

**Federal Utility Partnership Working Group Seminar
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Hosted by:
Edison Electric Institute



Speaker Biographies

David Batz

Edison Electric Institute

With over 20 years of electric company experience, David Batz brings significant industry knowledge in understanding and applying appropriate security solutions to address emerging threats and issues. In addition, Mr. Batz leverages a decade of energy regulatory compliance as well as physical security and cybersecurity policy experience and engagement with federal agencies, including the Department of Energy and the Department of Homeland Security.

He is a member of the SANS Institute Advisory Board and has served on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection Committee and CIPC-Executive Committee. Batz has authored various articles and presented at numerous events domestically and internationally on securing critical infrastructure, industrial systems, and cybersecurity standards. Mr. Batz is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and has multiple security certifications.

Marcia Bond

Alban CAT Power Systems

Marcia has been in the machinery support industry for over 30 years, covering diesel, petrol, and natural gas fueled equipment in the electric power, industrial, agricultural, and on-highway power systems sectors. She has been working for Alban CAT / Caterpillar, Inc. for the last 10 years, performing product support solutions consulting with Tier 1 Caterpillar accounts for the past 8 years in the DC and Baltimore Metro Areas. She enjoys spending leisure time with her husband and three children in outdoor activities.

Brendan Casey

U.S. Navy

Brendan Casey is the AFV program manager for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC). In this capacity, Mr. Casey strives to modernize the Navy's non-tactical vehicle operations with an emphasis on increasing vehicle fleet electrification and bridging the gap between shore energy policy and fleet management. Prior to joining NAVFAC, he worked in the transportation and mobility management sectors with an emphasis on environmental and energy impact reporting. Mr. Casey holds a master's in environmental policy from Lehigh University.

Steve Chriss

Walmart

Steve W. Chriss is Director, Energy Services, for Walmart, Inc. Steve is responsible for managing Walmart's regulatory and legislative cost exposure from changes in electric and natural gas rates, interventions in utility proceedings, pricing analyses, and renewable opportunities behind regulated utilities. Since 2007, he has managed interventions in over 400 regulatory dockets. Steve also serves as a witness on behalf of Walmart, and in his career has testified in over 190 rate and policy dockets in 39 states and on legislative matters in two states.

Prior to joining Walmart, Steve was an Economist and later Senior Utility Analyst for the Oregon Public Utility Commission from 2003 to 2007. From 2001 to 2003, Steve worked as an analyst on domestic and international energy regulatory projects for Econ One Research, Inc., an energy and economics consulting firm.

Katy Christiansen

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Katy Christiansen is a Project Manager in the Project Development and Finance Advisory Group at NREL leading resilience and sustainability efforts. She has over fifteen years of experience in strategic planning, project development, and analysis for the defense, federal, and non-profit sectors. Currently, Katy serves as a UESC training instructor for the Federal Energy Management Program and an energy assessment analyst for the Army Office of Energy Initiatives. Katy holds a Master of Science in Environmental Science and Policy from the Johns Hopkins University and Bachelor of Science degrees in Environmental Studies and Psychology from the University of Utah.

Phil Coleman

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Phil has worked at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory since 1996. In addition to working on behalf of FEMP on its ESPC program, he leads an effort to educate federal facilities on incentives for efficiency and renewable projects, demand response, and "rate-responsive" building operation. Outside of the federal domain, Phil researches avenues for promoting improved energy efficiency in commercial real estate. Internationally, he has worked with the governments of Mexico, India, Chile, and Jordan on developing public sector energy conservation programs.

Before joining the lab, Phil prepared market research for a fast-growth alternative air-conditioning company and conducted residential audits and program evaluations for an energy consulting firm. He holds a Master of Science in energy management and policy from the University of Pennsylvania.

