

EECBG & SEP Northwest Regional Peer Exchange Speaker Biographies

March 7-8th, 2011

Northwest Natural Gas Headquarters, Portland, OR

The Department of Energy (DOE) is pleased to introduce you to the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) facilitators and Grantee Speakers for the EECBG & SEP Northwest Regional Peer Exchange Meeting. Brief biographies of each featured speaker you will be hearing from at this event are provided below.

➤ **Rima Oueid: EECBG & SEP Technical Assistance Program, Department of Energy**

Rima Oueid is a Policy Advisor for DOE's State Energy Program (SEP) and serves as the liaison to the Technical Assistance Program (TAP). Rima is responsible for providing policy and operations guidance for SEP with a focus on financing and renewable energy programs. In addition, Rima manages the stakeholder relationships for SEP and is the SEP liaison to other EERE technology offices. Rima is dedicated to helping state energy officials obtain the tools and capabilities needed to build clean energy capacity in their communities by leveraging TAP and DOE resources. Prior to joining the DOE, Rima spent nine years working in private equity and management consulting where she evaluated and led investments in renewable energy and energy conservation companies such as solar, biomass, and water purification. Rima earned an MBA from the University Of Chicago Booth School Of Business with concentrations in Finance, Strategy, and Entrepreneurship. Rima also holds a Bachelors of Science in Accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ms. Oueid will welcome attendees on behalf of the DOE Technical Assistance Program (TAP).

➤ **John MacLean: Managing Director, Energy Efficiency Finance Corp.**

John MacLean's background is investment banking in municipal and project finance for energy and environmental projects. John has 26 years commercial finance experience with a wide range of investment structures for senior debt, municipal bond, leasing, factoring, subordinated debt, guarantees, project equity and corporate equity transactions and has worked on financing energy efficiency projects and companies throughout his career. His clients have included commercial and development financial institutions, energy services companies, utilities, public agencies and state and local governments on project development, procurement and finance assignments. For the last twelve years, he has worked internationally as a financial advisor with the International Finance Corp., World Bank, Asian Development Bank, United Nations Environment Program and others to develop, structure and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy investments and finance programs. He graduated from Yale University in 1980 in economics and teaches sustainable economics and political economy at The Evergreen State College and Bainbridge Graduate Institute.

Mr. Clarkson is the technical moderator for Panel Session A: Northwest Initiatives for Financing Energy Projects: ARRA and Post-ARRA.

➤ **Andria Jacob: City of Portland, Oregon**

Andria Jacob manages the U.S. DOE's Better Building grant to the City of Portland, which is helping Clean Energy Works expand to the Portland Metropolitan Area and other jurisdictions across Oregon. Andria has twelve years of experience in energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability program design and delivery. Before joining the City's staff in 2005, Andria spent three years at Ecos Consulting, a Portland-based energy-efficiency program implementation firm, designing and managing programs for utility clients. Andria began her career in energy efficiency at E SOURCE, in Boulder, Colorado in 1998. She holds an M.A. in environmental policy from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a B.A. in economics from Lehigh University.

Ms. Jacob is a panelist for Panel Session A: Northwest Initiatives for Financing Energy Projects: ARRA and Post-ARRA.

➤ **Elizabeth Green-Taylor: Washington State Department of Commerce**

Liz Green-Taylor manages the Energy Efficiency Credit Enhancement (EECE) program for the State Energy Office at the Washington State Department of Commerce. The EECE program has provided grants to local governments, non-profit organizations, utilities, and the state's Housing Finance Commission who partner with financial institutions to create lending programs for residential and commercial energy efficiency projects by funding credit enhancements that reduce lender risks and borrower costs. Prior to getting involved in energy finance, Liz managed the Bond Cap Allocation Program and Bond Users Clearinghouse for five years, also at the Department of Commerce.

Ms. Green-Taylor is a panelist for Panel Session A: Northwest Initiatives for Financing Energy Projects: ARRA and Post-ARRA.

➤ **Charlie Stephens: Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance**

Charlie Stephens joined the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) in July 2010 as a Senior Codes & Standards Engineer, representing the energy efficiency interests of NEEA's funders in federal and state energy efficiency standards processes, and helping to align the work of NEEA's Emerging Technologies and Sector Initiatives with the region's codes and standards objectives. From 2006 to 2010, Charlie was a consultant for architects and project owners building high performance and net zero energy homes. From 1989 to 2006, he was at the Oregon Department of Energy where he focused on residential energy efficiency and renewable energy applications, new technology development, sustainable building and community development, and energy policy for the State of Oregon. He created the State's Sustainable Building Tax Credit Program (1999), and was a design team member for a significant number of sustainable building projects. In 2001, he began the Department's work on high performance homes, designed to generate as much energy annually as they use. He is a past member of the U.S. Secretary of Energy's Advisory Committee on Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards.

