

CFEE Energy Summit

Going Beyond Goal Setting to Goal Getting - How Will We Do It?

March 3-4, 2022

PANELISTS

Session 1

Fossil Fueling the Present: What's In the Future?

Liane Randolph

Chair
California Air Resources Board

Liane Randolph was appointed Chair of the California Air Resources Board by Governor Gavin Newsom in December 2020. Starting in 2015, Randolph served six years as a Commissioner at the California Public Utilities Commission and managed numerous decisions on energy efficiency, integrated energy resource planning, and regulation of transportation network companies, as well as spearheading significant Commission policy reforms.

Prior to the PUC, Randolph served from 2011 to 2014 as Deputy Secretary and General Counsel at the California Natural Resources Agency, where she worked on a wide variety of legal and policy issues, including work on the Klamath Dam Removal agreement, CEQA guidelines, and the Agency's first Tribal Consultation Policy.

Randolph's first role with the State was as Chair of the California Fair Political Practices Commission from 2003 to 2007. Her work at the state level builds on experience with local government that she gained while practicing municipal law as a contract City Attorney for the Cities of San Leandro and Suisun City.

Randolph earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law.



Simon Pang

Materials Scientist
Materials for Energy and Climate Group
Lawrence Livermore Labs

Simon is interested in development and implementation of materials and technologies for carbon capture, the interface between carbon capture technologies with carbon conversion to develop a circular carbon economy, and systems analysis for carbon and energy technologies. He leads DOE-funded projects spanning topics from fundamental investigations of carbon capture materials degradation mechanisms to development of hybrid reactive capture processes that integrate carbon capture and conversion. He leads the Carbon Capture pillar of the LLNL Carbon Initiative.

Simon earned a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Colorado, Boulder.



Cathy Reheis-Boyd

President and CEO

Western States Petroleum Association

Catherine Reheis-Boyd has served as the President of the Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA) since January 1, 2010. She oversees the trade organization's operations and advocacy in five Western states – California, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, and Oregon.



As part of her 37 years of experience in the oil industry, Ms. Reheis-Boyd worked for an environmental consulting firm on various projects before joining Getty Oil and Texaco, working on environmental compliance at the Kern River Field in Bakersfield, California.

Ms. Reheis-Boyd received her Bachelors of Science degree in Natural Resource Management from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and pursued postgraduate studies in environmental engineering at the University of Southern California.

Virgil Welch

Executive Director

California Carbon Capture Coalition

Virgil is currently the executive director of California Carbon Capture Coalition which is a nonpartisan collaboration of more than 80 businesses and organizations building federal policy support to enable economy wide, commercial scale deployment of carbon capture technologies, which includes carbon capture, removal, transport, utilization, and storage from industrial facilities, power plants, and ambient air.



Mr. Welch holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of North Texas and a Master of Public Affairs and Juris Doctor from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the California State Bar.

Michael Colvin

Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

California Energy & Policy Markets

Environmental Defense Fund

Michael's work focuses on building decarbonization, gas utility business models, wholesale electricity markets and transportation electrification matters. Across each of these issues, Michael's focuses on minimizing investment risk and aligning utility incentives with affordable, clean and safe energy services. Prior to joining EDF, Michael spent 10 years at the California Public Utilities Commission working on various energy and utility safety matters.



Michael holds a Masters in Public Policy and a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Economics, both from the University of California, Berkeley.

Session 2

Say Hello to Hydrogen – A Versatile Fuel Prepares to Take Off

Jack Brouwer

Director

**National Fuel Cell Research Center and Advanced Power and Energy Program
University of California, Irvine**



Brouwer's research focuses upon high-temperature electrochemical dynamics and integrated renewable energy systems including fuel cells, electrolyzers, batteries, gas turbines, and solar and wind power. Brouwer is recognized for research and development of the world's first integrated hybrid solid oxide fuel cell gas turbine system, the world's first renewable high temperature fuel cell system for tri-generation of hydrogen, heat, and power, the world's first direct DC powering of data center servers with a fuel cell, and the U.S. first renewable power-to-gas hydrogen injection into the natural gas system and subsequent conversion to decarbonized electricity in a combined cycle power plant.

Brouwer received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Maryam Brown

President

Southern California Gas Company



Prior to joining Sempra in 2016, Brown served as the senior energy and environment counsel for the Office of the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. From 2011 to 2012, she was the energy chief counsel for the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce. From 2010 to 2011, she was policy counsel for the U.S. Senate's Republican Policy Committee. Before that, she was manager of public policy and strategic planning for ConocoPhillips.

Brown holds both a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a law degree (Order of the Coif) from Louisiana State University.