Mark Correll

U.S. Air Force

Mr. Mark Correll, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety and Infrastructure. He provides executive leadership on all matters pertaining to formulation, review and execution of plans, policies, programs and budgets for Air Force built and natural infrastructure, environmental, installation energy, safety and occupational health programs. These include facility management, military construction, utilities privatization, energy security, environmental compliance and restoration, occupational safety and workplace health. Mr. Correll was commissioned in the Air Force in 1981 as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, earning a

degree in civil engineering. He retired in 2010 in the rank of colonel and was appointed to the Senior Executive Service. Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Correll served as the Air Force Deputy Civil Engineer.

McKinley Cunningham

Duke Energy

McKinley Cunningham leads federal support projects at Duke Energy. He focuses on helping federal agencies meet their energy-related goals—particularly energy efficiency and resiliency objectives—through the use of Duke’s General Services Administration (GSA) Areawide Public Utility Contract and other appropriate contract vehicles.

McKinley’s background includes experience in federal contract, operations, and program management as well as organizational leadership. Prior to joining Duke Energy in 2013, he served 20 years in the Army, focused on logistics, and five years in the aerospace/defense industry, focused on business development and project management. McKinley holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland and a Master of Business Administration from Thomas More College. He also holds the Certified Energy Manager (CEM) credential from the Association of Energy Engineers.

Alex Fitzsimmons

Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Alex Fitzsimmons is Chief of Staff for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) at the U.S. Department of Energy and the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency (DAS-EE). In his role as Chief of Staff, Alex leads strategic planning, policy and communications, supporting the Assistant Secretary in advancing the mission of the office. In his role as Acting DAS-EE, Alex leads a diverse energy efficiency program and research portfolio that includes advanced manufacturing, buildings, federal energy management, low income weatherization, and intergovernmental partnerships. As part of EERE's senior leadership, he implements and advances administration priorities and initiatives that increase energy affordability, productivity, and resiliency of the built environment. Prior to joining the Department of Energy, Alex worked on energy policy for a variety of D.C.-based organizations, including the Institute for Energy Research, where he served as the Policy Director managing energy and environmental issues at the state and federal level. Alex is a graduate of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Tripp Hathaway

Hannah Solar Government Services

Tripp serves as Sales & Marketing Manager at Hannah Solar Government Services and is responsible for developing design-build solutions in solar photovoltaic (PV), energy storage, and microgrid systems for commercial and federal energy users. He graduated from Clemson University with a degree in Management and Military Leadership. Tripp has three years of experience in the construction industry, eleven years of experience in the solar industry, and eleven years’ time in service with the South Carolina Army National Guard. His solar experience includes travel to Africa on five different occasions installing remote, off-grid solar PV systems in rural Uganda and Tanzania as part of a humanitarian mission. Tripp is a Captain in the National Guard and has been on two operational deployments with service in Kosovo, Germany, Poland, and Turkey.

Bruce Hedman

Entropy Research, LLC

Bruce Hedman, Managing Director of Entropy Research, LLC, has over 35 years of experience in combined heat and power (CHP) and distributed generation technologies, markets, and policies. He has worked extensively with public and private clients to analyze the opportunity for distributed generation technologies and identify regulatory and institutional hurdles to market development. He has provided technical support and strategic guidance to the U.S. Department of Energy's CHP Technical Assistance Partnerships program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's CHP Partnership. Dr. Hedman has also worked with a variety of states analyzing the opportunities for and barriers to CHP and distributed generation.

Scott Houldsworth

Marine Corps Installations Command Facility Operations and Energy (GF-PW)

Over the past thirteen years, Mr. Houldsworth has served as the Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps / Marine Corps Installations Command (MCICOM) Facilities Energy Management Program Manager and Action Officer. He is responsible for establishing policy and obtaining resources to ensure the Marine Corps implements a proactive approach to improve its energy security posture and mitigate unacceptable risks to critical energy requirements through the use of integrated planning, coordination, and targeted investments in reliable, efficient, and resilient infrastructure solutions. He successfully implemented a significant paradigm shift from solely promoting energy efficiency and conservation to a program that emphasizes the importance of energy security and installation resilience.

