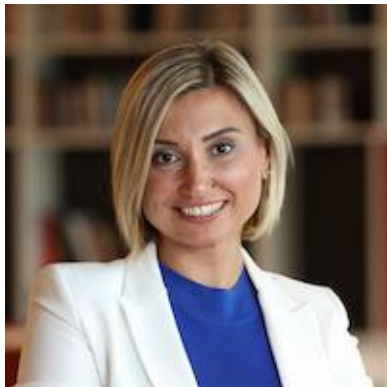




Northwestern University Electricity Dialogue
on
“The Resilient West: Managing the
Many Electricity Challenges”

Hyatt Centric Park City (Park City, Utah)
Thursday, December 4 - Friday, December 5, 2025

Participant Biographies



ILKAY ALTINTAŞ a research scientist at the University of California San Diego, is the Chief Data Science Officer of the San Diego Supercomputer Center as well as a Founding Fellow of the Halıcıoğlu Data Science Institute. She is the Founding Director of the Workflows for Data Science (WoRDS) Center of Excellence and the WIFIRE Lab. The WoRDS Center specializes in the development of methods, cyberinfrastructure, and workflows for computational data science and its translation to practical applications. The WIFIRE Lab is focused on artificial intelligence methods for an all-hazards knowledge

cyberinfrastructure, becoming a management layer from the data collection to modeling efforts, and has achieved significant success in helping to manage wildfires. Since joining SDSC in 2001, she has been a principal investigator and a technical leader in a wide range of cross-disciplinary projects. With a specialty in scientific workflows, she leads collaborative teams to deliver impactful results through making computational data science work more reusable, programmable, scalable, and reproducible. Her work has been applied to many scientific and societal domains including bioinformatics, geoinformatics, high-energy physics, multi-scale biomedical science, smart cities, and smart manufacturing. She is also a popular MOOC instructor in the field of “big” data science and has reached more than a million learners across the globe. Among the awards she has received are the 2015 IEEE TCSC Award for Excellence in Scalable Computing for Early Career Researchers and the 2017 ACM SIGHPC Emerging Woman Leader in Technical Computing Award. Dr. Altıntaş received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.



MICHELE BECK is the Director of the Utah Office of Consumer Services. Serving as Utah's utility consumer advocate since 2007, she represents and advocates on behalf of Utah's residential and small commercial consumers of public utilities. In addition to state utility regulatory work, Ms. Beck focus includes regional energy markets and electric reliability issues. Ms. Beck's other current professional responsibilities include: Executive Committee of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), Smart Energy Power Alliance Research (SEPA) Advisory Council, Critical Consumer Issues Forum Advisory Committee, consumer advocate sector representative on the Formation and Launch Committee of the West-Wide Governance

Pathways Initiative, and end-use representative on the Member Advisory Committee of WECC. Prior to her work in Utah, Ms. Beck worked for over a decade in various positions in the electric industry in the Midwest.



ERIC BLANK was appointed Chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission on December 11, 2020, by Governor Jared Polis for a four-year term effective January 12, 2021. His term expires in January of 2025.

Blank, a lawyer and economist from Boulder, has worked on electric utility and clean energy issues for over 35 years in a diverse range of entrepreneurial, business, and non-profit settings.

In 2000, Blank co-founded a pioneering national renewable energy development company, which he ran until three years ago. Blank helped commercialize first wind and then later solar technologies by building some of the earliest and largest clean energy projects outside of California. All told, he has developed 2,000 MW of operating wind and solar projects, representing \$4 billion in invested capital.

Blank spent most of the 1990s leading the energy work of a non-profit environmental group, now called Western Resource Advocates. Through PUC interventions in six western states, he helped develop some of the first policies that made utility clean energy investments initially feasible and ultimately cost-effective. Prior to that, Blank was a consultant preparing utility capacity expansion and dispatch modeling studies.

Blank holds a law degree from Yale Law School and a master's in economics from the London School of Economics.



CAMERON BROOKS is the Founder and President of E9 Insight. He also serves as President of Tolerable Planet Enterprises, an advisory firm that provides a unique combination of regulatory engagement, business development and policy strategy. In these capacities, he has worked with organizations including the U.S. Department of Energy, Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, Google, Energy Foundation, Sunverge, Environmental Defense, Tendril, Varentec, Navigant Research, Mission:data, Gridwise Alliance, Virgin Unite and the Smart Grid Consumer Collaborative.

