

2024 Western Chapter Annual Meeting Speaker Bios:

Matt Christiansen, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Prior to being named General Counsel, Matt Christiansen served as a Legal Advisor to Chairman Glick. He joined then-Commissioner Glick's office in 2017 from the Commission's Office of the General Counsel. Before joining Commission staff, he served as a law clerk to the Hon. Stephen F. Williams on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and the Hon. Jesse M. Furman on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. He was also an Energy Law and Policy Fellow at NYU Law School's Guarini Center on Environmental, Energy and Land Use Law. His academic work has appeared in or is forthcoming in the Harvard Law Review, the Texas Law Review and the Energy Law Journal.

He is graduate of Yale Law School and Columbia University. He and his wife Celia have a daughter and live in Washington, D.C.

Administrative Law Judges Panel

Meghan H. Grabel, Head – Energy, Water, and Utility Law Practice, Osborn Maledon, P.A.

Meghan heads the firm's Energy, Water, and Utility Law practice and is a renowned industry leader in the electric, renewable energy, natural gas, water, telecommunications, and other innovative technologies sectors. Her clients value the unique blend of her legal acumen with the substantive utility business knowledge that she developed serving for years as both Associate General Counsel of Regulatory and then as head of the revenue requirement and rate design departments for Arizona's largest investor-owned electric utility.

Meghan plays an influential part in the southwest energy and water scene and has been recognized as an industry leader by both her peers and professional organizations. She has been personally featured in Attorney at Law Magazine and was named among the "Most Influential Women" by AZ Business Magazine in 2021. In 2022 she was named Energy Law Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers®.

At Osborn Maledon, Meghan represents energy, water, wastewater, and natural gas companies in their transactional and regulatory matters, including expansion of service areas, rate cases, financing applications, negotiation of various extension and service agreements, plant and service territories acquisitions and divestitures, renewable energy and transmission projects (including approvals and development), and appeals from adverse administrative and public utility commission decisions. She represents telecommunications and technology clients, including cable and telecommunication providers, in contract negotiations and legislative activities with state and local governments. She has also represented large industrial and commercial users of electric services in commercial proceedings and negotiations.

Meghan regularly represents parties in power plant and line siting proceedings, as well as policy dockets and rulemakings at the Arizona Corporation Commission. She also represents entities in condemnation matters, and several clients depend on Meghan as outside general counsel. In this regard, she provides legal and strategic advice on a range of corporate issues.

As an involved member of the Arizona community, Meghan has a long history of engaging in various organizations and foundations, including performing and singing in many community theater productions and benefit concerts, in addition to her position on several boards and executive committees. She also teaches a course on Utility Law and Regulation at her alma mater, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, where she was first in her class, graduating summa cum laude and Order of the Coif.

Before entering private practice, Meghan was a judicial clerk for Judge Barry Silverman on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and for Justice Andrew Hurwitz of the Arizona Supreme Court.

Judge Renee Terry, FERC Administrative Law Judge

Judge Renee Terry was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by Chairman Richard Glick in October 2021.

Judge Terry has a long career in the energy sector. She joined FERC's Office of Administrative Litigation (OAL) in 2005. Judge Terry initially served as a Trial Attorney and then served as a Supervisory Trial Attorney. Earlier in her career, Judge Terry served as a Hearing Officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Public Utilities on energy and telecommunications issues. In addition, Judge Terry held a variety of positions in the telecommunications industry serving as an Attorney-Advisor for the Federal Communications Commission and in the private sector at e.spire Communications, Director of Regulatory Affairs and Xspedius Communications, Director of Regulatory Affairs & Corporate Counsel.

Judge Terry is a member of the bar of Massachusetts and the District of Columbia. Judge Terry is a graduate of Northwestern University (Bachelor of Arts degree) and Howard University School of Law (J.D.).

Judge Sophia Park, California PUC Senior Administrative Law Judge

Judge Sophia Park joined the California Public Utilities Commission in 2007. She started as an attorney handling applications for rehearing of Commission decisions and defending the Commission's decisions before the state appellate courts. She has been an ALJ with the Commission since 2015. Her cases primarily focus on energy matters, although she handles water and other matters as well. Judge Park also oversees revisions to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and trains new judges and staff regarding Commission procedures. Judge Park is a graduate of U.C. Berkeley and U.C. Berkeley School of Law.