Kinga Porst Hydras

General Services Administration

Kinga Porst Hydras is a High-Performance Building Expert in the GSA Office of Federal High-Performance Buildings, with particular focus on energy efficiency programs, sub-metering, grid integrated buildings, renewable energy, and indoor environmental quality. She has been working to improve the use of Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs) in the federal government, forming public-private partnerships to achieve deep energy retrofits in existing buildings. Kinga's work helped GSA award close to \$600 million in ESPCs since 2012 and double the archived energy savings. Kinga has an MBA from Case Western Reserve University and a Master of Engineering from the Technical University of Budapest. Kinga is a Certified Energy Manager (CEM) and a LEED-AP.

Steve Kiesner

Edison Electric Institute

Steve Kiesner is Senior Director of National Customer Solutions for the Edison Electric Institute. At EEI, Steve runs its National Key Accounts Program, which works to enhance opportunities and the overall business environment between EEI members and their large, multi-site national customers, including large chains, the Department of Defense, and technology companies. The program also serves as a clearinghouse of information about the industry to national customers. Under Steve's leadership, EEI serves as the platform for its members and multi-site national customers to engage one other: conduct business, develop mutually beneficial business models and approaches, and discuss important policy issues. Steve is also responsible for federal government and Department of Defense customer issues, including energy resiliency, federal contracting, and efficiency.

Thomas Kuhn

Edison Electric Institute

Tom Kuhn is President of the Edison Electric Institute, the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. EEI's members provide electricity to Americans in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In addition, EEI has 70 international electric companies as International Members, and 270 industry suppliers and related organizations as Associate Members.

Prior to joining EEI, Tom was president of the American Nuclear Energy Council, which represented virtually all of the companies in the commercial nuclear power industry. Previously, he headed the energy section of an investment banking firm. He served in the Navy for four years and was White House Liaison Officer to the Secretary of the Navy. Tom received a BA in Economics from Yale University and an MBA from George Washington University. He also completed the Stanford University Graduate School of Business Senior Executive Program.

Giuls Kunkel

DC Sustainable Energy Utility

Giuliana (Giuls) Kunkel is the DCSEU's Senior Account Manager for Universities and for the Federal Government. Giuls works closely with both of these groups in reaching organizational sustainability goals, planning capital projects, and improving existing facilities. She also works with project teams to determine innovative solutions for their buildings and provides third party assistance when working with energy service companies (ESCOs). Giuls also works on strategic new initiatives at the DCSEU, including the development of its Pay for Performance program and its programs surrounding DC's Building Energy Performance Standards. Giuls has been at the DCSEU for four years; prior to that, she worked at The Tower Companies and a local renewable energy supplier. Giuls serves on the U.S. Green Building Council National Capital Region's Market Leadership Advisory Board and is accredited as a Certified Energy Manager (CEM) and as a LEED AP O+M.

Jim Libertini

Baltimore Gas and Electric

Jim Libertini is a product manager for BGE's commercial and industrial energy conservation programs. In this role, he oversees the Combined Heat and Power Program as well as the Custom and Prescriptive programs to help customers improve their overall energy efficiency. Jim has over 30 years' experience in HVAC systems and building automation controls, implementing energy control strategies for commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities. He specializes in application design, installations, start-up, and building commissioning. He holds a B.S. in Environmental Planning from Towson University.

Walter Ludwig

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment - Energy

Mr. Walter Ludwig currently serves as the Director of Energy Performance at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Sustainment, where he manages several programs, including Installation Energy Planning, the Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program (ERCIP), DoD third-party financing, Utilities Privatization, and metering. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Master of Business Administration from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a registered professional engineer in Georgia and a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps.

Crystall Merlino

Department of Homeland Security

Crystall Merlino is currently the Energy and Resilience Program Manager for the Department of Homeland Security. As the director of this program, she is responsible for implementing policy and guidance for the Department on resilience and energy related matters. Previously, she was a Senior Program Manager in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Installation Energy. Her portfolio spanned energy efficiency, renewable energy and distributed generation, and utilities privatization. Over the past 23 years she has led and supported large-scale government, energy, and environmental programs and projects, providing leadership, mentorship, contract management, research, and technical support to government and private clients. Crystall is a LEEP Green Associate, a member of the USGBC National Capital Region Chapter, was one of the original founding members and a board member for the Building Commissioning Association, and is a member of the Women's Council on Energy and Environment (WCEE).

