



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of **ENERGY** | Office of Critical Minerals
and Energy Innovation

Federal Energy Management Program



2026 Federal Utility Partnership Working Group (FUPWG) Seminar

Washington, D.C.

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Speaker and Moderator Biographies



Ebony Atkinson
General Services Administration

Ebony Atkinson is the Chief of the Regulated Utility Services branch at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). In this capacity, she oversees the GSA's Regulated and Areawide Contracting Programs, as well as the Utility Delegations Program. Mrs. Atkinson's work involves providing client agencies with access to utility services—including electricity, natural gas, water, wastewater, and steam—and delivering specialized energy procurement and contracting expertise. With over 10 years of experience in energy acquisition, she has led and supported numerous energy and acquisition programs, providing contract management and technical support to government clients. Her focus remains on fostering collaborative partnerships and streamlining utility service delivery across the federal government.



Nancy Balkus
U.S. Air Force

Ms. Nancy J. Balkus, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Infrastructure, Energy and Environment, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Arlington, Virginia. She provides executive leadership on all matters pertaining to formulation, review and execution of plans, policies, programs and budgets for Air Force built and natural infrastructure, environmental, and installation energy. These include facility management, military construction, utilities privatization, energy security, contingency energy, and environmental compliance and restoration. Ms. Balkus served in a variety of positions at the squadron, base, forward operating agency, major command and headquarters level in the contiguous United States and overseas. She is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas. Her joint experience includes the Joint Staff Strategic Plans and Policy Assistant Deputy Director for Strategic Stability where she formulated Joint Staff positions and recommendations regarding strategic deterrence, nuclear policy, combating weapons of mass destruction and international arms control agreements.

Prior to her current assignment, Ms. Balkus served as the Deputy Director for Civil Engineers, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Arlington, VA. As a civil engineer she has served as the Programs Division Deputy Chief in the Office of the Civil Engineer at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Deputy Base Civil Engineer at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, Deputy Chief of Readiness at Headquarters Air Combat Command, Project Management Branch Chief for the Aviano 2000 Program Management Office, and multiple positions at the Air Force Center for Engineering and Environment, Brooks AFB, Texas.



Ryan Beard
HASI

Ryan Beard is a Director on the Investment Team at HASI. He joined HASI in 2020 and is responsible for the company's energy efficiency and renewable energy investments in the federal, state, and local government sectors. Prior to joining HASI, he held positions with Johnson Controls and the US General Services Administration where he focused on enabling energy efficient improvements through alternative funding structures. He has been involved in the structuring of financing for more than \$3 billion worth of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Currently, Beard serves on the National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO) Board of Directors and is part of Efficiency Valuation Organization's International Energy Efficiency Financing Protocol Committee, which is committed to developing international guidelines for streamlining underwriting and financing standards for energy efficiency projects.



Joseph Beck
Southern Company

Joseph M. Beck, P.E., is the Federal Program Development Manager for Southern Company, supporting energy initiatives for federal agencies served by its utility affiliates, including Alabama Power, Atlanta Gas Light, Chattanooga Gas, Georgia Power, Mississippi Power, Nicor, and Virginia Natural Gas. He leads development of energy and utility infrastructure projects, aligning technical requirements, project economics, and acquisition strategy to create executable solutions. His work requires coordination with mission owners, agency stakeholders, engineering teams, and construction organizations throughout development. Beck's perspective comes from working where mission requirements, funding realities, and contractual constraints do not naturally align. He focuses on identifying viable paths forward, maintaining development momentum, and positioning projects for execution. His experience reflects the coordinated effort required to deliver complex federal performance contracting projects, with an emphasis on long-term partnership.



Katy Christiansen
Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Katy Christiansen is a senior strategic advisor to the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), where she aligns strategy, resources, and partnerships to advance federal energy objectives. With more than 15 years of experience in energy resilience and infrastructure modernization across defense, federal, utility, and nonprofit sectors, Christiansen has led mission-driven initiatives that include restoring grid systems in post-disaster zones and deploying scalable microgrid technologies to support military readiness. She holds a master's degree in environmental science and policy from Johns Hopkins University.