A seasoned executive, Cameron has deep experience with public policy, capital markets and electricity regulation that give him a unique ability to craft and lead innovative solutions. Most recently, Cameron was Vice President of Policy for Tendril, a leading consumer smart grid technology company. At Tendril, Cameron was responsible for all utility commission interactions, government relations and stakeholder engagement. Previously, he was Vice President of Resource Development at Renewable Choice Energy, a full-service provider of renewable energy credits and carbon offsets. Additionally, Cameron led investment outreach programs for the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) and Clean Energy Group (CEG), a coalition of state-level public benefit funds with over \$4 billion of committed capital for clean energy commercialization. Cameron focused on outreach to venture and institutional investors, including forming a network of investment officers from 30 public pensions, endowments and institutional investors with over \$1 trillion in assets to develop clean energy strategies for their portfolios.

Cameron is a graduate of Yale University and holds an MBA from Cornell University. He and his family live in Boulder, Colorado.



STACEY CROWLEY is the Vice President of External Affairs for the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). She is responsible for delivering the organization's communications strategy, developing strategic partnerships and overseeing governmental relations at the state, regional and federal levels. She also manages coordination with the EIM Governing Body and its committees to facilitate quality engagement and dialogue with stakeholders on a variety of western energy issues.

Ms. Crowley's strength in developing partnerships and fostering consensus grew in her previous role as the Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Energy and advisor to Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval. There, she helped define important energy opportunities in the state and worked to build enduring and effective regional partnerships. She implemented federal grant programs and economic incentive regulations for clean energy projects, served as Chair of the Western Interstate Energy Board and served on the board of the National Association of State Energy Officials.

She is also a former practicing architect who specialized in environmental sustainability and client engagement, and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from the University of Michigan and Masters of Architecture from the University of New Mexico. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Tahoe Fund, a non-profit dedicated to enhancing the extraordinary environment of the Lake Tahoe Basin.



SARAH E. EDMONDS, President and CEO, Northwest Power Pool Corporation, doing business as the Western Power Pool (WPP), was selected in 2022 to be President and CEO of WPP. WPP is a nonprofit corporation that helps coordinate electric grid operations and grid planning for the western United States and Canada. The WPP supports the activities of the Northwest Power Pool, which includes major utilities, generators, and energy managers who together work for increased grid efficiency and reliability, including WPP's administration of the regional resource adequacy program (WRAP), which seeks to enhance and increase reliability for entities across the footprint, and facilitation of the Western Transmission Expansion Coalition (WestTEC), a west-wide transmission planning initiative.

Prior to joining WPP, Ms. Edmonds spent nearly 11 years with PacifiCorp, starting as legal counsel, moving to director of transmission, before being named VP and general counsel. She moved to PGE in 2018 where she served as director of transmission and

reliability. In these roles, she was responsible for development of strategy and policy recommendations relating to market expansion, regional resource adequacy development, emerging regional and national wholesale policy initiatives, and transmission planning, expansion and cost recovery.



JOSE ESPARZA is APS's senior vice president, Public Policy. In his role, Esparza leads APS's Federal and State Regulatory and Legislative teams, its Rates and Rate Strategy teams, as well as the Sustainability team.

An Arizona native, Esparza joined APS after a 25-year career at Southwest Gas, where he served as senior vice president, customer engagement and information technology.

Gained through years of practice in regulatory and public policy affairs at both state and federal levels, Esparza possesses deep insights into Arizona's regulatory and political landscapes. Previously, he held positions of increasing responsibility for customer service, corporate strategy, regulatory affairs and public affairs – after beginning his career as a meter reader.

Esparza earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Political Science and an executive MBA from Arizona State University.



JERRY FENN was appointed to the Public Service Commission of Utah (PSC) by Governor Spencer Cox on March 25, 2024, and was confirmed by the Utah State Senate on April 17, 2024. On April 22, 2024, he was selected by Governor Cox to serve as the Chair of the PSC. He was subsequently appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to a full six year PSC term which commenced on March 1, 2025.

Immediately prior to being named to the PSC, Jerry was an adjunct professor in the Romney Institute of Public Service and Ethics in the Marriott School of Business at Brigham Young University.

Jerry practiced law in Utah at the law firm of Snow, Christensen & Martineau and then was a founding partner of Blackburn & Stoll, during which he represented telecommunication utilities, among other clients. Jerry then became the President of Qwest Communications for Utah and, following a merger, became the Regional Vice President of CenturyLink for both the Northwest and Southwest regions. He began his

law practice with a judicial clerkship for the chief judge of the United State District Court for the District of Utah.

