



Governors' Advisors Energy Policy Institute

June 24 & July 13-15, 2021

The National Governors' Association's (NGA) Governors' Advisors Energy Policy Institute is a unique event, hosted annually by the NGA Center for Best Practices, that brings together governors' energy policy staff to share energy policy solutions, learn from experts, and participate in peer-to-peer exchanges.

Thursday, June 24

Day One: State Exchange and Federal Policy Updates

1:00 – 1:15 PM ET

Welcome & Opening Remarks

- **Daniel Lauf**, Program Director, NGA Center for Best Practices (NGA Center)

1:15 – 2:15 PM ET

State Introductions and Updates

State attendees will introduce themselves and provide brief (1-2 minute) updates highlight recent energy policy developments and ongoing Gubernatorial priorities.

- What are your Governor's energy policy priorities?
- What energy policy challenges are you responding to?
- What questions do you have for NGA or your state peers?

Moderator:

- **Timothy Schoonhoven**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

2:15 – 2:45 PM ET | Energy Developments Overview

Energy markets are at a key inflection point. The new administration is pushing for an energy transition to clean energy and reduced emissions. Renewable energy incentives and reduced costs are expected to make clean energy investments more competitive. A presentation on these energy shifts will precede open state discussion.

Speaker:

- **Stanley Porter**, Vice Chairman, U.S. Energy, Resources and Industrials, Deloitte Consulting

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

2:45 – 3:00 PM ET | BREAK

3:00 – 3:15 PM ET | Federal Stimulus, Infrastructure Funding, and Other News from the Hill

Speaker:

- **Alex Whitaker**, Legislative Director, NGA Office of Government Relations

3:15 – 4:00 PM ET | Updates from U.S. Department of Energy Leadership

Officials from the U.S. Department of Energy will join the meeting to discuss agency priorities, updates, and new state-focused resources, followed by Q&A.

Speakers:

- **Puesh Kumar**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, DOE Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response
- **Patricia Hoffman**, Acting Assistant Secretary and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, DOE Office of Electricity
- **Dr. Kathryn Huff**, Acting Assistant Secretary and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, DOE Office of Nuclear Energy

Moderator:

- **Daniel Lauf**, Program Director, NGA Center

4:00 PM ET

End of Day 1



Tuesday, July 13

Day 2: Clean Energy and Climate

1:00 – 1:05 PM ET | Introductions

Speaker:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

1:05 – 1:25 PM ET | Opening Keynote: *Achieving Clean Energy Goals*

Over sixteen governors have established net zero-carbon generation goals and the Biden Administration has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions nationwide by 50 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. This opening keynote will provide an overview of strategies that states across the U.S. can pursue, including the role of specific technologies, to help meet state goals along with federal objectives.

Speaker:

- **Emily Wimberger**, Climate Economist, Rhodium Group

Moderator:

- **Matt Rogotzke**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

1:25 – 1:45 PM ET | Financing the Energy Transition

An expert from Bank of America will discuss energy sector financing trends. Bank of America recently announced a new environmental, social, and governance (ESG) goal. The Bank plans on helping deploy \$1 trillion by 2030 to accelerate the transition toward a low-carbon, sustainable future.¹ This keynote will discuss how the financial sector can work with states to help meet their clean energy and environmental goals.

Speaker:

- **Karen Fang**, Head of Global Sustainable Finance, Bank of America

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

¹ <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210408005484/en/Bank-of-America-Increases-Environmental-Business-Initiative-Target-to-1-Trillion-by-2030>

1:45 – 2:30 PM ET

Planning and Policy Strategies to Achieve Near-Term State Goals

In this session industry experts and states will discuss technology options and policy strategies to electricity sector decarbonization goals and identify priority pre-2030 actions. Experts will explore topics such as what can be done policy and regulatory-wise from governor's offices to spur this clean energy transition. Topics may include tax policy changes to incentivize clean energy investments, streamlining siting and permitting requirements, and regional partnerships to quicken the pace of adoption and buildout out the necessary infrastructure such as transmission upgrades.

Speakers:

- **Reice Haase**, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum
- **Marcia Burkey**, CFO, TerraPower
- **Brian Ross**, Vice President, Renewable Energy, Great Plains Institute

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

2:30 – 2:45 PM ET Break

2:45 – 3:05 PM ET

Governor Impact: State Case Study

This session will include a case study from a state considering multiple pathways, including from a variety of state agencies, to achieve climate and decarbonization objectives. For example, from an environmental justice, workforce, research & development, and other angles.

Speaker:

- **Trieste Lockwood**, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Ralph Northam, Virginia

Moderator:

- **Matt Rogotzke**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

3:05 – 3:25 PM ET

State and International Areas for Collaboration

This closing session will address the Biden Harris-Administration's climate policy and technology goals and plans from both domestic and international perspectives.

Speaker:

- **Andrew Light**, Senior Advisor, Office of International Affairs, DOE

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

3:25 – 3:30 PM ET Closing Remarks & End of Day 2

Wednesday, July 14

Day 3: Energy Resilience and Security

12:00 – 12:05 PM
ET

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Speaker:

- **Dan Lauf**, Program Director, NGA Center for Best PRactices

12:05 – 1:00 PM
ET

Cybersecurity Briefing (states only)

Energy companies have seen a marked increase in cybersecurity threats and attempted attacks. Underscored by the recent Colonial Pipeline outage, it is important that Governors have situational awareness when threats may have adverse impacts on energy supply. In this session, an energy cybersecurity expert will provide an in-depth, unclassified briefing on the major threats facing the energy sector and actions states can consider to prepare for potential energy sector cyberattacks.