Heather Colbert
National Laboratory of the Rockies

Heather Colbert is a project manager at the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR). She has worked and consulted in energy and sustainability for over 20 years working with large public and private institutions, including large real estate investment trusts (REITs), state and federal government agencies, and university systems. Her background includes project and program management, policy development, regulatory and legislative affairs, financial administration, capital project development, facilities management, and energy procurement. Today, Colbert provides technical assistance to state and federal agencies developing their energy and sustainability programs, distributed energy resources, performance contracts, as well as related tools, resources, and training programs.



Russell Dominy
Boston Government Services

Russ Dominy is an experienced acquisition professional having served as the former acquisition director/chief of contracts office at NAVFAC Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center. He was the department head responsible for overall management of 50 contracting professionals. Dominy served as procurement contracting officer (PCO) and source selection authority for all large contract actions at the center including over \$1 billion in ESPC contract awards. He also has held positions as supervisory contracting officer, PCO, administrative contracting officer (ACO), contract specialist, and contracting officer representative.



Ashley Edwards
Duke Energy

Ashley M. Edwards is Duke Energy's Director of Federal Project Development & Execution. She leads Duke Energy's Federal Utility Energy Services Contract (UESC) program in their six utility territories of North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. She also manages projects under the General Services Administration Areawide Contract to help federal customers implement energy efficiency and resiliency projects. She is an experienced leader and manager developing and delivering energy and resilience strategies, programs and projects, including energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs). Edwards is an experienced negotiator and licensed attorney.



Peter Flynn
Bostonia Partners

Peter Flynn is a managing partner and co-founder of Bostonia Partners, a financial services and investment-banking firm that concentrates on funding real estate, energy services, and sustainable infrastructure projects. He focuses on financing energy services, distributed generation, and renewable energy projects in the federal, commercial, and municipalities, universities, schools, and hospitals (MUSH) markets in the United States and Canada. Since 1998, Bostonia has financed over \$15 billion in infrastructure assets, including approximately \$3 billion in federal, municipal, and commercial energy services projects. Flynn is a graduate of Syracuse University and Boston University School of Law.



Karen Gierhart
Bank of America

Karen Gierhart is a Managing Director on the Global Leasing Energy Services team at Bank of America, based in Providence, Rhode Island. In this role, Gierhart is responsible for business development and origination of energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions for the federal government, as well as commercial and industrial companies. Bank of America has financed over \$3.75 billion of Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Savings Contracts. Gierhart has over 36 years of experience in the leasing industry, with 30 of those years at Global Leasing, having held various management roles across sales, credit, and capital markets.



Jeff Gingrich
National Laboratory of the Rockies

Jeff Gingrich is a project manager specializing in project development and finance to advance federal energy goals. Since joining NLR in 2019, he's played a central role in supporting the Federal Energy Management Program's (FEMP) Utility Program and Energy Performance Contracting Programs. His work focuses on providing training and technical assistance to federal staff on best practices for executing Utility Energy Service Contracts (UESCs), enabling agencies to maximize energy efficiency, reduce costs, and improve energy operations. Gingrich also serves as NLR's lead for FEMP's Off-Site Energy Procurement Program, helping federal agencies leverage utility programs and optimize utility budgets through rate and cost analysis.



Chris Grisafe
U. S. Navy

Appointed in August 2025, Mr. Chris Grisafe is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy (DASN Energy). In this capacity, he develops Department of the Navy (DON) energy policy and coordinates with DON stakeholders to implement programs and initiatives, including treating energy as a strategic resource to improve operational assets, increasing installation energy reliability and efficiency, maximizing platform and system effectiveness, fostering strategic partnerships, training, and data-driven energy management. He also coordinates submission of energy plans, reports, data, and metrics for compliance; chairs the Shore Energy Policy Board; manages the annual Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) energy awards program; and develops strategic communications guidance to advance DON energy policies, programs, and initiatives.