Mr. Stephens is the technical moderator for Panel Session B: Strategic Alliances: Community Energy Planning and Partnering with Utilities.

➤ **Jennifer Stapleton: Grants Administrator, Spokane County**

Jennifer Stapleton is the Grants Administrator for Spokane County and oversees its Office of Financial Assistance which provides compliance and administrative oversight to all of the County's Federal and State contracts and all grants. She currently serves as the administrator and program manager for two EECBG grants awarded to Spokane County -- the direct formula EECBG grant as well as a pass-through grant from the State of Washington that is supporting a Shared Resource Conservation Manager she supervises. She received a Masters in Public Administration (MPA) from Eastern Washington University.

Ms. Stapleton is a panelist for Panel Session B: Strategic Alliances: Community Energy Planning and Partnering with Utilities.

➤ **Joe Brabeck: DSM Program Manager, Avista Corporation**

Joe Brabeck is the DSM Program Manager for Residential Energy Audits for Avista Utilities. He has worked in the electric and natural gas utility industry for over 27 years. Joe has held a variety of positions at Avista Utilities/Washington Water Power, and as a regional account executive helped large commercial and industrial customers in identifying opportunities to become more energy efficient through equipment upgrades and process improvements. In his current role he has been responsible for the development, implementation and day-to-day management of Avista's In-Home Energy Audit program and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund. Joe is a graduate of the University of Montana. In 2000 Joe received his certification as a Certified Energy Manager (CEM) from the Association of Energy Engineers and in 2009 earned his Building Analyst/Home Energy Auditor certification from the Building Performance Institute (BPI). Joe is also an adjunct instructor at Spokane Community College teaching a Home Energy Auditing class preparing student to earn their BPI Building Analyst 1 certification.

Mr. Brabeck is a panelist for Panel Session B: Strategic Alliances: Community Energy Planning and Partnering with Utilities.

➤ **Michael Piper: Senior Sustainability Analyst, Clackamas County**

Michael Piper is a Senior Sustainability Analyst of Energy for Clackamas County and manages the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant for Clackamas County. He has a 25 year career in energy management including work with Clark County, Washington; City of Vancouver, State of Washington and the Bonneville Power Administration, and Pacific Power.

Mr. Piper is a panelist for Panel Session B: Strategic Alliances: Community Energy Planning and Partnering with Utilities.

➤ **John Bergwell: Director of Project Finance, Chevron Energy Solutions**

John Bergwell is the Director of Project Finance for Chevron Energy Solutions, a subsidiary of Chevron Corporation. He and his staff are responsible for working with customers to form and fashion low cost financing solutions for their projects. A commercial banker for nearly 25 years prior to moving to the energy services sector, John has led Chevron Energy Solutions' Project Finance activities for 10 years and has financed in excess of \$5 billion in projects. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Nebraska, with majors in Economics, Finance and Accounting.

Mr. Bergwell is the technical moderator for Panel Session C: "Lead by Example" in Public Building Best Practices: ESPCs, Benchmarking with Portfolio Manager and Energy Managers.

➤ **Ernest Lau: Public Works Division – Department of Accounting and General Services, State of Hawaii**

Ernest "Ernie" Lau is the Public Works Administrator for Hawaii's Department of Accounting and General Services. Before joining the Public Works Division in 2004, Ernie was the Deputy Director of the State Commission on Water Resources Management. Prior to working for the State of Hawaii, he was the manager and chief engineer for a small water utility, the Department of Water County of Kauai. He holds a Bachelors and Masters in Civil Engineering from the University of Hawaii.

Mr. Lau is a panelist for Panel Session C: "Lead by Example" in Public Building Best Practices and will speak about energy savings performance contracts.

➤ **Ryan Dicks: Sustainability Director, Pierce County, WA**

Ryan Dicks is in charge of creating and implementing the *Pierce County Sustainability Plan* for Pierce County government. He is currently creating the Pierce County Sustainability Education Network, a new organization to share sustainability information between non-profits, businesses, governments and colleges in Pierce County. Ryan has spent the last 10 years working in the environmental field. He has worked for U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, has served as VP of Conservation Transactions for Cascade Land Conservancy and ran his own environmental consulting firm Air Water Land. Ryan is focused on creating sustainable solutions that save money and protect natural resources in Pierce County and beyond.

Mr. Dicks is a panelist for Panel Session C: "Lead by Example" in Public Building Best Practices and will speak about benchmarking with Portfolio Manager.

➤ **Karen Messmer: Senior Project Manager, Washington State University Extension Energy Program**

Karen Messmer is a Senior Project Manager at the Washington State University (WSU) Extension Energy Program. During over 30 years of experience in the public sector, Karen has worked at the local and state level to research, coordinate and manage energy programs. Her efforts in both the residential and nonresidential sectors resulted in significant savings of public and consumer funds. Messmer currently manages support for Resource Conservation Managers (RCM) including a Recovery Act funded program for public sector Shared RCMs.