Tom Baca

International VP of the Western States

Boilermakers Union



J. Tom Baca began his Boilermaker career as a field construction worker in 1969. A member of Local 549 (Pittsburg, California), Baca worked his way up the ranks, from steward to job superintendent, earning an appointment as an assistant business manager in 1994. He has served as both trustee and chairman of trustees on the Local 549 executive board and became business manager/secretary-treasurer for Local 549 in March 2005.

A third-generation Boilermaker, Baca has been president of both the Contra Costa Building Trades and Central Labor Council, and a member of the executive board for that area's NAACP chapter.

Baca was appointed union trustee to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust in 2005. He also served on the Law Committee for the 31st Consolidated Convention in July 2006.

On February 1, 2007, he became International vice president of the Western States.

Rachel Fakhry

Policy Analyst

Climate & Clean Energy Program

Natural Resources Defense Council



Rachel Fakhry is an analyst for the Climate & Clean Air and Midwest programs and is involved with multiple NRDC modeling efforts. She also focuses on policy efforts that enable the increased deployment of clean energy in NRDC's midwestern focal states. Prior to her current role, Fakhry was a Schneider Fellow in NRDC's Washington, D.C., office, where she focused on state Clean Power Plan compliance, supporting strong federal energy efficiency policies, and defending the U.S. Department of Energy's clean energy budget.

She holds a bachelor's degree in civil and environmental engineering from the American University of Beirut and a master's in management science and engineering from Stanford University.

Teresa Cooke

Executive Director

California Hydrogen Coalition



Teresa Cooke founded the California Hydrogen Coalition and as the executive director, she helps the group advocate and create impact on a range of issues including hydrogen as a transportation fuel for the light and heavy duty vehicle sectors, energy storage and business collaboration. Her clients have included one of the country's largest energy producers, investor owned-utilities, major automobile manufacturers as well as interests related to travel and tourism before the State Legislature, Governor's Office and regulatory agencies. Teresa draws on her work on emerging technologies, environmental compliance, labor and tax policy to provide comprehensive counsel for her clients' most complicated issues.

Session 3

Not Out Of the Woods Yet-The Reliability Risk Remains Real

Elliot Mainzer

President & CEO

CAISO



The ISO is responsible for managing the flow of electricity that serves 80 percent of California and a small portion of Nevada. The CAISO also runs a real-time energy market for utilities in eight western US states and conducts reliability coordinator services for most balancing authorities in the West.

Mr. Mainzer is committed to using leading-edge policies and new technologies to accelerate California's drive towards the reliable decarbonization of its electric power grid. He started in his new role at the ISO on September 30, 2020 following a successful 18-year career at the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) where he was at the forefront of transformational changes in the western electricity market.

Shana Lazerow

Legal Director

Communities for a Better Environment

Shana has worked as a public interest lawyer and advocate since 1999. Her focus has been on enforcing environmental laws and advocating before administrative agencies to secure meaningful environmental protection statewide. Shana holds a B.A. from University of Pennsylvania and a J.D. from UCLA School of Law. In addition to her advocacy, Shana has taught at Stanford Law School.



Brent Buffington

Principal Manager of Integrated Resource Planning

Southern California Edison

Brent is responsible for development of SCE's plan to reliability supply customers with clean and affordable energy. Previously, he was a manager in SCE's Generation Asset Management organization, responsible for the optimization and commercial operation of SCE's diverse generation fleet. Brent has also held several analytical, operational, and leadership positions within the areas of energy procurement and energy market operations at SCE.

He holds both a Bachelor's degree in Mathematical Economics and Master's Degree in Economics from California State University, Long Beach.



Dawn Weisz

Chief Executive Officer

MCE Clean Energy

Dawn Weisz is the CEO for Marin Clean Energy and she coordinated efforts to explore, develop and launch MCE as the first Community Choice Aggregation program in California. Under her watch MCE has launched service to over 170,000 customers in 17 communities, entered into power supply agreements that have doubled the amount of renewable energy purchased in the region, initiated numerous local renewable generation projects, and achieved greenhouse gas reductions through energy efficiency and by exceeding state requirements for renewable energy supply. Weisz has more than 20 years of experience developing and managing renewable energy and energy efficiency programs while working for leading public agencies in the field. Before joining MCE, Weisz managed energy and sustainability initiatives for the County of Marin, served as the Executive Director for Sustainable North Bay, and was a labor and environmental justice organizer in Los Angeles.