Prior to his appointment, Grisafe held senior leadership roles in the federal government and brought technology and business experience from the commercial sector. During President Trump's first administration, he served as Associate Administrator for Resilience at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), where he managed a multi-billion-dollar enterprise and drove a national security emphasis in resilience, preparedness, and continuity of government. At the Department of Defense, he was Deputy Chief of Staff to the DoD Chief Management Officer and advised the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs (ASD(NCB)) and the DoD White House Liaison. Grisafe also served in the commercial sector, most recently working in technology where he developed and implemented go-to-market strategies around secure and resilient communication solutions. A U.S. Coast Guard veteran, Grisafe holds an MBA from Virginia Tech and a B.A. in Political Science from Loyola Marymount University. He resides in the Northern Virginia area with his wife and their two sons.



Bruce Gross
Dominion Federal Corporation

Bruce Gross is the President of Dominion Federal Corporation. Dominion Federal provides financial, marketing, and consulting services to federal government prime contractors and federal agencies. Gross has more than 40 years of experience in the government market. Prior to Dominion Federal he was with GE Capital and Motorola. He has been involved in the financing of over \$3 billion of projects that included a wide range of assets and related services. Gross earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration from the University of Florida.



Chris Halpin
Celtic Energy, PLLC

Chris Halpin is a nationally recognized energy executive with over 40 years of experience advancing energy efficiency, resilience, and decarbonization across federal and institutional sectors. He has held leadership roles with premier consulting firms, energy service companies (ESCOs), and served as Global Energy Manager for a Fortune 100 company. Since 2003, Mr. Halpin has served as a FEMP Project Facilitator, helping federal agencies develop and implement complex ESPC projects. As founder of Celtic Energy, he advised public agencies as an Owner's Representative, structuring and delivering energy savings performance contract (ESPC), energy-as-a-service (EaaS), power purchase agreement (PPA), and property assessed clean energy (PACE) projects in volatile energy markets. He has contributed to more than \$2.5 billion in implemented projects, with a strong track record in stakeholder alignment, federal procurement, and measurable performance outcomes. After selling Celtic Energy to NV5 in 2018, he launched Celtic Energy PLLC to support project development and mentor energy professionals.



Tyler Harris

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Tyler Harris joined the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) in 2024, where he leads Energy Performance Contracting and the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation (AFFECT) grant programs. Previously, Harris served as the Energy Management Officer and Director of Energy for the GSA Public Buildings Service. Throughout his career, Harris has spearheaded some of the most innovative programs and projects in the federal government. These include organizing GSA's \$2.4 billion Inflation Reduction Act approach for the energy transformation of over 80 facilities, overseeing the installation of microgrid and grid-interactive efficient building technologies, and implementing comprehensive energy auctions that resulted in improved rates and infrastructure for more than 100 federal buildings in Texas. His exceptional experience in emerging technologies, energy innovation, and leveraging public-private partnerships is instrumental in advancing FEMP's mission and driving significant progress in federal energy management.



Billie Holecek

Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory

Billie Holecek is an energy and environmental policy researcher at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, where she has worked for six years. She specializes in load flexibility, helping manage and maintain a nationwide database of utility programs and rates for federal customers. In this role, she provides training and direct technical assistance to federal sites interested in reducing their utility bills through load flexibility. Ultimately, her work focuses on helping federal customers reduce costs and maintain a reliable grid through flexibility. She holds a masters of energy and environmental policy from the University of Delaware and a Bachelor of Science in sustainable energy management from the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



Rebecca Isacowitz

Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Resilience & Optimization

Rebecca Isacowitz serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of War for Energy Resilience & Optimization within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations and Environment. She leads strategy, investment, and governance across the full energy lifecycle at the Department of War. Drawing on over a decade of public and private sector leadership, Isacowitz is an expert in strategic policy, energy resilience, and the large-scale execution of innovative and efficient energy solutions. She has shaped energy policy and programs across multiple roles, including for the City of New York, the New York Power Authority, and most recently, the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). Isacowitz holds a Bachelor of Arts in international relations and Spanish from Lehigh University, with a minor in environmental policy.



Catherine Johnson

Department of Veterans Affairs

Catherine Johnson has over 35 years of experience with government environmental, fleet, and energy programs. She currently works on the Performance Contracting Team for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) overseeing development and implementation of VA's alternatively financed energy projects. She is the primary liaison for performance contracting in Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) 7, 8, 9, and 16. Johnson earned a B.S. in chemical engineering and an M.S. in engineering management from the University of Maryland.