Ms. Messmer is a panelist for Panel Session C: "Lead by Example" in Public Building Best Practices and will speak about energy managers.

➤ **William Nesmith: National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)**

William Nesmith is currently the Senior Energy Advisor and Northwest Regional Coordinator for the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) located in Alexandria, Virginia. In this position William provides expert advice and consultation to NASEO on a variety of energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable development, and international programs. William's background includes a Master of Science degree and over twenty-five years experience in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy. He has worked as a land use planner for local government, been a program manager with state government, served as a public utilities specialist with the US Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration, and served as the Assistant Director for Energy Efficiency at the Oregon Department of Energy. William also serves as special advisor to the City of Shanghai, China, for Sustainable Development and Energy Conservation. Previously, William has served as Vice Chair and participated on the Executive Committee of NASEO, and has served on the board of directors of Earth Advantage Program, Energy Trust of Oregon, and the US Department of Energy, State Energy Advisory Board.

Mr. Nesmith is the technical moderator for Panel Session D: Off Budget Programs: Rate-payer funded activities, fee for service, public benefits charge, public private partnerships and carbon-offsets.

➤ **Bob Repine: Acting Director, Oregon Department of Energy**

Bob Repine became acting Director of Oregon Department of Energy May 2010. Prior to that, he joined the Department in 2009 to lead the newly formed Energy Development Services Division. This division is responsible for the Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC), Small Energy Loan Program (SELP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Prior to joining the Department, he served as the Oregon Governor's Special Assistant, working on a variety of projects for the Department of Human Services (DHS). Before his work at DHS he was appointed as Director of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department where he served for two years and Director of Oregon Housing and Community Services Department, serving for nine years. Before starting his career with the State of Oregon, he served as a member of the Oregon Legislature for 10 years, co-chairing the ways and means process for two terms.

Mr. Repine is a panelist for Panel Session D: Off Budget Programs.

➤ **John Volkman: General Counsel, Energy Trust of Oregon**

John Volkman came to Energy Trust in 2004 from Stoel Rives, a Portland law firm. Previously, he was an administrator and policy advisor to the National Marine Fisheries Service; General Counsel to the Northwest Power Planning Council; consultant to President Clinton's Western Water Policy Review Commission; and a Visiting Scholar at the Western Governors' Association. He teaches environmental policy at the University of Portland. His law degree is from the University of Colorado and B.A. from the Colorado College.

Mr. Volkman is a panelist for Panel Session D: Off Budget Programs.

➤ **Ben Vitale: President, Oregon Climate Trust**

Ben Vitale is a carbon market expert and an experienced executive, with over 20 years of executive experience in both for-profit and non-profit organizations. He is the first President of The Climate Trust, succeeding the founding Executive Director in December 2009. Before joining The Climate Trust, Ben served as Managing Director of the Conservation and Community Carbon Fund at Conservation International (CI), where he worked with the private sector to develop climate change solutions and new financial instruments that create business value and achieve measurable climate change results. He has supported the development of conservation carbon projects in Biodiversity Hotspots around the world, and has advised governments and partners in Africa and elsewhere on climate change, particularly in the area of reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD). Ben has served as an adviser for Ecosystem Marketplace, the Chicago Climate Exchange, and Patagonia Sur, among others. Ben holds a Master of Management degree from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and a B.S. degree in Computer and Electrical Engineering from Purdue University.

Mr. Vitale is a panelist for Panel Session D: Off Budget Programs.

➤ **Katy Newhouse: ICF International**

Katy Newhouse is an Analyst with ICF International in the Energy, Environment and Transportation practice and the Federal Energy Efficiency Programs Division. She is also the Northwest Regional Coordinator for the TAP. Katy has 2 ½ years experience supporting EECBG and SEP grantees and also has experience working on voluntary Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) material conservation programs. Prior to joining ICF, Katy worked in Sapporo, Japan as an Assistance Language Teacher. Katy holds a B.A. in Environmental Economics from Whitman College (Walla Walla, WA) and currently lives in Portland, OR.

Ms. Newhouse is a Co-Chair of the Northwest Regional Peer Exchange Meeting.

➤ **Zach Abrams: ICF International**

Zach Abrams is an Associate with ICF International, in the Federal Energy Efficiency Programs Division. He is also the North-Central Regional Coordinator for the TAP. Zach has 1 year of experience supporting EECBG and SEP grantees, working as a grant specialist in the DOE's Office of Acquisition and Financial Assistance, as well as working to help Better Building grantees re-scope their grant applications, in addition to being a local Regional Coordinator. Zach attended the University of Michigan for undergraduate studies, and holds an MA in Public Policy from the University of Southern California.

Mr. Abrams is a Co-Chair of the Northwest Regional Peer Exchange Meeting.