Jerry participates in national and regional organizations related to public utility policy and regulation. He is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and serves on its Electricity Committee and Washington Action Program. He also serves on the Advisory Council of New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities.

Jerry's civic and community activities include currently serving as a member of the Utah Highway Patrol Honorary Colonels Association (Chair 2022-2024) and the Board of Governors of Community Health Centers of Utah. He previously served on the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the Utah Symphony and Opera, as Chair of the Economic Development Corporation of Utah and Chair of Junior Achievement of Utah. He was on the boards of ten additional community, arts, and advocacy organizations in Utah. Jerry also held various leadership positions in the Utah State Bar and American Bar Association. He also served at the request of two governors as a member of and chair of the Utah Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.

Jerry spent six years in two full-time, volunteer church service positions, which necessitated his retirement from CenturyLink. He received a B.A. (Economics), an M.B.A., and a J.D. from Brigham Young University.



MELANIE FRYE President and CEO of WECC, drives the organization's mission to mitigate risks to the reliability and security of the Western Interconnection's Bulk Power System. She excels in engaging with members, stakeholders, and regulatory bodies, ensuring WECC's positive relationship with NERC and the ERO Enterprise.

Melanie is a transformational leader, crafting WECC's Invented Future framework and fostering a dynamic internal culture aligned with WECC's core mission. Her previous roles at WECC include Vice President of Reliability Planning and Performance Analysis, where she led technical and analytical functions, and Vice President of Shared Services, overseeing Human Resources, Finance, IT, Project Management, and Administrative Services. Joining WECC in 2007 as Director of Human Resources, Melanie has continually advanced within the organization.

Before WECC, Melanie was a Senior HR Consultant at PacifiCorp, advising leadership of multiple power generation facilities and supporting over 2,500 employees.

Melanie holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Weber State University and a Utility Executive Course Certificate from the University of Idaho.



BILL GAINES was appointed Executive Director for the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC) late in 2021. AWEC and its predecessors have been active since the early 1980's, representing the interests of more than 40 large industrial consumers of electricity and natural gas in the Pacific Northwest in ratemaking proceedings and in energy and environmental policy matters in the State legislatures and regulatory agencies. AWEC's membership spans a broad range of industries including aerospace, agriculture, forest products, industrial gasses, information technology, petroleum refining, primary metals, semiconductors, and more.

Prior to forming his consulting firm late in 2017, Bill's career has included senior executive roles in both investor owned and public power utilities. He served for ten years as Director and Chief Executive Officer at Tacoma Public Utilities, leading its power, water, rail and broadband units. Prior to that he served for a brief time as an executive officer at Seattle City Light, and directed the utility's power generation, power management, energy conservation and environmental affairs groups. Previously, he was employed with Puget Sound Energy, Inc., Washington State's largest investor owned electric and natural gas utility, including seven years as PSE's Vice President Power and Gas Supply. Throughout his career Bill has been closely involved in regional energy policy matters; energy supply planning, management and operations; evolution of the Western wholesale electricity markets; resource acquisition; near term commercial energy transactions; risk management; financing and ratemaking.

He holds an undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering with emphasis in Power Systems, and a Master of Business Administration degree with emphasis in Finance. He also attended the Executive Program in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University.

Bill is a former Vice Chairman of the Board of the American Public Power Association (APPA), and a member of its Executive Committee. He also served a two year term as Chairman of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC), representing the nation's twenty five largest public power utilities in Federal legislative and regulatory matters. He is a Board member Emeritus of the Pierce County Economic Development Board, and a member of the Executive Leadership Board for the Voiland College of Engineering at Washington State University.



JOHN HARVEY was appointed to the Public Service Commission of Utah (PSC) by Governor Spencer Cox on May 11, 2023. At the time of his appointment, he had been a member of the PSC's technical staff since 1998.

John's education and vocational practice are in the field of Public Economics. He takes special interest in applying economic theory to the issues of regulation, searching for the outcomes which best serve the broad public interest. Generally, for utility regulation that means safe, reliable, and adequate services being available to ratepayers at the lowest reasonable and sustainable cost.

Prior to working for the PSC, John was employed by the Utah Department of Commerce with both the Division of Public Utilities (telecommunications) and the Committee (now Office) of Consumer Services (electricity), preparing testimony and developing modeling resources/tools addressing competition and depreciation. Prior to accepting employment with the Department of Commerce, John worked as a Quantitative Economist for Xenergy, Inc., a Boston-based energy consulting firm. There, John performed cost-benefit analysis of demand-side management and energy efficiency programs for utility clients and contract research regarding electric utility industry restructuring for the U.S. Department of Energy. John has taught economics courses as a teaching assistant for Utah State University (USU) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison), and as an adjunct professor for the USU Extension Service, Salt Lake Community College, and the University of Phoenix.