Tracy Niro

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Tracy Niro is the Utility Partnerships Program Manager at the U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). Tracy chairs FEMP's Federal Utility Partnership Working Group (FUPWG) and is a recognized expert in federal energy procurement, alternatively financed projects, performance contracts, and federal energy policy. Tracy began her career in energy as a Staff Accountant at an investor-owned utility. Tracy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and earned her Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Vicky Pillitteri

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Victoria Yan Pillitteri is a senior computer scientist in the Computer Security Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Ms. Pillitteri is the team lead of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) Implementation Project and is responsible for the development of the suite of standards and guidelines for managing information security risk in the federal government. She previously worked on the Cybersecurity Framework, led the NIST Smart Grid and Cyber Physical Systems Cybersecurity Research Programs, served as Chair of the Federal Computer Security Managers' Forum, and completed a detail in the office of the NIST Director as an IT Policy Advisor. Ms. Pillitteri holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, a M.S in Computer Science, with a concentration in Information Assurance, from the George Washington University, and is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP).

Ken Sandler

General Services Administration

Ken Sandler has shaped federal research, policy, and communications on sustainability through his work at 5 different agencies over the past 28 years. He has been a leader on sustainable building policy for the past 2 decades, helping advance federal practices to the point that they exceed commercial building performance. Ken is a High-Performance Building Advisor to the General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Federal High-Performance Buildings. He recently concluded a detail to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Building Technologies Office, where he managed research funding competitions and directed research on topics including systems-based retrofits. His GSA portfolio has included co-chairing the Interagency Sustainability Working Group and managing GSA's Green Building Advisory Committee,

which has produced policy papers on topics including building-grid integration. Ken holds a master's degree in Political Science and is a Ph.D. candidate in Environmental Science & Policy.

Kellen Schefter

Edison Electric Institute

Kellen Schefter is Director of Electric Transportation at the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the association for U.S. investor-owned electric companies. At EEI, Kellen focuses on accelerating transportation electrification, including policy advocacy, business model development, and cross-industry coordination. He previously worked at plug-in electric vehicle manufacturer Fisker Automotive, and prior to that, the Vehicle Technologies Office at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Stacey Simms

Xcel Energy

Stacey started her energy career after serving overseas in the Peace Corps in El Salvador in the early 2000s. Stacey's professional life has included program management, working with alternative transportation fuels, commercial energy efficiency, renewable energy generation, energy policy, and utility programs. Her path has gone through public and private sector entities, with her longest time spent at the Governor's Energy Office for the State of Colorado. Currently with Xcel Energy, Stacey is the Senior Portfolio Manager taking the lead for EV Fleet Strategy and Programs, working to increase fleet electrification and bring down the cost of EV projects. When not working, she is chasing her four-year-old twins around parks, libraries, and the Colorado trails.

Lara Spader

Department of Veterans Affairs

Lara (Gast) Spader works at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) within the Energy Management Program Service. She is the Program Manager for VA's nationwide Energy Performance Contracting Program, which includes both ESPCs and UESCs. Ms. Spader joined VA in 2011 as a Presidential Management Fellow working in the Enhanced-Use Leasing Program, then at the White House Council on Environmental Quality within the Office of Federal Sustainability (previously the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive). Ms. Spader is a Certified Energy Manager and received her Master of Business Administration from the George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science in Management from Boston University.

