biographies of Speakers & Moderators



Commissioner Allison Clements joined the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in December 2020, following a range of public and private sector experience working in energy law and grid modernization policy. Prior to her current role, she worked at Energy Foundation, Goodgrid LLC, and Natural Resources Defense Council. She began her legal career in private practice at Troutman Sanders LLP and Chadbourne & Parke LLP. Over the course of her career, her clients have included utilities, independent power producers, developers, lenders, nonprofits, and philanthropies. Commissioner Clements has also served as a federal energy expert in several capacities, including as a member of a National Academies of Sciences committee on grid resilience and as a clinical visiting lecturer at Yale Law School.

She holds a BS from the University of Michigan and a JD from The George Washington University Law School.



Michael Stoddard is Executive Director at Efficiency Maine Trust, a quasi-state agency administering programs to lower energy costs and environmental impacts by increasing the use of cost-effective energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. Previously, he served as counsel and deputy director at the Acadia Center where he was principal co-author and editor of the Climate Change Roadmap for New England and Eastern Canada. He served on the Maine Energy Conservation Board, the Maine Governor's Energy Task Force and as co-chair of the Connecticut State Implementation Plan Revision Advisory Committee (SIPRAC). Prior to joining ENE, Michael consulted to the Conservation Law Foundation, the Clean Energy Group, the Clean Air Task Force, the Renewable Energy Alliance, and Green Mountain Energy.

Michael has a BA in Political Economy from Williams College and a JD from University of Maine School of Law. He serves on the board of E2Tech and the Psalmodi Foundation for Archeological Research.



Hudson Gilmer is the CEO and Co-Founder of LineVision. He has over a decade of experience developing innovative data and analytics services for the energy industry. He oversees a team of passionate energy and technology professionals dedicated to the company's mission of harnessing advanced sensors and analytics to improve the efficiency and resilience of power grids around the world. Prior to his work with LineVision, Hudson served in roles as Vice President, Commercial Markets at Genscape. Before that, he led commercial teams at EnvaPower and EnerNOC.

Hudson holds an MBA from MIT's Sloan School of Business and a BA in economics from the Trinity College at the University of Toronto.



Sarah Jackson Sarah Jackson is Form Energy's Policy Manager for the Eastern Region. In this role, she leads Form's policy and regulatory strategy on the East Coast to develop markets for multi-day energy storage. Before coming to Form, Sarah spent almost seven years working for The Nature Conservancy as the Northeast Climate & Energy Policy Manager, where she focused on the nexus between clean energy and conservation. Prior to working at TNC, Sarah was a senior consultant at Synapse Energy Economics, where her work focused on regional energy markets and the implications of state and federal environmental policies on our energy supply. In earlier roles, Sarah led regulatory and policy efforts in California's San Joaquin Valley related to energy and air quality issues and helped lead a coalition of advocates engaged in the effort to improve air quality and environmental justice in the region.

Sarah holds a master's in environmental law and policy from the Vermont Law & Graduate School and a bachelor's degree in English and Environmental Studies from Mount Holyoke College.



James (Jamie) Van Nostrand was appointed Chair of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities in May 2023. Prior to his appointment, Jamie was an endowed professor and director of the Center for Energy and Sustainable Development at West Virginia University Law School. He is the author of *THE COAL TRAP: HOW WEST VIRGINIA WAS LEFT BEHIND IN THE CLEAN ENERGY REVOLUTION* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). Before moving to WVU in July 2011, Jamie spent three years as a member of the adjunct faculty at the Pace University Law School and as Executive Director of the Pace Energy and Climate Center. Prior to his transition to law school teaching, he had a successful career in private law practice as a partner in the energy and environmental practice groups of two large law firms based in the Pacific Northwest (Perkins Coie LLP and Stoel Rives LLP). In his 22-year career in private practice, Jamie represented energy clients in state regulatory proceedings in eight western states, as well as proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Jamie was recognized by the Energy Bar Association as its 2007 State Regulatory Practitioner of the Year.

Jamie received his LL.M. in environmental law from Pace University Law School, his J.D. from the University of Iowa Law School, his master's in economics from SUNY Albany, and an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of Northern Iowa.



Mike Henchen, Principal at RMI, works to transform the U.S. building stock to a carbon-free future. His work includes engagement with the gas and electric utility sector to support the decarbonization transition of these businesses. He has led reports on principles for utility decarbonization, gas infrastructure expansion policies, regulatory solutions for buildings, and the economics of electrifying buildings. Mike also supports RMI's work to understand the health benefits of building decarbonization and solutions for the affordable housing sector. Prior to joining RMI, Mike was an engagement manager for McKinsey and Company in San Francisco. He worked primarily in the electric power sector serving major utilities on operations and strategy projects. Before this, Mike served as an officer in the US Army, deploying to Afghanistan with the 101st Airborne Division in 2008-2009.