John received a B.S. (Economics) and M.S. (Economics/History) from USU, and an M.S. and Ph.D. (Economics) from the UW-Madison



LYNNE KIESLING is an economist focusing on regulation, market design, and the economics of digitization in the electricity industry. She is Director of the Institute for Regulatory Law & Economics in the Center on Law, Business, and Economics, and is an Adjunct Professor in the Master of Science in Energy and Sustainability program, both at Northwestern University. She is also a Research Professor at University of Colorado Denver. Her academic background includes a B.S. in Economics from Miami University (Ohio) and a Ph.D. in Economics from Northwestern University.

Lynne's academic interests have long been focused on technology, the economic history of technological change, and how regulation and other

institutions shape incentives to innovate. Her academic publications include *Deregulation, Innovation, and Market Liberalization: Electricity Restructuring in a Constantly Evolving Environment* (Routledge, 2008) and journal articles and book chapters on competition, market design, and the important role that market prices play as communication mechanisms in complex, decentralized networks. More recently, she and co-authors analyzed incomplete markets in risk in ERCOT in light of the 2021 Winter Storm Uri outages in “Private Risk and Social Resilience in Liberalized Electricity Markets,” *Joule* (2022), and she and Stephen Littlechild used a decentralized market process framework to analyze policy responses to Winter Storm Uri and recommend alternatives in “Hayek and the Texas Blackout,” *Electricity Journal* (2021).

Lynne has also contributed to the development of transactive energy systems since collaborating on the GridWise Olympic Peninsula Testbed Demonstration Project in 2006-2007. She is currently working in collaboration with David Chassin (SLAC National Laboratory, Stanford University) and Post Road Foundation on a U.S. Department of Energy Connected Communities research grant to test transactive energy in rural communities.

In addition to her academic research, Lynne is currently a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee, which provides advice to DOE on modernizing electricity infrastructure. She has also served as a member of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology's Smart Grid Advisory Committee, and was a member of the GridWise Architecture Council 2005-2010, where she remains an emerita member.



BRIANA KOBOR, Head of Energy Market Innovation, Google. A driving force in the transition to a decarbonized energy future, Briana Kobar is the Head of Energy Market Innovation at Google, where she spearheads the development of cutting-edge products and frameworks designed to accelerate the decarbonization of electricity systems to support Google's global operations.

Based in Salt Lake City, Briana Kobar is a seasoned energy industry veteran with a career spanning over 17 years. Her extensive experience includes eight years in private regulatory consulting practice and five years in the non-profit sector, where she honed her expertise in tackling complex energy policy challenges.

With a deep understanding of the intricacies of energy policy and regulation, Briana Kobar brings a wealth of knowledge to her role at Google. She skillfully navigates the ever-evolving energy landscape, crafting strategic solutions that not only meet Google's energy needs but also contribute to a more sustainable and resilient energy future for all.



RYAN LONG is executive vice president, chief legal and compliance officer, responsible for leading Xcel Energy's Legal, Compliance and Federal Affairs teams.

Long most recently served as president of Xcel Energy – Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. He continues to oversee these regional teams focused on customer, community, regulatory, legislative and governmental relationships as the company conducts an internal and external search for the next operating company president.

Long joined Xcel Energy in 2015 as a principal attorney and has served in several roles prior to his current one. He previously served as interim general counsel, leading the legal department and executing the company's legal strategy. Prior to that, he served as vice president and deputy general counsel, where he managed the Federal and State Regulatory, Environmental and Real Estate legal teams.

Before joining Xcel Energy, Long worked as a lawyer for Faegre Baker Daniels, now known as Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, in Minneapolis and Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York City.

Long earned a Bachelor of Arts from Grinnell College and a Juris Doctor from Cornell Law School. He serves on the board of directors for the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis



CHRIS MOSER Senior Vice President, Head of Competitive Markets and Policy, leads the regulatory and government affairs teams at NRG. In this newly created position, he is responsible for advancing and protecting competitive energy markets while developing NRG's advocacy strategy and defending the company's interests both at the state and federal levels. Prior to this role, Chris served for six years as Executive Vice President, Market and Plant Operations, where he oversaw both the operation of the company's generation fleet and the commodity trading activity.

