



MGA MIG-GRID 2035 Quarterly Symposium – Virtual June 18, 2026 Speaker Biographies

Jeff Dennis, Electricity Customer Alliance

Jeff Dennis is a nationally recognized expert in energy and climate policy and law with over 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors. Throughout his career, Jeff has developed and led the execution of effective regulatory, legislative, and legal strategies to improve competition in wholesale electricity markets, lower costs and improve market access for customers and suppliers of energy, and drive the deployment of critical grid infrastructure. He brings a deep understanding of the electricity industry across the country to his work.



At CO2EFFICIENT, Jeff serves as Executive Director of the Electricity Customer Alliance, a coalition of large electricity customers dedicated to advancing customer-centric solutions to modernize the grid, support digital infrastructure and manufacturing, and grow the economy. He is also Senior Counsel to the firm. Jeff helps clients find opportunities and address challenges at the intersection of federal and state regulation of the electricity sector, navigate the complexities of wholesale electricity market rules and governance processes, and develop strategies to accelerate the planning, permitting, and development of electric transmission infrastructure.

Jeff has held senior positions in the federal government at both the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Prior to joining CO2EFFICIENT, he was the first Deputy Director for Transmission in DOE's Grid Deployment Office, where he spearheaded all of DOE's transmission deployment initiatives and led the implementation of bipartisan, first-of-its-kind, public-private partnerships that facilitated over \$8 billion in private sector transmission investment. Jeff also led the design and implementation of new policies to streamline and reduce the lengthy federal permitting process for new transmission projects. During his over 10 years at FERC, Jeff served in a variety of positions, including Director of Policy Development, Legal Advisor to a Commissioner, and Appellate Attorney. In these roles, he led the development of landmark FERC orders and rulemakings that laid the foundation for today's competitive wholesale electricity market structures and governance, reformed regional transmission planning and cost allocation, and addressed emerging electricity reliability challenges. He also defended FERC in the courts, arguing nearly a dozen cases in federal courts.

Outside of government, Jeff was General Counsel and Managing Director at Advanced Energy Economy (now Advanced Energy United), where he grew the organization's wholesale markets education and advocacy program and frequently appeared before Congress, FERC, state legislatures, and state public utility commissions. He has also been a lawyer in private practice, representing large electricity customers, power generators, advanced energy developers, utilities, and investors in proceedings before FERC, state public utility commissions, and in the courts.

Jeff received his Juris Doctor from the University of New Mexico School of Law, graduating third in his class, and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Marymount University, graduating *summa cum laude*. He recently served as Chair of the American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources (SEER), and is a frequent speaker and author on topics in energy law and policy.

Jill Gates, PJM Interconnection

Jill is Principal Policy Advisor in PJM's Government Services, where she brings 20 years of utility experience in infrastructure development and regulatory finance. Prior to PJM, Jill worked at National Grid for over ten years, where she held various positions in corporate strategy, asset development, operations, and government affairs. Gates helped launch the company's solar, battery storage, grid modernization and competitive transmission businesses. She also reported to National Grid's head of operations serving as a director and executive advisor. Gates holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Harvard University, cum laude, and a Master of Business Administration from Bentley University.



Suzanne Jaworowski, Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources, State of Indiana

Suzanne Jaworowski is the Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources for the State of Indiana, ap

pointed by Governor Mike Braun. Secretary Jaworowski brings extensive experience in energy policy as a leader in the private sector and the U.S. Department of Energy.

As the Secretary of Energy, Jaworowski will provide leadership to navigate Indiana's energy challenges and improve accessibility. Consistent with Gov. Braun's agenda, the Administration is focused on ensuring the state has enough affordable and reliable energy sources to sustain current residents and attract new development.

Jaworowski most recently served as Executive Director of Stakeholder Services at MISO Energy, overseeing stakeholder relations and client services. She previously served as Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor for Policy & Communications in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Nuclear Energy during the first Trump administration. While at DOE, Ms. Jaworowski lead the International Framework for Nuclear Energy Cooperation, as chairperson for the 65-country, government-to-government initiative on safeguards, security and development for nuclear energy. She later went on to work at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria.



Before her federal service, Jaworowski directed communications and government relations at Hallador Energy and founded Ryder Research Consulting, where she advised energy companies, utilities, and industry associations.

Gretchen Kershaw, Grid Strategies

Gretchen Kershaw is Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Strategy of the power sector consulting firm Grid Strategies, based in Washington, DC, where she leads the development of overall business strategy, manages the team of experts and oversees business operations, and serves as a senior consultant. She has extensive experience in the power sector, especially around transmission planning and cost allocation, having worked most recently in the US Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office as the Senior Advisor on Transmission and before that for twelve years at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. She received two Secretary of Energy Honor Awards for her work on DOE's cross-cutting transmission programs. While at FERC, she served as a Senior Legal Advisor to the General Counsel and as an advisor to Commissioner Rich Glick, among other positions. Gretchen has a JD from American University Washington College of Law and a BA from Wake Forest University.