Mike holds an MBA from Stanford University and a BS in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University.



Zeyneb Magavi is co-executive director of HEET, a nonprofit climate solutions incubator committed to emissions reduction through systems change. In 2017 she designed and helped to launch the GasToGeo initiative to drive rapid, efficient, and equitable decarbonization of heating and cooling through deployment of ambient temperature geothermal networks. She has convened an independent research team, *Learning from the Ground Up* (LeGUp), to study and learn from these first transitions. Together with a team from UC Berkeley, LBNL, NREL, MIT, Boston University, and BuroHappold, Zeyneb hopes to create open-source models, launch a standard data set and database, and learn how best to design, install, and scale the technology to maximize equity, affordability, safety, emissions reduction, resilience, and electric grid benefits. Before entering the sustainability world, Zeyneb led the development of several technological solutions to global health challenges in the developing world.

Zeyneb holds an undergraduate degree in physics from Brown and master's degrees in global health and sustainability from Harvard.



Nikki Bruno is Vice President of Clean Technologies in Eversource's gas business unit. She is responsible for advancing clean technologies within the Eversource gas business portfolio to help achieve the company's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2030, as well as supporting required statewide emissions reductions in Connecticut and Massachusetts. As part of her role, Nikki evaluates the feasibility of clean technologies, such as renewable natural gas, geothermal energy, methane reduction and hydrogen, and manages the development and execution of projects incorporating those clean technologies. Prior to this role, Nikki was Eversource's Director of Clean Technologies. Before joining Eversource, Nikki was a Project Director of Business Development for Enbridge. She was responsible for the development of new natural gas transmission ventures, services, and related energy projects in the Northeast region. She also managed the Enbridge commercial relationship with National Grid.

Nikki holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from Trinity College and a Master of Business Administration degree from the F.W. Olin School of Business at Babson College.



Janet Gail Besser is a nationally recognized energy policy and regulatory strategy expert, with experience as a regulator, clean energy business association leader, utility executive, developer, consultant, and consumer advocate. She has been moderating the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since the beginning of 2023. Prior to 2023, she led the Smart Electric Power Alliance's Regulatory and Business Innovation work as vice president. Previously, she was executive vice president of the Northeast Clean Energy Council; VP, Regulatory Strategy and Policy at National Grid; Chair and Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities; and an executive and expert at Analysis Group and Lexecon. She also held senior staff roles at the Massachusetts Energy Office and New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, was policy director for a national IPP association, and worked for a small hydro developer and low-income consumer advocate. Janet is the recipient of the 2019 Northeast Energy and Commerce Association Vanguard Award and the 2014 Northeast Women in Energy and the Environment Achievement Award. She recently chaired the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) Committee on the role of net metering in the evolving electricity system. She is the chair of the Power Options Board and serves on the VEIC Board, where she chairs the Impact and Evaluation Committee.

Janet has an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and a B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Williams College.



Dr. Jonathan Raab, convener of the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since 1995 (and moderator from 1995-2022). He convened and moderated the Energy Policy Roundtable in the PJM Footprint from 2005-2010. 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, the New England Demand Response Initiative; 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. He is currently the Moderator of the Joint Federal (FERC) and State (NARUC) Task Force on Electric Transmission and is the Liaison between the PJM Members and the PJM Board on matters related to the Independent Market Monitor. Prior to establishing Raab Associates, Jonathan was the Assistant Director of the Electric Power Division at the Massachusetts DPU.

Jonathan 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*.



Carol Holahan is a partner in Foley Hoag's Energy & Cleantech practice. She advises large, competitive regional generators and other participants in the wholesale and retail competitive electricity markets on regional policy initiatives, changing environmental regulations, decommissioning and sale of plants, and matters pending before the FERC. In addition to concentrating on traditional fossil fuel generation, Carol's practice includes renewable energy resources such as large solar, storage, and biomass. She has significant experience in the NEPOOL stakeholder process, and with legal challenges to new or existing laws and regulations, environmental permitting, facility siting, and assessment or limitations of liability due to the sale or retirement of generating facilities. Prior to joining to Foley Hoag, Carol was the Senior Director of Government Affairs at Dynegy, Inc. Before that, she served as Director of Government Affairs for the NEPGA, representing competitive power producers before state policy makers, regulators, and infrastructure siting boards. She also served as the Director of the Office of Legislative Services in New Hampshire.

Carol earned her JD, magna cum laude, from Suffolk Law School, and her BS from Georgetown.