Before joining NRG in April of 2008, Chris held positions of increasing responsibility in various regions at Dynegy Inc., most recently as Managing Director, Midwest. There, his responsibilities included the monetization of Dynegy's MISO and PJM portfolios. Before Dynegy, Chris held a range of positions in Washington, DC for organizations including the Sawyer/Miller Group, the World Bank, and the Safe Energy Communications Council. Chris has a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College.



NICK MYERS serves as the Vice Chairman of the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). He was elected to the Commission in 2022, bringing a background in software engineering, entrepreneurship, and regulatory advocacy following a dispute with a utility company. Upon taking office, Myers' first official act was to open a docket to modernize Arizona's rate-making process, spearheading the Commission's adoption of a Formula Rate Plan Policy in 2024. He has opened formal inquiries into expanding both natural gas infrastructure and nuclear energy generation in Arizona. He has prioritized regulatory stability, the elimination of subsidies, utility wildfire mitigation, and the challenge of data centers and large industrial. Myers serves as Chairman of the Markets+ State Committee, ensuring state interests are embedded in

Southwest Power Pool's Markets+, a real-time and day-ahead regional energy market expected to go live in 2027. Vice Chair Myers also serves as a member of the Committees on Gas and Critical Infrastructure at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and is a member of the Federal-State Current Issues Collaborative with FERC and NARUC, representing the West.



INDRAN "INDY" RATNATHICAM leads marketing, corporate strategy and M&A at Technosylva. He and his teams ensure Technosylva's complex systems are understood at their most human level, and drive new acquisitions to expand their impact. His work blends rigorous analysis with insightful storytelling, turning complex data into meaningful conversations about resilience, safety, and confidence.

Having worked across industries where technical complexity meets urgent societal need, Indy has developed a unique ability to recognize patterns that accelerate solutions—whether driving progress towards the mission, navigating a multifaceted industry, or bringing highly technical, science-based products to market.



ANN RENDAHL was first appointed to serve as a commissioner of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission by Gov. Inslee in December 2014 for a six-year term that ended Jan. 1, 2021. Ann has been reappointed and confirmed to a second six-year term ending Jan. 1, 2027.

Ann serves as the First Vice President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, or NARUC, and serves as a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Ann is also a member of the Committees on Water and Critical Infrastructure and was a prior chair of the Committee on Electricity.

Ann serves as a member of the Southwest Power Pool's Markets+ States Committee and has served on the Body of State Regulators for the California ISO's Energy Imbalance Market. Ann also serves as a member of the Electric Power Research Institute's Advisory Council, the Advisory Council of the Center for Public Utilities at New Mexico State University, and the Advisory Board of the University of Missouri's Financial Research Institute.

Before being appointed as a commissioner, Ann served as the Director of Policy and Legislation for the UTC. Before leading the UTC's Policy and Legislative Affairs Section, she served as the Director of the Administrative Law Division, as an administrative law judge for the UTC, and as an assistant attorney general representing the UTC.

Ann is a graduate of Wellesley College. She received a master's degree in Public Policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, and her law degree from UC Law San Francisco.



BRIAN RYBARIK Gov. Bob Ferguson appointed Brian Rybarik chair of the Utilities and Transportation Commission in January 2025.

Brian is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Electricity and Critical Infrastructure Committees, Committee of State Representatives for the Western Resource Adequacy Program, and Federal and State Current Issues Collaborative. Gov. Ferguson also appointed Brian to serve on the Washington State Office of the Chief Information Officer Technology Services Board.

Before the commission, Brian held various leadership roles at Microsoft, including leading a team focused on protecting the rights of people in Microsoft's supply chains. He also served as chief of staff for Microsoft's corporate sustainability team and was part of Microsoft's data center energy team.

Brian has also been the vice president of policy for the Clean Grid Alliance and deputy general counsel at MidAmerican Energy Company. Before MidAmerican, he was a director at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator and division administrator and policy advisor at the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Brian started his legal career in private practice at the law firm Michael Best and has also worked in the Wisconsin Legislature. Rybarik earned his bachelor's and law degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison



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.



CAROLINE THOMAS JACOBS was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom on June 30, 2021 as the first director of the new Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety under the California Natural Resources Agency.

