Presenters and Panelists

Francisco Castro
TEP

Francisco Castro has over 22 years of professional experience in the utility industry. He has worked in the electric, natural gas, and energy efficiency implementation consulting industries. His experience includes regulatory compliance, utility operations & engineering, program management, and energy efficiency program design and implementation. In his role as Manager of Energy Programs, Mr. Castro focuses on residential energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. He is involved in the beneficial electrification efforts at Tucson Electric Power.

Celeste Cizik
Group14 Engineering

Celeste Cizik is a Principal and Team Leader at Group14 Engineering overseeing Existing Building and Monitoring-Based Commissioning Services. She has over sixteen years of experience in building energy engineering including retro-commissioning, energy analysis, and mechanical system design. She has conducted energy projects at facilities and campuses across the country including large retro-commissioning projects utilizing analytical software. Celeste has a Bachelor’s in Architectural Engineering and a Master’s in Business Administration from University of Colorado and is a licensed engineer.

Ben Crandall
CLEAResult

Ben Crandall has more than 15 years of professional experience focusing on sales, business operations and management. He leverages his deep experience managing energy efficiency programs to oversee the strategy and account management for the portfolios of energy efficiency programs CLEAResult implements in Oregon, Colorado, Nevada, and Arizona, for clients including the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, Energy Trust of Oregon, Bonneville Power Administration, Portland General Electric, Colorado Springs Utilities, Nevada Energy, Arizona Public Service and Tucson Electric Power. In his role as Senior Business Development Director, Ben develops and manages relationships with clients and makes sure his teams exceed clients’ expectations. In his previous role as Senior Director Program Implementation, he managed program staff, updated clients on program performance, strategized on program design, and planned, coordinated, and directed implementation activities to ensure that goals and objectives were accomplished within program budgets.

Dane Christensen
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Dane Christensen leads a team of energy geeks at NREL, focusing on transformational data, control, and integration for grid-interactive efficient buildings and communities. Dr. Christensen joined NREL in 2008 with a goal to optimize buildings for their installed environment, software platforms for community-scale sustainability, and next-generation energy management algorithms and systems. He and his team perform hands-on demonstrations of prototype and product alike—in laboratories such as NREL’s Systems Performance Laboratory and in real-world homes and buildings—to confirm product performance, understand and overcome failure modes, and verify positive impacts such as enhanced comfort, convenience, utility costs, ancillary services, and environmental benefits. Dr. Christensen has more than 40 peer-reviewed publications, three issued patents, and numerous software copyrights, patents pending, and other innovative ventures. Dane also serves on the IEEE P2418.5 (Blockchain in Energy) standard committee, is active in several industry energy blockchain working groups, and leads projects at NREL to enhance transactive energy applications.
Ariel Crowley  
*Navigant*

Ariel Crowley is a Managing Consultant in the Global Energy Practice of Navigant Consulting, a Guidehouse Company. She joined the Boulder office in 2015. Prior to joining Navigant, she worked at NREL as a geothermal energy analyst. While at Navigant, she has assisted with modeling the Northwest residential and non-residential lighting market. Also, she is the evaluation lead for a C&I energy efficiency program and is also assisting with residential energy efficiency evaluations of smart devices, lighting, and weatherization measures. In addition, she has experience with the analysis of non-wires alternatives for multiple clients across the country including those the focus heavily on geo-targeted C&I lighting measures.

Scott Dimetrosky  
*Apex Analytics*

Mr. Scott Dimetrosky is the founder and president of Apex Analytics and has led planning and evaluation studies for dozens of utility energy-efficiency and load management programs during his 25 year career. Mr. Dimetrosky is a nationally recognized expert in lighting program evaluations, serving as the lead author for the Department of Energy Uniform Methods Project (UMP) Residential Lighting Evaluation Protocols. Prior to forming Apex Analytics, Mr. Dimetrosky was a founding member and principal at Quantec, LLC, which merged with the Cadmus Group in 2008. He is also the founder and president of the Consortium for Retail Energy Efficiency Data (CREED), and has served on the Planning Committee for the International Energy Program Evaluation Conference (IEPEC) and as a board member of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Association of Energy Service Professionals (AESP). He has an M.B.A. in Marketing Research & Quantitative Methods from Cornell University and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Michigan.

Amy Fiala  
*Black Hills Energy*

Amy is a Colorado native with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business and a Masters in International Marketing from Regis University. Her background is in sales and marketing across many industries over her career. Among her many endeavors, Amy has owned coffee kiosks, managed a Respiratory company-Lincare Holdings, sold Hospice Care-Colorado Palliative and Hospice, and has been promoting energy efficiency for Black Hills Energy over the last year. She is married with grown children living both here and abroad and in her free time enjoys gardening, hiking, kayaking, and doing anything that the outdoors of Colorado provides.

Howard Geller  
*Southwest Energy Efficiency Project*

Howard Geller is the Executive Director and Founder of the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP), a public interest organization operating in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Dr. Geller is the former Executive Director of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) based in Washington, D.C. He has advised and provided technical assistance to numerous utilities, governmental organizations, and international agencies, and he is author or co-author of four books. Dr. Geller holds a Master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Princeton University and a PhD in Energy Policy from the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil.

Tom Hines  
*APS*

Tom Hines is a principal and co-founder of Tierra Resources who has worked closely with Arizona Public Service Company for over 20 years designing and implementing the company’s DSM program portfolio. Tom has created and managed many widely recognized utility programs, earning over 15 national awards for program excellence from industry organizations including ACEEE, AESP, ENERGY STAR, and SEPA. His recent work focuses on the interaction between DSM/DER programs and innovative utility rate structures to drive customer value.
Dru Jones  
*New Mexico Gas Co.*

Dru has over 18 years of experience in the energy industry holding several different roles in customer service and regulatory departments. In his current role, he oversees R&D and marketing of Energy Efficiency Programs for New Mexico Gas Company. His team has helped NMGC customers save over 25M therms, over 2 billion gallons of water, and earn more than $20M in EE rebates and incentives. Dru holds a Master’s degree in Energy Management, and a Bachelor’s of Science in Business Management.