Speakers:

- **Ben Deering**, Chief, Analysis and Collection Advancement Group, National Counterintelligence and Security Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- **Jonathan Bransky**, Director Threat Intelligence, Corporate Intelligence and Security, Dominion Energy
- **Jonathan Nuñez**, Commander, Cybersecurity Integration Center, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Moderator:

- **Brandi Martin**, SLTT Program Manager, Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, U.S. Department of Energy

1:00 – 1:30 PM ET

Energy Resilience Funding and FEMA’s Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program

From hurricanes to floods, polar vortexes to wildfires, and cyber-attacks to public health emergencies, the past year has underscored the varied threats jeopardizing energy security in the United States. The preparedness discussion is shifting from emergency response to pre-disaster mitigation and Governors are taking a leadership role in energy and critical infrastructure investments. In this section, participants will learn about how FEMA’s BRIC program can be leveraged to fund energy resilience measures.

Speaker:

- **Camille Crain**, BRIC Section Chief, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Moderator:

- **Matt Rogotzke**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

1:30 – 2:30 PM ET

Energy Security: Lessons to be Learned from the Last Year

In this session, speakers will discuss some of the impactful events that impacted energy supply from the past year: wildfires in the west, the Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack, and price spikes and outages following a polar vortex in the southern United States. Speakers will provide overviews of these incidents, discuss their applicability to other regions in the country, and highlight actions Governors can take to mitigate these threats in the future.

Speakers:

- **Letha Tawney**, Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission
- **Ben Bolton**, Energy Programs Administrator, Office of Energy Programs, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
- **Brad Viator**, Vice President, External Affairs, Edison Electric Institute

Moderator:

- **Dan Lauf**, Program Director, NGA Center

2:30 PM ET

Wrap-Up and End of Day 3

Thursday, July 15

Day 4: Energy Workforce, Economic Development, and Recovery

1:00 – 1:05 PM ET | Introduction to the Day

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

1:05 – 1:25 PM ET | Opening Keynote: The Energy Workforce of the Future

This opening keynote will cover energy workforce opportunities and considerations for communities significantly impacted by the transition away from traditional fossil fuel industry jobs. Activities by the White House Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization will be discussed, including a recent report with initial recommendations,² catalyzing investment and engaging stakeholders and upcoming listening sessions in communities around the nation.

Speaker:

- **Dr. Brian Anderson**, Ph.D., Director, DOE National Energy Technology Lab
Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

Moderator:

- **Timothy Schoonhoven**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

² <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/23/fact-sheet-biden-administration-outlines-key-resources-to-invest-in-coal-and-power-plant-community-economic-revitalization/>

1:25 – 2:00 PM ET

Energy Job Opportunities – Growth Sectors & Emerging Areas

This session will provide an overview of the fastest growing sectors for clean energy jobs and analyze COVID-19 impacts to energy job growth. New Mexico will also discuss state planning and partnership efforts to support the state's energy industry. Those efforts include elevating clean energy in a Comprehensive Statewide Economic Development Strategy.

Speakers:

- **Sandra Purohit**, Director of Federal Advocacy, E2
- **Alyssa Latuchie**, Clean Energy Economist, Energy Conservation and Management Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
- **Felicia DePaula**, Program Specialist, New Mexico Economic Development Department

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

2:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Ensuring a Just Energy Transition

Expert panelists during this session will discuss what policymakers can do to ensure that their state's energy transition is equitable and includes job training, education, and other opportunities for communities that have been traditionally dependent on energy jobs. This session will focus on opportunities for states to support just energy transitions in communities that have been reliant on fossil-based jobs, including regional and local planning considerations, and community and partner engagement strategies.

Speakers:

- **Cindy Winland**, Principal, Community Transition Planning
- **Wade Buchanan**, Director, Colorado Office of Just Transition, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Moderator:

- **Timothy Schoonhoven**, Policy Analyst, NGA Center

2:30 – 3:00 PM ET

Workforce Development: Education & Retraining

Expert panelists will discuss challenges, opportunities, and best practices for preparing the energy workforce. This session will consider the skills needed to build a competitive and future-looking clean technology manufacturing workforce, leverage digital tools and technologies, and address other energy issues like cyber preparedness.

Speakers:

- **Lisa Waters**, Vice President of Human Resources, Schneider Electric
- **Dan Conant**, Founder and CEO, Solar Holler

Moderator:

- **Amanda Winters**, Program Director, Postsecondary, NGA Center

3:00 – 3:30 PM ET

What Governors Can Do – Policy Solutions

Governors often make decisions on how federal stimulus dollars can best be used to support their communities. The economic downturn in many parts of the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic caused certain energy sector job losses and hurt communities heavily reliant on these jobs. This session will focus on the Wyoming Energy Rebound Program that used federal stimulus funds to keep Oil & Gas workers employed during the pandemic. This session will touch on potential actions for governors and their staff to consider when addressing future short-term emergencies or making long-term strategic workforce investments.

Speaker:

- **Tom Kropatsch**, Deputy Supervisor, Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Moderator:

- **Jessica Rackley**, Program Director, NGA Center

3:30 – 3:35 PM ET

Final Wrap-Up and End of Day 4