Director Thomas Jacobs was appointed by Governor Newsom in October 2019 as director of the wildfire safety division within the California Public Utilities Commission. She was responsible for standing up the new division and implementing oversight of electrical corporations' wildfire safety pursuant to the requirements of Assembly Bill 1054 and Assembly Bill 111. In this position, she envisioned and built the organizational and operational structure to exercise regulatory assessment of utility wildfire safety measures, which is now the basis upon which the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety operates.

Prior to serving in these roles, Director Thomas Jacobs was chief of headquarters response operations for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services where she was responsible for leading the California state warning center and state operations center during the catastrophic wildfires and other disasters experienced since 2017, including establishing the initial response framework for public safety power shutoffs.

With over 20 years of experience in complex operations, technology and emergency management, Director Thomas Jacobs has led modernization of public safety at the local, regional, and state levels through various positions at the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff, Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative, and the State of California. Prior to public service, she also held positions at Apple, Inc. leading the development of worldwide retail genius bar operations in the launch of the Apple Retail Stores.



AROON VIJAYKAR is SVP Strategy & Commercial at Emerald AI, leading the commercialization of Emerald's AI power flexibility and AI workload orchestration platform that unlocks a range of benefits for AI data centers by making them grid-aware while preserving compute quality of service.

Aroon previously held a series of commercial leadership roles at Sunrun (NASDAQ: RUN), leading and growing Sunrun's virtual power plant, distribution and manufacturing businesses respectively over a six year period. Prior to Sunrun, Aroon invested in utility scale renewables infrastructure at the private equity firm Partners Group (SWX: PGHN), based in Singapore, Mumbai and Zug. Aroon began his career as a management consultant at Monitor Deloitte.

Aroon holds an MA/MBA from the Wharton School and Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from the University of California at Berkeley.



TORI VILLARREAL is the Head of Policy and Government Affairs at Base Power Company. A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, she began her career in the Texas Senate, where she served as a senior policy analyst. She later led state and regional advocacy at Constellation Energy before joining Base to drive policy and regulatory strategy.



MICHAEL WARA is a lawyer and scholar focused on climate and energy policy.

Wara is a Senior Research Scholar at the Woods Institute for the Environment and Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program. The Program provides fact based, bipartisan, technical and legal assistance to policy makers engaged in the development of novel climate and energy law and regulation. Wara also facilitates the connection of Stanford faculty with cutting edge policy debates on climate and energy, leveraging Stanford's energy and climate expertise to craft real world solutions to meet these challenges.

Wara's legal and policy scholarship focuses on carbon pricing, energy innovation, and regulated industries. He collaborates with economists, engineers, and scientists in research on the design and evaluation of technical and regulatory solutions to climate and energy challenges. He is also an expert on international environmental law with a particular focus on the ozone and climate treaty regimes.

Prior to joining the Woods Institute, Wara was an Associate Professor at Stanford Law School and an Associate in Holland & Knight's Government Practice. He received his J.D. from Stanford Law School and his Ph.D. in Ocean Sciences from the University of California at Santa Cruz.



HAYLEY WILLIAMSON was reappointed Chair of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in 2023 by Governor Lombardo. She was first appointed Chair in 2020 by Governor Sisolak.

Previously, Chair Williamson served as a Commissioner and as Senior Assistant General Counsel and Acting General Counsel for the PUCN. As a Commissioner, Chair Williamson has been responsible for developing rules to implement many important pieces of legislation, including Nevada's Renewable Portfolio Standard, renewable natural gas requirements, and Natural Disaster Protection Plans. Chair Williamson has worked at the PUCN since 2013 and has more than a decade of public utility law experience. As an attorney for the PUCN, Chair Williamson represented the agency before Nevada district courts and the Nevada Supreme Court, and she appeared on behalf of the agency at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

In addition to her role at the PUCN, Chair Williamson is a member of the Nevada Transmission Task Force. In 2023, she also was elected Chair of the Body of State Regulators, after serving as Vice Chair of that board since 2020 following her election to the position by Commissioners across the western United States.

Chair Williamson is also the Vice Chair of Board of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, a bistate agency leading the regional effort for Lake Tahoe's conservation and restoration. Additionally, Chair Williamson was elected by her national peers to serve on the Board of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in 2022.

Chair Williamson graduated magna cum laude from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, where she earned her bachelor's degree; and magna cum laude from Vermont Law School, where she earned her juris doctorate. At Vermont Law School, Chair Williamson was an editor of the Vermont Law Review. She also holds a Master of Philosophy degree from the University of Cambridge, where she wrote her master's thesis on renewable energy and land use issues on the West Coast.

Chair Williamson lives in Stateline, Nevada, in the Lake Tahoe area with her family.