Heidi Johnson
General Services Administration

Heidi Johnson is Contracting Officer and Branch Chief of Energy Performance Contracts for General Services Administration (GSA) Public Buildings Service (PBS). She is the acquisition subject matter expert for alternatively financed performance contracts, advising PBS on internal acquisition policy as it relates to all aspects of performance contracts. Johnson leads a small acquisition team responsible for the PBS performance contract inventory with 46 contracts worth over \$3 billion. She has 25 years with GSA and 17 years as a warranted contracting officer with a variety of experience working on all types of contracts. Johnson has a Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree from the University of Colorado at Denver. She actively provides information and expertise to FEMP publications and advises federal agencies in related procurement activities. She was a recipient of the Federal Energy and Water Management Director's Award for National Deep Energy Retrofit Program implemented by GSA in 2014.



Lauren Khair
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Lauren Khair is a Senior Director of Energy Research & Resilience at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Business and Technology Strategies department. At NRECA, she currently leads NRECA Research and the Department of Defense engagement. Khair manages a research portfolio totaling over \$400 million, primarily focused on infrastructure deployment projects and military energy. A native of Northern Virginia, Khair earned her B.A. from James Madison University and a master's in public policy from George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government. Prior to NRECA, she worked for the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA), where she developed and led the quality assurance process for the three major electricity surveys.



Steve Kiesner
Edison Electric Institute

Steve Kiesner is Senior Director of National Customer Solutions for the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. He runs EEI's corporate, DoD, and federal customer outreach activities, which work to enhance opportunities and the business between EEI members and their large, multisite national customers, including large chains, the Department of Defense, and technology companies. Under Kiesner's leadership, EEI serves as the platform for its members and multisite national corporate and federal government customers to develop mutually beneficial collaborations and discuss important policy issues.



Elizabeth Kuhn
Southern Company

Elizabeth Kuhn is Director of Federal Services for Southern Company, leading efforts to aid federal agencies in achieving energy resilience, efficiency, sustainability, and mission readiness through utility energy services contracts (UESCs) and other federal contracting mechanisms. With more than 30 years of experience in engineering, project management, and leadership, she has spent the past decade delivering innovative energy solutions for federal customers across the southeastern United States. Kuhn has helped develop and execute more than \$1 billion in energy infrastructure projects, including major initiatives at Anniston Army Depot, Robins Air Force Base, Fort Gordon, Fort Benning, Fort Rucker, GSA facilities, and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. In the past 5 years, Kuhn led a team that secured the federal government's largest UESC, valued at more than \$230 million at Anniston Army Depot, and the largest UESC awarded by the General Services Administration. Over the course of her career, Kuhn has also had success in performance contracting spanning educational, municipal, healthcare, and commercial sectors.



Lauren Lathem
Southern Company

Lauren Lathem is the Advanced Nuclear Program Manager in Southern Company's Research, Environment, and Sustainability organization. She leads a research and development portfolio of non-light water reactor technology projects, with the goal of bridging the gap between early-stage research and industry adoption. Her work includes setting technical strategies, building and managing partnerships with national labs, universities, industry, and the federal government, and overseeing large, multi-institution research projects. By managing the Molten Chloride Reactor Experiment—the world's first fast spectrum molten salt reactor—Lathem and her team at Southern Company are helping generate the data and operational experience needed to streamline design, reduce uncertainty, and enable cheaper, faster deployment of advanced nuclear technology.



Soudeh Motamedi

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Soudeh Motamedi is a Program Manager at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), where she leads the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) grant program and oversees utility acquisition efforts across DOE sites nationwide.

With more than 15 years of experience in energy and water program management, Motamedi has supported DOE sites and laboratories through project management, strategic planning, enterprise reporting, and systems requirements development. She holds a master's degree in economics and international relations from Syracuse University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of California, Berkeley. She is committed to advancing federal energy efficiency and strengthening long-term resilience across federal agencies..