Judge Sarah Harpring, ACC Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge

Judge Sarah Harpring has been an ALJ with the Arizona Corporation Commission since August 2007 and has served as the Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge ("ACALJ") since September 2017. As ACALJ, Judge Harpring is the direct supervisor for 9 ALJs. Judge Harpring moved to Arizona in 1998, after serving on active duty for several years as a U.S. Army JAG officer in Darmstadt, Germany. Before working for the Commission, Judge Harpring worked for the Arizona Department of Agriculture briefly and then for the Arizona Department of Health Services for 8 years, where she served as a Senior Rules Analyst and for her last 18 months also as Assistant Administrative Counsel. Judge Harpring earned a B.A. from Miami University in Ohio and a J.D. from the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Judge

Harpring is married and has two sons (now adults) and three dogs. She has volunteered as a big sister for Big Brothers/Big Sisters and as an appointed member of a Maricopa County Foster Care Review Board.

Judge Michael Howard, Washington UTC Director and Administrative Law Judge

Judge Howard serves as Director of the Administrative Law Division and Acting Policy Director at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. Since joining in February 2020, Judge Howard has presided with the Commissioners over general rate cases, litigated Clean Energy Implementation Plans, power cost only rate cases, and other proceedings. He has presided alone over a variety of other proceedings, and he assisted the Commissioners with the creation of Washington's Participatory Funding program.

Before joining the Commission, Judge Howard served as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney (SAUSA), for the Social Security Administration, for 12 years, focusing on Ninth Circuit appeals, bankruptcy fraud, and employment law. Judge Howard earned both his J.D. and his B.A. from the University of Washington.

Wildfire Preparedness for Utilities

Justin Wynne, Braun Blasing & Wynne

Justin Wynne has extensive experience representing publicly owned electric utilities (POUs) before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Energy Commission (CEC), California Air Resources Board, California Independent System Operator, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Justin is a leading expert on California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS). In his role representing the California Municipal Utilities Association, Justin led POU working groups to develop consensus positions and make numerous filings in both the CEC and CPUC's RPS regulatory proceedings. Justin was deeply involved in the development of Senate Bill 350 (2015), establishing California's 50 percent RPS. Justin currently represents many POUs on RPS matters, including updating RPS procurement plans and assisting in the negotiation of power purchase agreements. Justin has given numerous presentations and offered classes on compliance with the RPS.

Justin also has in-depth knowledge of California's net energy metering (NEM) and feed-in tariff requirements. He has developed NEM tariffs, rate schedules, and NEM Interconnection Agreements for numerous POUs. He has similarly helped guide POUs through the development of their feed-in tariffs. Justin authored a paper titled "*Feed-in Tariffs and Implications for Public Power*" for the American Public Power Association (APPA) and gave a presentation on the paper at APPA's Legal Conference. Additionally, Justin gave a presentation titled "Recent Developments in California's NEM Program" at APPA's 2016 Engineering and Operations Technical Conference.

Before joining BB&W, Justin was a law clerk at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. Justin graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2003. In 2007, he earned his juris doctor degree from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, where he served as the Technical Editor of the McGeorge Law Review. Justin is a member of the California State Bar

Laura Fulton, Senior Legal Counsel, Wildfire Mitigation and Litigation, San Diego Gas & Electric

Laura Fulton is Senior Counsel at San Diego Gas & Electric, where she represents and advises the company on regulatory matters pertaining to wildfire mitigation, Public Safety Power Shutoffs, executive compensation structure, and safety culture. An experienced litigator, Laura has tried several cases in

federal court and regularly advocates for SDG&E in front of the California Public Utilities Commission and California's Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, which oversees all aspects of the Safety Certification process for California electrical corporations, including development and approval of wildfire mitigation plans. Prior to joining SDG&E, Laura was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California and the Southern District of Ohio, where she focused on prosecution of fraud and financial investigations. She was also a Trial Attorney in the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice and Enforcement Counsel at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington, D.C.

Laura holds a B.A. from Davidson College and a J.D. from the University of Virginia.