Session 4

The Missing Link – The Needed Evolution for Our Transmission System

Jan Smutney

**Chief Executive Officer
Independent Energy Producers Association**

Mr. Smutny-Jones has represented IEP since 1987. He has been a pivotal player in the California restructuring efforts, market reform, global climate change, and renewable energy policies. He served as Chair of the Governing Board of the California Independent System Operator, was a member of the Governing Board of the California Power Exchange, and he served on the Board of Directors for the Renewable Certification Program, "Green-E". He also served as a member of the California Air Resources Board's Economic and Technology Advancement Advisory Committee for Climate Change, and is an active member of the Yolo Basin Foundation. Mr. Smutny-Jones is a graduate of Loyola Law School and is a member of the American, California State and Sacramento County Bar Associations. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from California State University, Long Beach, and he holds a certificate in Environmental Management from the University of Southern California.



Molly Sterkel

**Program Manager
CPUC**

Molly Sterkel is a Program Manager in the Energy Division at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with responsibility for the Electric Planning and Market Design Branch. She is currently on Special Assignment to focus on Summer Reliability issues for the Commission where she is lead staffer for the Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force. Molly has served in various California clean energy policy leadership roles for over 2 decades, including serving as a management lead for the Commission's work on Integrated Resource Planning, transmission siting and permitting, and distributed resource planning.



Mark Toney

**Executive Director
The Utility Reform Network (TURN)**

Mark Toney has served as executive director of The Utility Reform Network (TURN) since 2008. TURN promotes affordable green energy and phone service through legal advocacy, grassroots organizing, and policy campaigns. Toney's leadership defeated an anti-consumer statewide initiative despite being outspent \$46 million to \$120,000, expanding LifeLine discounts to wireless phones and including diverse communities in policy efforts.

Toney has earned a B.A. in political science from Brown University and a Ph.D. in sociology from UC Berkeley.



Cameron Yourkowski

**Regulatory and Market Affairs Manager
EDP Renewables**

Cameron has 15 years of experience working on renewable energy policy issues in the West. His work focuses on renewable energy integration, market design, and promoting transmission and interconnection access for renewable energy generation, including solar, wind, storage, and offshore wind.



Session 5

Looking to Policymakers for Leadership and Legislation – What’s the Plan?

Eduardo Garcia

**Chair
Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy**

Eduardo Garcia proudly represents California's 56th Assembly District, which includes cities and unincorporated communities in eastern Riverside County and Imperial County, including Blythe, Brawley, Bermuda Dunes, Calexico, Calipatria, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, Indio, Mecca, Oasis, North Shore, Salton Sea, Thermal, Thousand Palms, and Westmorland.

Included in this string of success was SB 32 and AB 197, the historic climate change package that established landmark state emission reduction mandate, boosted oversight and transparency of the Air Resources Board while constructing the framework to ensure future climate policies prioritize investments into disadvantaged communities that are most affected by pollution.

Garcia completed the "Senior Executives in State and Local Government" Public Administration program from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and earned a Master's Degree from the University of Southern California School of Policy, Planning and Development.



Alice Reynolds

President

California Public Utilities Commission

Prior to her appointment, by Governor Gavin Newsom, President Reynolds served for three years as Newsom's senior advisor for energy. From 2011 to January 2019, she served in the administration of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., most recently as the Governor's senior advisor for climate, the environment and energy and previously as chief counsel and deputy secretary for law enforcement at the California Environmental Protection Agency. During her time at CalEPA, she coordinated statewide multi-agency environmental enforcement actions and led the creation of the agency's environmental justice task force and refinery safety task force.



President Reynolds holds a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a juris doctor degree from Santa Clara University School of Law where she graduated magna cum laude.

David Hochschild

Chair

California Energy Commission

Chair Hochschild's career has spanned public service, environmental advocacy, and the private sector. He first got involved in the solar energy field in 2001 in San Francisco as a special assistant to Mayor Willie Brown where he launched a citywide \$100 million initiative to put solar panels on public buildings. He also cofounded the Vote Solar Initiative, a 60,000-member advocacy organization promoting solar policies at the local, state, and federal levels. He was executive director of a national consortium of leading solar manufacturers and worked for five years at Solaria, a solar company in Silicon Valley. From 2007 to 2008, he served as a commissioner at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.



Chair Hochschild holds a bachelor of arts from Swarthmore College and a master of public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Hunter Stern

Asst. Business Manager

I.B.E.W. Local Union 1245

Hunter Stern plays a key role for IBEW Local 1245 members by developing and coordinating local, state and federal energy and worker friendly policy. Mr. Stern is responsible for protecting the interests of his members employed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, NV Energy, Sacramento Municipal Utility District and 35 other utilities in California and Nevada, as well as workers for line and line clearance tree trimming contractors employed by these utilities. Stern joined Local 1245 in 1994, and has built an extensive knowledge of state and federal legislative and regulatory issues and the design and implementation of clean energy policies.



In 1984, Hunter earned his B.A. in Political Science from Brown University.