Michael Mungal

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Michael Mungal is a Federal Project Executive (FPE) supporting FEMPs energy savings performance contract (ESPC) and utility energy service contract (UESC) programs. He coordinates energy performance contracts (EPCs), including other third-party financing activities, by assisting federal agencies in the

development and evaluation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Mungal has over 26 years of experience in developing and evaluating energy projects for local, state, and federal government sector customers. He has previously served as a FEMP approved project facilitator (PF) and has assisted numerous agencies in navigating through FEMP's ESPC project development process. Mungal is a licensed professional engineer in two states, a licensed general contractor in Florida, and has M.S. and B.S. degrees in civil/environmental engineering.



Eric Myers
Florida Power and Light

As Project Director, On Site Power Solutions at Florida Power & Light, Eric Myers partners with federal, state, and local government organizations to identify infrastructure vulnerabilities and develop energy resiliency solutions that strengthen mission readiness and operational continuity. For the past 8 years, Myers has worked primarily with the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and Florida Department of Corrections, helping these organizations implement resilient energy strategies that enable them to remain focused on their critical missions. He is known for approaching complex challenges with enthusiasm, building trusted relationships, and finding win-win solutions that create lasting value for customers and stakeholders.



Susan Owens
Office of the Secretary of War

Susan Owens, PE, CEM, is the Director of Installation Energy Optimization within the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Resilience & Optimization, Department of War. She leads enterprise-wide efforts to strengthen installation energy resilience, optimize infrastructure performance, and accelerate mission-critical energy capabilities Department-wide. With more than two decades of engineering, policy, and executive leadership experience, Owens directs strategic energy investments, advanced energy technologies, utility partnerships, and innovative acquisition and financing strategies—serving as a senior advisor on installation energy policy and execution to advance energy security and operational readiness for the warfighter.



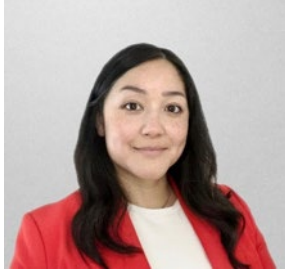
Fred Parry
Dominion Energy

Fred Parry received a B.S. in economics and finance and an MBA from George Mason University and has over 30 years of experience with Dominion Energy including 15 years performing with design, operations, and project management. For the past 8 years, Parry has led Dominion Energy's Federal Energy Solutions Group with overall responsibility for finance, business development, and compliance for their Utilities Privatization and Utility Energy Service Contracting (UESC) programs. This work includes managing Dominion Energy's portfolio of Utilities Privatization contracts that includes Fort Belvoir, Fort Hood (gas and electric), Fort Jackson, Joint Base Myer, Fort Lee, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Fort Story, and Arlington National Cemetery. Under his leadership, Dominion Energy successfully completed UESC projects at multiple government facilities and currently has projects underway at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren, Pentagon, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy in Quantico.



Jessica Parson
Federal Aviation Administration

An environmental management technical expert with more than 25 years of work experience with the Department of Transportation and Federal Aviation Administration, Jessica Parson currently serves as a program manager providing technical expertise to support the mission, goals, and initiatives of the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) under the Energy Management and Compliance Program. The Energy Management and Compliance Program centrally orchestrates reduction of energy and water use at ATO facilities in compliance with federal mandates to improve federal government efficiency and resiliency.



Amanda Renjifo
Duke Energy

Amanda Renjifo is a Federal Project Developer at Duke Energy, where she works in close partnership with federal agencies to advance efficient, resilient, and mission-ready infrastructure across the federal portfolio. Having previously served as a federal employee before transitioning to the private energy sector, she brings more than a decade of experience turning complex infrastructure challenges into actionable solutions that help agencies meet mission requirements, regulatory mandates, and long-term resilience goals. She holds degrees in electrical engineering and engineering management, and maintains energy management certifications, bringing a strong technical foundation and practical project delivery experience to her work. By integrating engineering expertise with federal contracting strategy, she helps federal partners plan and implement efficient, resilient energy projects from concept through execution.