Nick Liu  
*Southwest Gas Co.*

Nick Liu is currently a Senior Analyst/Regulation and Energy Efficiency at Southwest Gas. Prior to that, Nick was a Public Utilities Analyst at the Arizona Corporation Commission. On behalf of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Nick has participated in exchanges with regulators in Africa and Asia, speaking on topics related to renewable energy integration, energy efficiency, power purchase agreements, tariff setting and rate design. Nick holds a Master’s degree in Statistics from University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelor’s degree in Economics and Mathematics from University of Minnesota.

Richie Mohan  
*Daikin*

Richie Mohan is the Regulatory Affairs Manager at Daikin North America. He engages in federal, state, and local regulatory activities impacting Daikin variable speed systems, and manages compliance of Daikin’s products to the pertinent regulations and standards. He currently chairs the AHRI VRF Regulatory WG, AHRI Standard 1230 Consensus Standards Project Committee, and AHRI VRF Certification Program. He is also the deputy chair of ASHRAE TC 8.7, and actively participates on the DOE ASRAC VRF Working Group. Richie has a Master of Business Administration degree from Imperial College London, and a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from Virginia Tech.

Bruce Ray  
*Johns Manville*

Bruce Ray serves as Director of Governmental and Regulatory Affairs for Johns Manville in Denver, Colorado where he manages the company’s relationships with federal and state governments, represents JM at a variety of trade associations, and works on innovation in energy efficiency business models. He originally joined Johns Manville as Environmental Counsel in 1990 and has held a variety of environmental, regulatory and business positions in the Johns Manville legal department.

Prior to joining Johns Manville, Ray served as senior enforcement counsel for the Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Office in Denver and also served with the United States Department of Justice as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Colorado where he worked primarily on Clean Water Act and Superfund matters. Ray holds a BA degree (Magna Cum Laude in Economics; Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of Colorado in Boulder and a JD degree from Union University's Albany Law School.

Sue Reilly  
*Group14 Engineering*

Sue Reilly founded Group14 Engineering, PBC over 25 years ago, specializing in energy and sustainability services. Sue continues to lead the Energy Modeling Services with a focus on new construction services for commercial and multifamily projects. She manages Group14’s Energy Design Assistance services for Xcel Energy. Sue has a Bachelor’s in Mechanical Engineering from University of Colorado, a Master’s in Mechanical Engineering from University of California at Berkeley and is a licensed engineer. Group14 is a certified B-Corp, Just Organization, and women-owned business.

Patricia Rodriguez  
*NV Energy*

Patricia Rodriguez is the director for Demand Side Management for NV Energy's integrated energy efficiency and demand response programs in Nevada. The DSM department has an approved budget in excess of $60 million annually to serve...
customers in both of NV Energy’s territories. She joined the company in 2005, as a student engineer and has held many positions in her 14 plus years in the company. The departments within the company include, Major Projects, Distribution Planning, DSM Planning and Resource Planning. Patricia also takes a big role in recruiting, hiring and mentoring student engineers. Patricia enjoys spending time with her three kids, playing basketball, running and doing zumba.

Adam Scheer
Recurve

Adam is a Director at Recurve where he works to bring AMI data and analytics to demand-side management program design. Before joining Recurve, Adam spent five years at PG&E working in energy efficiency evaluation, programs and policy. Adam holds a PhD. in Physics from the University of Colorado.

Mark Schoenheider
Xcel Energy

Mark Schoenheider leads the residential, small and medium business customer solutions organization for Xcel Energy. His team helps two million natural gas and three million electric customers save money while enhancing their experience and leading the clean energy transition. Mark has more than 20 years of experience in the consulting, environmental compliance and utility industries. Mark holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Wyoming and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Colorado.

John Shenot
Regulatory Assistance Project

As a senior advisor to the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP), John Shenot advises utility commissions and environmental agencies on public policy best practices. He has authored or co-authored a wide variety of publications, including a 2019 guidance document for public utility commissions in restructured states on integrated distribution system planning and a 2018 report for the International Renewable Energy Association on global best practices for power system planning.

Mr. Shenot came to RAP after serving as policy advisor to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin from 2008 to 2011. He contributed to numerous commission investigations of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change topics. Prior to that, he spent 15 years with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as an air pollution regulator and electric utility specialist. Mr. Shenot received a bachelor’s in engineering from the University of Maryland and a master’s in resource policy from the University of Michigan.

Shawn White
Xcel Energy

Shawn White is the Manager of DSM Strategy for Xcel Energy. He is tasked with ensuring the long-term viability of Xcel Energy’s DSM portfolio and the regulatory compact it operates in. In this role Shawn has testified before various commissions on the value of DSM and the expected changes this industry will need to address. He has been with Xcel Energy for 18 years and has held several roles in Customer Solutions organization. Shawn graduated from Hawaii Pacific University with a BS in Marketing and from the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Business with an MBA in Strategic Management. He is also a graduate of the United States Navy’s Nuclear Power Program and is currently Board Chair of the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.

Dan York
ACEEE

Dan York is an ACEEE senior fellow engaged primarily in utilities and local policy research and technical assistance. He focuses on tracking and analyzing trends and emerging issues in utility-sector energy efficiency programs. Dan has a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Minnesota. His master of science and PhD degrees, from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, are both in land resources with an emphasis in energy analysis and policy.