Michael Starke

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Michael Starke is a Power Systems Integration Researcher at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He has been at ORNL for over 10 years, performing research in different areas of power systems analysis. He received his B.S, M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering at The University of Tennessee in 2004, 2006, and 2009, respectively. He is a member of IEEE and of the Power and Energy Society, with over 50 publications in power systems and power electronics. His research areas have been primarily focused on energy storage, load control, and microgrids, but he has been actively engaged in wind and solar generation research as well. In the microgrid area of research, he has led a team that developed an open source microgrid controller called CSEISMIC, which is currently being utilized in a number of demonstration projects. He has also led a team that has successfully constructed a secondary use energy storage system composed of Nissan batteries for deployment with Habitat.

Maryanne Strobel

Philadelphia Gas Works

Maryanne Strobel has over 35 years' experience in energy, including 22 years at PGW. Currently, she serves as Director, Strategic Initiatives, and is charged with developing programs to advance competitive-edge solutions for the company. Maryanne's team has helped PGW customers secure over \$3 million in energy grants and rebates to advance CHP and other natural gas technologies. For the past 10 years, Maryanne has led PGW's enterprise Public Sector Program. Among PGW's successful UESC projects was a \$21 million steam decentralization project with the U.S. Navy, which generated a new \$3 million revenue stream for the utility. Maryanne served in public sector positions at the White House, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Energy, and GSA. She also worked for Air Products & Chemicals and Chevron Oil. Today, Maryanne serves as Region 1 Vice President, Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), and on the board of the AEE Council on Women in Energy & Environmental Leadership. She also on the board of the Building Industry Association of Philadelphia.

Wayne Thalasinis

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Wayne Thalasinis is one of two NASA Headquarters engineers jointly responsible for coordinating the agency's energy program. From the Facilities and Real Estate Division, he supports Field Center implementation efforts to minimize energy risk to mission and comply with federal energy requirements. Prior to his current role, Wayne served as the NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Energy Manager from August 1996 through February 2005. In this role, he led KSC's energy efficiency and cost reduction program.

Wayne began his NASA career participating in high school and college student programs. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management, both from the University of Central Florida. He became a Certified Energy Manager in 2001 and maintains membership in the Association of Energy Engineers. Wayne was raised in Goldenrod, Florida, and now resides in Columbia, Maryland, with his wife and their children.

Karen Thomas

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Karen Thomas is the national laboratory lead for the Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Utility Energy Services Contract (UESC) program. She is an expert advisor in supporting federal agency development of UESC projects. Karen developed curriculum and leads instruction of the internationally accredited UESC training courses for federal agencies and regulated utilities. She works with utilities to build new partnerships and grow the number of utilities offering UESC programs. Before coming to NREL in 1994, she spent 16 years designing distribution systems and serving as a rate analyst at a large investor-owned utility. Karen holds a B.S. in Business Administration and Marketing from Morgan State University and pursued her M.B.A. at Howard University.

Deb Vásquez

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

As one of FEMP's UESC subject matter experts, Deb provides direct technical support and UESC training to federal agencies and utilities developing UESC projects; has led the development of the UESC Guide, the Performance Planning for UESC document, the UESC Report Template; and is providing continued support in developing the technical content for the basic, advanced, and comprehensive UESC trainings.

Prior to working with NREL, Deb was a mechanical and facilities engineer and Regional Energy Program Manager for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Jacob Vigil

DLA Energy

Jacob Vigil is a Supervising Contracting Officer at the Defense Logistics Agency Energy (DLA Energy), Electricity, Renewables, and Energy Branch. Jacob is responsible for the administration and award of Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPC) and Utility Energy Service Contracts (UESC) on behalf of a Military Service. Prior to this role, he spent seven years as a Contract Specialist and Contracting Officer purchasing installation energy and fuel services worldwide at DLA Energy. Jacob is certified for contracting at Level III under the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, holds an unlimited Contracting Officer's Warrant, and is a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps.

Jay Wrobel

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Jay is the U.S. Department of Energy FEMP Manager of Facility & Fleet Optimization, where his team supports federal agencies in meeting energy-related goals, implementing advanced technologies, and providing energy leadership through federal best practices. He has over 15 years of experience in the energy industry and holds degrees from Boston University and the University of Chicago.