Audrey Robertson
Department of Energy Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation

Audrey Robertson is the Assistant Secretary of Energy, overseeing DOE's Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation. With a distinguished career in investment banking and private equity, Robertson co-founded Franklin Mountain Energy, which became one of the largest private oil and gas companies in the U.S. before its sale in 2025. Robertson has served on boards of multiple energy companies and championed innovation in advanced batteries, nuclear, and geothermal technologies. Notably, Robertson developed Colorado's largest utility-scale solar facility. Robertson holds degrees from Cornell University and the University of Southern California, is a certified public accountant (inactive), and is recognized for expertise in energy systems, infrastructure, and finance. Robertson's leadership spans finance, corporate governance, and entrepreneurship, driving progress in energy research and development and infrastructure development.



Kurmit Rockwell

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Kurmit Rockwell serves as an Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) Program Manager for the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), leading the UESC and Project Facilitator programs, and serving as backup contracting officer's representative (COR) for ESPC indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity (IDIQ) contracts. Throughout his FEMP tenure, including serving as ESPC Program Manager from 2012 to 2023, Rockwell has dedicated his career to helping agencies implement and maintain energy projects through training, streamlined processes, and technical resources. Over a diverse 37-year career, including more than two decades in the private sector, he has specialized in reducing energy and water costs through the development, implementation, and performance management of ESPC and UESC projects for federal, state, and local governments. Rockwell holds a B.S. in chemical engineering and an M.S. in building systems engineering. He is a registered PE and holds CEM, LEED AP, and PMVA credentials.



Bridgette Rodgers

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Bridgette Rodgers, PE, CEM, has over 19 years of experience in energy performance contracting. She joined Oak Ridge National Laboratory in 2023 and trains federal agencies on how to implement successful ESPC and UESC projects. She supports agencies by helping with acquisition planning tasks such as determining project feasibility, providing site and agency training, coordinating FEMP-qualified project facilitators, and determining project support services that FEMP can provide.



Chandra Shah

National Laboratory of the Rockies

Chandra Shah is a senior project leader at the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR). She has been supporting the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) since 1998, helping agencies achieve energy/water goals and implement distributed energy projects through utility energy service contracts (UESC), utility partnerships, and other contract mechanisms. Shah has co-instructed UESC, financing, and other energy performance contract training courses; assisted with developing revised e-Project Builder financial schedules to increase cost transparency and is a co-author of numerous UESC templates. She is a certified energy manager and holds an MBA from the University of Washington and a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan.



Gopal Shiddapur
NORESCO

Gopal Shiddapur ensures development of customer-centric projects that maximize resiliency and progress toward federal mandates. He is a senior level point-of-contact and trusted advisor for utility partners, federal clients, and agencies, accountable for overall project delivery and customer satisfaction.

Shiddapur has overseen the award of over \$1.5 billion in resilient, renewable, and conservation solutions through UESCs and ESPCs for various federal agencies such as DOD, GSA, DOE, VA, DHS, DHHS, BOP, DOT, LOC, EPA, U.S. Mint, and Smithsonian. Over his 30-year career, Shiddapur has led teams performing energy analysis, design, commissioning, sales, program management, contract compliance, financial structuring, and project development. Shiddapur holds an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from University of Texas at Austin and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the Government College of Engineering, Pune, India. He has authored technical papers for the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) and presented at various trade associations.



Jacob Sigler
Defense Logistics Agency

Jacob Sigler is a Contracting Officer and the Demand Response Program Manager with Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Energy, where he manages and facilitates energy requirements for federal and military installations in restructured markets. He has served the U.S. government for 20 years, including 11 years with DLA Energy.

Prior to joining DLA Energy, he served on active duty in the U.S. Army, supporting multiple missions on the ground for Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He has received multiple awards and commendations from leadership, including being the Army Air Operations Group noncommissioned officer (NCO) of the year. He holds a master's degree in public administration and a B.S. in criminology and is professionally certified in contracting at the Professional Tier under the Back-to-Basics Defense Acquisition Workforce program.