Melissa Semcer, Principal Consultant & Owner, Climate, Wildfire and Energy Strategies, Former Deputy Director, California Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

Melissa Semcer operates as a strategic and process consultant to government, utilities and climate tech companies navigating rapidly changing climate conditions. With a key focus and passion for climate resilience, Melissa is a trusted resource in developing regulatory structures and company responses to wildfire and other climate hazards. Prior to founding Climate, Wildfire, and Energy Strategies, Melissa was appointed as the first Deputy Director of the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) by Governor Gavin Newsom. There, Melissa led the evaluation of first-of-their kind data-driven electric corporation wildfire mitigation plans that measurably reduced the risk of utility-ignited catastrophic wildfire. She also managed development of an innovative process for conducting electric utility safety culture assessments, created foundational guidelines for utilities' safety certifications, and established a review process for utility executive compensation to ensure that safety is incentivized. She played an instrumental role in establishing Energy Safety's strategic direction and operational infrastructure as the organization grew from three to over one hundred people in just under 3 years.

Prior to joining Energy Safety, Melissa served as an administrative law judge with the California Public Utilities Commission. She presided over some of California's highest profile energy cases involving many stakeholder groups and multibillion-dollar outcomes. In this role, she authored seminal decisions on Public Safety Power Shutoffs and the California Climate Credit. She began her career in energy policy as a regulatory analyst with the California Public Utilities Commission. A member of the Duke University Energy Initiative Task Force, Semcer holds a Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Corporate Energy Procurement Amidst a Changing Energy Landscape

Helen Calverley, Senior Manager & Principal Counsel – Renewable Energy, Apple Inc.

Helen Calverley is Senior Manager & Principal Counsel – Energy at Apple Inc., and a member of the Energy Bar Association Western Chapter Board of Directors. Helen's practice is focused on energy transactions, energy regulatory compliance, and advising and collaborating with a variety of cross-functional teams in pursuit of the company's ambitious climate goals. Prior to joining Apple, and following an early career in private practice representing clients in civil litigation and commercial

transactions, she served as Supplier Transactions Counsel for Maxtor Corporation and as General Counsel for Solix Systems Inc. and Emagia Corporation. Currently based in Cupertino, CA, she holds a BA in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy from Michigan State University (James Madison College), and a JD from University of Detroit Mercy.

Erin Craig, CSO, Customer Solutions and Innovation Lead and Board Member, 3Degrees Inc.

Erin Craig leads Customer Solutions and Innovation and is Chief Sustainability Officer at 3Degrees, a climate solutions firm. In these roles, she spearheads the company's efforts to accelerate deployment of climate mitigation approaches for corporate and utility clients, and leads the company's efforts to achieve net zero emissions by creating implementation strategies tuned to the needs of small-footprint, high-ambition companies. Her career spans nearly 40 years working in sustainability and energy including roles as a corporate leader, consultant, regulator and academic. Currently hailing from Menlo Park, CA she holds a BS from Stanford in Geophysics, and an MS from MIT in Technology and Policy.

Alexia dePottère-Smith, General Counsel, Center for Resource Solutions

Alexia de Pottère-Smith is General Counsel for the Center for Resource Solutions, a nonprofit organization founded nearly three decades ago to create policy and market solutions to advance sustainable energy. Alexia advises on all manner of issues, including those impacting CRS's Green-e® certification program, an industry-leading, third-party certification program for renewable energy products and claims. Prior to joining CRS, Alexia spent more than a decade with Covington & Burling, where she advised clients in the energy industry on matters of international arbitration and litigation, regulatory issues, insurance coverage and risk mitigation. She is a graduate of Stanford University and holds a J.D. and a Master's degree from Duke University.

Marcia Hook, Partner, Clifford Chance

Marcia Hook is a partner at Clifford Chance, advising clients on energy regulatory and transactional matters across the energy sector, including electric, natural gas, liquefied natural gas, oil, and clean hydrogen. Drawing on a deep understanding of the complex laws, regulations, and market rules governing the energy sector, she helps clients draft commercial agreements and navigate M&A, financing, and capital markets deals. Currently based in Arlington, VA, Marcia holds a BA in International Relations from Stanford University, an MA in Arab Studies from Georgetown University, and a JD from Harvard Law School.

Offshore Wind

Vidhya Prabhakaran, Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

At the heart of Vidhya Prabhakaran's practice is his understanding of the regulatory complexities posed by California's shifting energy framework as California attempts to transition to economically viable greener power sources. Vid regularly advocates on behalf of clients throughout the energy sector who envision an efficient and reliable energy marketplace and seek to successfully invest in the reduction of greenhouse gases. Vid has over a decade of experience directing client successes before California regulatory bodies, including the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, the California Independent System Operator, CalGEM, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, and the California DMV, as well as the California Legislature.

