

2017 CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY SPEAKERS

GOVERNOR BILL RITTER, JR.

Director, Center for the New Energy Economy



Bill Ritter, Jr. is the founder and director of the Center for the New Energy Economy (CNEE) at Colorado State University which launched on February 1, 2011.

The Center works directly with governors, legislators, regulators, planners, policymakers, and other decision makers. It provides technical assistance to help officials create the policies and practices that will facilitate America's transition to a clean-energy economy.

Ritter was elected as Colorado's 41st governor in 2006 and built consensus to tackle some of the state's biggest challenges. During his four-year term, Ritter established Colorado as a national and international leader in clean energy by building a new energy economy.

He signed 57 new energy bills into law, including a 30% Renewable Portfolio Standard and a Clean Air Clean Jobs Act that replaced nearly a gigawatt of coal-fired generation with natural gas. In total, the Colorado new energy economy created thousands of new jobs. Ritter is a member of the board of the directors of the Energy Foundation and a senior fellow and member of the board of directors of the Advanced Energy Economy Institute.

JÜRGEN WEISS

Principal, The Brattle Group



Dr. Jürgen Weiss spearheads the firm's electrification initiatives. He advises utilities, governments and NGOs on issues such as renewable energy economics and integration, energy efficiency, storage, carbon market design, the interaction between electricity, gas and transportation, and the impact these changes have on existing assets, market structures, and long-term planning. Dr. Weiss holds an MBA from Columbia University and a PhD from Harvard University.

2017 CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY FACULTY

TOM PLANT

Senior Policy Advisor, Center for the New Energy Economy (CNEE)



Tom Plant served as director of the Governor's Energy Office in the Ritter administration, with principal responsibility for developing and implementing the Governor's policies for a new energy economy. He was Colorado House District 13 representative from 1998 through 2006, including two years as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and one year as Chairman of the Joint Budget Committee. Among the key pieces of legislation he sponsored were the Colorado Renewable Energy Act and energy efficiency tax-incentive legislation.

Plant was named Legislator of the Year by such organizations as the University of Colorado and the Sierra Club of Colorado. He received Green Sense Award for Environmental Leadership from Colorado Conservation Voters and the Champion of the Family Farmer Award from the Rocky Mountain Farmers' Union.

JEFF LYNG

Senior Policy Advisor, CNEE



Lyng joined the Center from Opower, where he directed the company's market development and regulatory affairs in the Western states. Prior to joining Opower, he served as renewable energy policy manager in the Colorado Governor's Energy Office in the Ritter administration, advising on energy policy and managing several state energy programs. Before that, he was an engineer for Xcel Energy, consulting on demand-side management and solar programs.

Lyng has served on the boards of Xcel Energy's Innovative Clean Technologies Program, the Colorado Energy Services Coalition, the Colorado Renewable Energy Society, and is a past board chair of the American Solar Energy Society.

PATRICK CUMMINS

Senior Policy Advisor, CNEE, Lead on Western States Clean Power Plan



Patrick Cummins is a Senior Policy Advisor at the Center for the New Energy Economy where he leads the Western States Clean Power Plan Initiative. Patrick has worked with Western states, tribes, industry, environmental groups, and other stakeholders on air quality and climate programs for 30 years, including as the Executive Director of the Western Climate Initiative and at the Western Governors' Association (WGA). During this time, Cummins served as Co-Chair of EPA's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee on Air Quality Management in the United States.

As Executive Director of the Western Climate Initiative (WCI), Cummins helped 7 Western states and 4 Canadian provinces design the world's first economy-wide cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gas emissions. In the 1990s, Patrick served as Deputy Director of Denver's Regional Air Quality Council where he received an EPA Environmental Achievement Award for his work to bring the Denver area into compliance with federal health-based air quality standards.

DENNIS ARFMANN

Senior Policy Advisor, CNEE



Dennis Arfmann is a Senior Policy Advisor at the Center for the New Energy Economy. Dennis brings his unique skill set to the Center. As a partner in the Colorado office of Hogan Lovells L.L.C. (a large international law firm based in London and Washington, D.C. with 46 global offices) he was the Co-Chair of the firm's Climate Change & Clean Energy Group before he retired from the firm. Dennis worked with a number of utilities and clean energy companies located West of the Mississippi River. He focused his efforts on air quality, climate change and clean energy matters. He placed particular emphasis on resolving complex policy, regulatory, and legislative policy issues, with a focus on climate change issues.