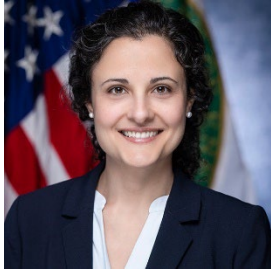
Randall Smidt
U. S. Army

Randy Smidt is the ESPC/UESC Program Manager in the Army Headquarters, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy & Sustainability. He has overseen the execution of over \$3.2 billion in third-party investment and an ongoing program portfolio of over \$4.16 billion, winning the FEMP Director's award in 2016 for the efforts of the Army ESPC/UESC team. Smidt has 38 years of experience in energy engineering, working as a consultant to utilities, ESCOs, commercial and federal clients, before becoming the energy manager at Fort Belvoir and later moving to Army Headquarters. He has been involved with performance contracts since 1992. He also serves on the Federal ESPC Steering Committee as well as the Federal Council of the Federal Utility Partnership Working Group.



Carolyn Snyder
U.S. Department of Energy

Carolyn Snyder is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Innovation, Affordability, and Consumer Choice at the Department of Energy (DOE). The office helps American families, businesses, and governments save on their energy bills, protects consumer choice, and strengthens global competitiveness to grow American industry. In this role, she leads investments that drive innovation and affordability across America's buildings and industrial base through technology development, commercialization, and accelerated adoption; consumer-first regulatory reform; and strategic partnerships with governments, communities, and businesses. She previously served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Buildings & Industry at DOE, the Director of EPA's Partnerships Division, a consultant at McKinsey & Company, a White House Fellow in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, and Director of Delaware's Division of Energy. She earned a Ph.D. in Environment and Resources from Stanford University, master's degrees as a Marshall Scholar from Oxford and Cambridge, and a B.A. from Amherst College. Her scientific research has been published in Nature and other peer-reviewed publications.



Mary Sotos

Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program

Mary Sotos is the Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). In this role, she leads a government-wide program dedicated to helping the federal government—the nation's largest energy consumer—achieve efficient, secure, and reliable energy and water use in its mission-critical facilities and fleets. Under her direction, FEMP provides centralized expertise, financing pathways, and workforce support to help federal agencies modernize infrastructure, enhance resilience, and protect taxpayer resources. Before joining DOE, Ms. Sotos served as the deputy commissioner for energy at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, where she directed the state's energy policies and programs. While there, she also launched a "Lead By Example" program to create new strategies for tracking and managing energy and water use across all state agencies. Previously, Ms. Sotos worked at the World Resources Institute, where she helped develop global standards and tools for energy accounting used by organizations worldwide. She also partnered with corporate leaders to advance new strategies and policies to strengthen the grid.



Erica Stephens

Georgia Power Company

Erica Stephens is an accomplished leader with 11 years of experience at Georgia Power, where she heads the team responsible for developing and executing customer resiliency programs. Under her guidance, the team expertly navigates customers through every stage of the distributed energy resource project life cycle—from initial education and project development, to implementation and ongoing support. Stephens previously led the Georgia Power behind-the-meter solar team and also held roles in laboratory and environmental groups within the company. She holds a Bachelor of Science in biology from the University of South Carolina and a Master of Science in environmental sciences from Louisiana State University.



Sean Stevens
Dominion Energy

Sean Stevens serves as the Director of DER Integration and Management in Dominion Energy's Grid and Technical Solutions Group. His areas of responsibility include distributed energy resource (DER) compliance, regulation, engineering, controls, and operation. He also oversees the development and implementation of the company's DER Management System (DERMS) and supporting technologies. Since joining the company in 2005, Stevens has held several leadership positions within Electric Distribution, focusing on DER management, design, and construction.



Marian Thomas
General Services Administration

Marian Thomas is an ESPC and real estate development specialist with a dedicated focus on sustainable design. She currently oversees energy performance contracting (EPC) projects for the General Services Administration (GSA), with a primary focus on the National Capital Region and the decommissioning of the Heating Operation and Transmission District (HOTD) steam utility plant. Prior to joining GSA, she spent over 15 years in the private sector managing development projects, where she specialized in energy and water efficiency projects. Thomas holds an M.A. in urban planning and design from the University of British Columbia and was named the 2025 FEDS Spotlight "Future Leader" honoree by the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP).