Shane Londagin, Office of U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper

As the Senior Policy Advisor for Energy and Climate, Shane manages Senator Hickenlooper's energy portfolio on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. In this role, he supports the Senator's leadership in bipartisan permitting reform negotiations, grid modernization efforts, and critical minerals policy. Prior to joining Senator Hickenlooper, Shane was the Senior Policy Advisor for Electricity at DC-based think tank Third Way and is a former transmission planner and project manager. He received his Master of Science in energy policy from the University of Edinburgh.



James Ritchotte, Grid Action

James Ritchotte is Interim Executive Director at Grid Action. Ritchotte brings extensive experience in energy policy. Most recently, he served as Federal Policy Director at Nexamp, where he engaged in a range of advocacy efforts on tax, trade, and community programs. He previously led the bipartisan coalition at Climate Mayors as Executive Director, supporting mayors nationwide in shaping and delivering on their energy goals. Earlier in his career, Ritchotte held positions with GE, Alstom, the British Embassy, and Congressman Tom Lantos, engaging stakeholders at the local, state, national, and international levels to advance energy policies.



Kristy Hartman, Nuclear Energy Institute

Kristy Hartman is the Senior Director of State Policy & External Affairs at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), where she leads the organization's engagement with governors, state legislatures, public utility commissions, and key state stakeholders across the country. She oversees NEI's state policy strategy and broader external affairs efforts, working to advance policies that support the nation's existing nuclear fleet and enable deployment of next-generation nuclear technologies. Kristy joined NEI in 2021, focusing primarily on state regulatory affairs.



Prior to NEI, Kristy spent eight years at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) where she served as the Energy Program Director within the Environment, Energy and Transportation Program. Kristy worked directly with state legislatures and researched regulatory and legislative trends related to fossil fuels, energy security, grid reliability, nuclear power, renewable energy and alternative fuels.

Earlier in her career, Kristy managed congressional affairs and appropriations issues for the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration, and she served as a legislative aide in the North Carolina General Assembly. She holds a Master of Public Policy from the University of Michigan.

Mike King, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Mike King is currently serving as the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Previously, Mr. King served as the acting Director for the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation responsible for licensing and oversight of new and operating reactors in the United States. He recently completed an assignment leading the NRC's implementation of the ADVANCE Act as the Special Assistant to the EDO.



Mr. King joined the NRC in 2005 in the Region II office in Atlanta, Georgia, and subsequently served as the Resident Inspector at Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant in North Carolina. After 11 years in the Atlanta office, he has held several Senior Executive Service (SES) positions at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, including the Director of the Vogtle Project Office where he led the licensing and inspection programs for the construction and startup of Vogtle Units 3 and 4 near Augusta, Georgia, the first newly-constructed nuclear power reactors in the US in over 30 years. He also served as the Deputy Office Director for Reactor Safety Programs and Mission Support, overseeing the licensing and inspection programs for the 94 power reactors operating in the United States.

Before joining the NRC, Mr. King worked for General Electric Energy in Marietta, Georgia, and served in the U.S. Navy as a Nuclear Engineer qualified Submarine Officer.

Mr. King received a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Master of Business Administration Degree from George Washington University.

Commissioner Stacey Paradis, Illinois Commerce Commission

Stacey Paradis was appointed to the Illinois Commerce Commission by Governor JB Pritzker in April 2023. She brings more than 25 years of experience in government relations, public affairs, and non-profit management including with the YMCA, Orbitz, and the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce. Most recently, she served as the Executive Director of the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA).



She serves as Vice Chair of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition and as a member of the NARUC Electricity Committee, NARUC's Subcommittee for Nuclear Energy, and the NARUC EV State Working Group. Commissioner Paradis is a member of the FERC-NARUC Federal State Issues Collaborative and served on the NARUC Natural Gas Resource Planning Task Force. She is also a member of the Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative and the NASEO-NARUC Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings Working Group. She formerly served as co-Vice Chair of NARUC's Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment.

Commissioner Paradis served as President of the Illinois Environmental Council Education Fund from 2018-2022 and a member of the Finance Committee from 2015-2022. In 2017, she received the Damen Award from Loyola University Chicago for the Institute for Environmental Sustainability. She currently serves on the Board of Advisors of the Illinois Regulatory Policy Studies Institute at Illinois State University.

Commissioner Paradis earned a masters' degree in Public Administration from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Loyola University Chicago. She lives in Chicago's West Lakeview neighborhood with her husband and two sons.