Together with the other members of the DWT energy practice group, Vid assists clients with formulating, presenting, and advocating policy positions on procurement, ratemaking, and safety. He counsels clients

through regulatory approvals; utility rate and certificate proceedings; acquisitions and dispositions of regulated assets; energy-related contracts; project finance; energy-related dispute resolution; and energy litigation. He represents Powerex Corporation, OhmConnect Inc., Offshore Wind California, the California Solar & Storage Association, the City of Long Beach, Marin Clean Energy, SFPP L.P. (a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan), the San Manuel Band of Cahuilla Indians, and California real estate developers with energy-related issues. He also represents some of the largest technology companies in the world on energy matters and has counseled various private equity and investment banks on their energy investments.

Vid's experience before the CPUC, in particular, allows him to effectively represent clients in the regulated transportation, telecommunications, and water sectors as well. For example, Vid represents Uber Technologies Inc., various autonomous vehicle companies, and Comcast Corporation.

Judy Chang, Managing Principal, Analysis Group, Former Massachusetts Undersecretary of Energy and Climate Solutions

Judy Chang is an energy economist and policy expert with more than 20 years of experience working with energy companies on regulatory and financial issues, particularly as they relate to investment decisions in energy transmission, clean energy, and energy storage. She is the former undersecretary of energy and climate solutions for Massachusetts, in which role she led efforts to set policies across the Commonwealth's energy sector and align strategies and plans to meet legal requirements for climate mitigation. Ms. Chang has presented and testified before US federal and state agencies and regulatory authorities in Canada, Australia, and Singapore on topics related to energy resource deployment; energy contracts; transmission planning, access, and pricing; and electricity market design. She has presented her work at industry conferences and academic seminars on energy and environmental policies. Ms. Chang has taught as an adjunct lecturer in public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and a senior fellow at the Kennedy School's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government. She serves as an ambassador for the US Department of Energy's Clean Energy Education & Empowerment Initiative, which has the goal of advancing women's leadership in clean energy and is a founding board member of New England Women in Energy and the Environment.

Adam Stern, Executive Director, Offshore Wind California

Adam is a California-based environmental and climate leader with more than 25 years of experience in nonprofits, business, and government. Prior to joining Offshore Wind California, he was executive director of Acterra, a San Francisco Bay Area climate advocacy organization. In earlier positions, he served as climate program manager for the San Francisco Department of the Environment, vice president for policy and strategy at TerraPass, deputy director for the Environmental Defense Fund, and special assistant for international affairs at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Jason Bursch, Executive Director, Pacific Ocean Energy Trust

Jason Busch is Executive Director of the Pacific Ocean Energy Trust (POET), an Oregon-based 501(c)33 nonprofit with a mission to promote ocean-based climate solutions. POET is leading regional voice for marine renewables and floating offshore wind. Busch is active on a number of organizations, and is the secretary/treasurer for Offshore Wind California and the chair of the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance.

Prior to joining POET, Mr. Busch was an attorney specializing in land use, energy, and project development.

Rick Umoff, Director – Government Affairs for West Coast, Vineyard Offshore

Rick Umoff has joined the company as Director of Government Affairs for the West Coast, representing the company on matters associated with Vineyard Offshore's floating offshore wind projects off the West Coast, principally the development of lease area OCS-P 0562, west of Humboldt Bay in Northern California.

In this position, Rick will be responsible for managing relations with California's legislature and regulatory agencies, including the California Public Utilities Commission, California Independent System Operator, and the California Energy Commission. He will also engage in initial exploration of opportunities in Oregon, where the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is considering the auction of lease areas for offshore wind development.

As Senior Director and Counsel, Rick led the Solar Energy Industries Association's work growing solar deployment in California, the largest solar market in the United States. In that position, he managed SEIA's legislative and regulatory initiatives. Rick also oversaw SEIA's policy work in the Northeast and Midwest. Rick has broad experience working with state agencies and legislatures throughout the United States.

Rick holds a J.D. from the University of San Francisco and a B.A. from the University of California at Santa Cruz. He is admitted to practice law in California, the District of Columbia, and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. He is based in San Francisco.