Juan Tiscerano
NASA

Juan C. Tiscareno, CEM, is an Assistant Technical Program Manager at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), where he has served since 2004. Since entering the energy management field in 2010, he has focused on advancing energy resilience and infrastructure modernization across the agency. In 2018, he joined NASA headquarters to lead the agency's Critical Infrastructure (Resilience) and Operational Technology Security Programs. Since 2025, Tiscareno has served as NASA's Agency Energy Performance Contracting Program Manager and co-leads the Agency Utility Stewardship Program. He is currently leading an effort for the potential development of a utility-scale solar project at NASA's White Sands Test Facility through an enhanced use lease with the El Paso Electric Company.

Timothy Unruh

National Association of Energy Service Companies

Timothy D. Unruh is the Executive Director of the National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO). In this role, he manages the representation of its member energy service companies. NAESCO provides advocacy for the industry at the federal, state and local levels, and provides for member company accreditation. Prior to this role, Unruh was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Renewable Power at the Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). While at EERE, Unruh was Director at the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). He was formerly Director of Operations for ConEdison Solutions where he led a team of engineers and project managers to implement energy savings projects within government and private installations. Unruh has doctorate, master's, and bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering from Wichita State University in Wichita, Kansas.



Keith Welch

The Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), part of Department of War

Keith Welch leads the energy and water technology demonstration and validation program area within the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), assigned to the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of War for Energy Resilience & Optimization. His responsibilities include demonstrating and validating the performance of innovative technologies under real-world conditions to determine their potential to improve the resilience of DoW installations and missions. Welch is a graduate of Penn State University (BSEng), and the University of Texas at Austin (MSEng). He served 24 years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force where he led diverse teams to success in every phase of the facilities and infrastructure life cycle, from planning and design to construction, operations and maintenance, and disposal. He worked in locations around the globe including conflict zones in Kyrgyzstan, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan.



Mark Wheeler
NORESCO

Mark Wheeler, also known as Dusty, has over 25 years of engineering experience in energy performance contracts. He serves as engineering operations leader for the NORESO Federal Team, providing technical leadership over multi-disciplinary engineering teams through all phases of the contract cycle. His academic background is in mechanical engineering with a Master of Science focus on the optimization and modeling of thermal energy systems. Wheeler has extensive experience in the design and optimization of building energy systems, central plants, distributed energy, and microgrid systems. He has served on numerous committees for the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and NEBB, developing existing building commissioning guidelines and standards. He is a registered professional engineer and building energy modeling professional. His experience and expertise covers all phases of energy performance contracting projects from initial strategic planning through development, final design, construction, and performance period activities.



David Williams
U. S. Army

David Williams serves as the Director for Energy and Water Modernization in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability (ODASA E&S). Williams is responsible for the overall modernization of the Army's energy and water portfolio to enhance resilience, efficiency, and sustainability across all Army installations. He provides strategic direction for policy, programs, and initiatives aimed at securing access to critical energy and water resources for Army installations. Prior to his current position, Williams was the Chief of Energy and Facilities Engineering within the Operations Directorate of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 where he was responsible for all things energy and facilities engineering. He also served as the Chief of Energy Programs Integration for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), where he provided direction and guidance for energy efficiency, conservation, and security initiatives for USACE worldwide. Williams has more than 30 years of installation management experience and continues to lead efforts that successfully integrate objectives and resources to solve complex installation challenges.



Charlene Woods
Defense Logistics Agency

Charlene Woods serves as a Contracting Officer and Branch Chief with Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Energy, supporting installation energy programs that include resilience solutions, energy savings performance contracts, and utility energy service contract acquisitions. She has more than 24 years of federal service, including 16 years with DLA Energy. Before joining DLA, Woods served on active duty in the U.S. Army, supporting multiple forward missions such as U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center (USAMMCE) in Europe, Mission Provide Hope in Uzbekistan, the Kosovo War, and Operation Enduring Freedom II in Iraq, earning several awards for leadership and excellence. She holds a master's degree in procurement, acquisition, and public administration; a Bachelor of Science in business administration (finance); and a Bachelor of Arts in business administration (economics). She is professionally certified at the Professional Tier under the Back-to-Basics Defense Acquisition Workforce framework, reflecting advanced expertise in federal contracting.