Mr. Arfmann is a published author and a frequent lecturer on climate change, clean energy & environmental topics. He was appointed to the Western Regional Air Partnership Market Trading Forum, the American Solar Energy Society Board of Trustees, and the Colorado Climate Change Advisory Council. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Earth Day Network in Washington, D.C. and the Board of Directors for the Bridge House in Boulder, CO.

MIKE O'BOYLE

Power Sector Transformation Expert, Energy Innovation



Mike O'Boyle is the Power Sector Transformation Expert for Energy Innovation. He works for the firm's Power Sector Transformation program to uncover policy and technology solutions for a clean, reliable, and affordable U.S. electricity system. Mike is also a leading expert for America's Power Plan, a platform for innovative thinkers—including policymakers, advocates, and utility stakeholders—to reform the utility regulatory model and identify opportunities for grid transformation and optimization. He has worked with stakeholders from a variety of states—including California, New York, Hawaii, Minnesota, etc.—to help improve the link between public policy goals and the motivations of electric utilities. Recent projects include working closely with the Arkansas Public Service Commission on energy efficiency.

JANINE MIGDEN-OSTRANDER

Principal, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)



Janine L. Migden-Ostrander advises regulators and advocates on energy efficiency, renewable energy, demand response, distributed generation, and integrated resource planning. Recent projects include working closely with the Arkansas Public Service Commission on energy efficiency as part of the Clean Energy Ministerial for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), facilitating the Mid-Atlantic Distributed Resources Initiative (MADRI), and providing workshops on energy efficiency policies as part of the SEE Action initiative for DOE. Her projects are predominantly in the U.S., but also overseas.

ELECTRIFICATION OF THE TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

MIKE SALISBURY

Senior Transportation Associate, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET)



Mike Salisbury began working in the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project's Transportation program in 2009. A main focus of his work at SWEET has been on state and local policies to support EV adoption such as incentives, favorable utility tariffs and building codes. He also specializes in research and analysis around the economic and environmental benefits of EVs. In 2008, Mike received a Masters' degree from the University of Delaware's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy.

CHRIS NELDER

Manager, Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)



Chris Nelder is a Manager with RMI's electricity practice, where he leads a variety of projects related to supporting renewables on the grid. Chris joined RMI in October 2015. Chris comes to RMI with over a decade of experience as an independent energy analyst, writer, speaker, and consultant. The author of two books and hundreds of articles on energy, as well as a seasoned public speaker, Chris is an established expert on energy with a long track record of advocating for energy transition. In addition to his work in energy, Chris has had previous careers in solar photovoltaic system design, software engineering and product development for numerous companies including Microsoft, Web publishing early in the history of the Web, and technical writing.

ENERGY STORAGE

SKY C. STANFIELD

Senior Special Counsel, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP



Sky C. Stanfield joined the firm as Senior Special Counsel in 2015. Ms. Stanfield practices renewable energy law and policy, with a focus on regulatory policy implementation, compliance and permitting processes. Ms. Stanfield regularly works on the development and refinement of state and federally regulated interconnection standards, playing an active role in improving the clarity and efficiency of these processes. She participates in rulemakings before state public utility commissions and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding the topics of grid modernization, the creation of market rate policies for wholesale renewables, energy storage, net metering, community shared renewables and related topics. She also assists clients with project specific interconnection and regulatory issues associated with the development of distributed solar and energy storage projects.

JEFF CRAMER

Principal, 38 North Solutions



Jeff is a Principal at 38 North Solutions and heads up our western regional office in Denver, Colorado. He brings a wide and unique range of industry and policy experience to the firm having held positions at a leading investment institution focused on the technology sector, public affairs practices, and clean energy advocacy organizations. Prior to co-founding 38 North, Jeff served for two years as an Associate in QGA Public Affairs government relations practice, providing policy strategy and analysis for the firm's telecom and clean technology clients, dealing with issues related to clean energy tax policy, USDA energy programs, domestic manufacturing policy, policy developments in the shale gas sector, federal government procurement, and the President's Innovation Agenda.