

MGA MID-GRID 2035 – Virtual Workshop

Generation Fleet Change Pathways and Cost Implications

Jesse Jenkins, Princeton University

Jesse D. Jenkins is an assistant professor at Princeton University with a joint appointment in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Andlinger Center for Energy and Environment. He is also an affiliated faculty with the Center for Policy Research in Energy and Environment at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs and an associated faculty at the High Meadows Environment Institute.

Jesse is a macro-scale energy systems engineer with a focus on the rapidly evolving electricity sector, including the transition to zero-carbon resources, the proliferation of distributed energy resources, and the role of electricity in economy-wide decarbonization.

Jesse completed a PhD in Engineering Systems ('18) and MS in Technology and Policy ('14) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a BS in Computer and Information Science ('06) at the University of Oregon. He worked previously as a postdoctoral Environmental Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Harvard University Center for the Environment, a researcher at the MIT Energy Initiative, a research fellow at Argonne National Laboratory, the Director of Energy and Climate Policy at the Breakthrough Institute, and a Policy and Research Associate at Renewable Northwest.

Jesse leads the Princeton ZERO Lab - the Zero carbon Energy systems Research and Optimization Laboratory -- which conducts research to improve decision-making to accelerate rapid, affordable, and effective transitions to net-zero carbon energy systems.

For more information about Jesse's research and publications, visit <https://mae.princeton.edu/people/faculty/jenkins>.



Debbie Lew, Energy Systems Integration Group

Debbie Lew is the Associate Director of the Energy Systems Integration Group, an independent, non-profit organization focused on decarbonization of energy systems. She works on wind, solar and distributed energy resource integration with a focus on 100% clean energy. She previously worked at GE, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, during which time she was seconded to the Hawaiian Electric Company to work on wind and solar integration. She is the Immediate Past Chair of the IEEE Power & Energy Society's Wind and Solar Power Coordinating Committee. She has a PhD in applied physics from Stanford University and a BS degrees in electrical engineering and physics from MIT.



Jennifer Richardson, Indiana Office of Energy Independence

Jennifer is the Executive Director of the Indiana Office of Energy Independence. Prior to her appointment she served as the director of energy policy, renewables and resilience in the Office of Energy Development. In that role she oversaw the development of sustainable programs with utility, private-sector and non-profit partners and served as a federal and state advisor on strategic and technical expertise on key energy policy.

Previously, Richardson worked as a regional manager for state regulatory affairs and policy for Midcontinent Independent System Operator. She also worked for several years for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and had a 10-year career at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, including working as the director of federal and legislative policy.



Chairman Dan Scripps, Michigan Public Service Commission

Dan Scripps was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Public Service Commission on February 21, 2019 and was designated as Chair in July 2020. His term ends July 2, 2023. He also serves on the Upper Peninsula Energy Task Force and Michigan Dam Safety Task Force.



Mr. Scripps is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and serves on NARUC's Committee on Critical Infrastructure and its Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency. He is also active with NARUC's Committee on Gas, Committee on International Relations, and Washington Action Program. Mr. Scripps also serves on the executive committee of the Organization of MISO States, and he is a past president and the current secretary of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference (MARC).

Mr. Scripps served one term representing Benzie, Leelanau, Manistee, and Mason counties in the Michigan House of Representatives, where he chaired the House Banking and Financial Services committee and served on committees dealing with energy, telecommunications, and environmental protection.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Scripps worked for the Energy Foundation, where he coordinated policy and grantmaking strategies in the Midwest and Plains and led efforts to double regional grantmaking to groups engaged in equity-oriented climate and energy work. He previously served as president of the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council, where he led efforts to expand deployment of advanced energy resources in Michigan, and as a Vice President with Advanced Energy Economy, focusing on energy finance. As an attorney, Mr. Scripps practiced law in the Washington D.C. office of Latham & Watkins LLP, advising regulated utilities, project developers, and financial institutions on cutting-edge domestic and international energy projects.

Mr. Scripps is a graduate of Alma College and a 2005 honors graduate of the University of Michigan Law School. He lives with his family in northern Michigan.

Chairman Ted Thomas, Arkansas Public Service Commission

Ted J. Thomas of Conway was appointed Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission by Governor Asa Hutchinson in January 2015.

He has served as Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the 20th Judicial District, Administrative Law Judge at the Public Service Commission, Budget Director for Governor Mike Huckabee and in the Arkansas House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee during his final term.



Chairman Thomas received a Bachelor of Arts with High Honors in Political Science from the University of Arkansas in 1986 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1988. He is licensed to practice law before the United States Supreme Court, the Arkansas Supreme Court, the United States Courts of Appeal for the District of Columbia Circuit and the Eighth Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas.

Chairman Thomas previously served as president of the Organization of MISO states and currently serves on the Regional State Committee of the Southwest Power Pool. He also serves on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Committee on Electricity.

Acting Chair, Beth Trombold, Public Service Commission of Ohio

M. Beth Trombold was appointed to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) by Governor John Kasich in 2013 and reappointed to a second term in 2018.

Commissioner Trombold serves as acting chair of the PUCO, and among other work, focuses extensively on grid modernization and regional electric transmission issues.

She is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners (MACRUC) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) where she serves on the Committee on Electricity and the Washington Action Program, the committee that primarily discusses NARUC's work in Congress and with other federal stakeholders. She currently serves as co-vice chair of the NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning, a collaborative initiative to develop new approaches to distribution system planning and resource planning processes. Commissioner Trombold is active in the regulatory community as a speaker, panelist, and moderator at conferences and events on a regional, national, and international level.



She is the past president and a current board member of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI), an organization of 14 state commissions in the service area of PJM, the regional transmission operator. Commissioner Trombold serves on the OPSI Governance Committee, and is chair of the Independent State Agencies Committee (ISAC) focused on transmission needs within PJM. She also serves on the Financial Research Institute advisory board at the University of Missouri.

Prior to her appointment, Commissioner Trombold served as assistant director of the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA). A long time public servant, she also served in a variety of roles within the PUCO, including director of Economic Development and Public Affairs. During her career, Commissioner Trombold led legislative efforts on many important utility issues including electric restructuring, natural gas choice, and telecommunications reform.

Commissioner Trombold received a bachelor's in business administration from Ohio University and a master's in public policy and management from The Ohio State University. She served on the Glenn College Alumni Society Board for two years. In 2002, the PUCO awarded Commissioner Trombold the Frank B. Richards Award for Excellence in Management and Public Service. In 2012, she received the Outstanding State Government Alumnus Award from the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University.

Jeff Ackermann, Formerly Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Jeff Ackermann served as chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) from January 2017 until January 2021. During that tenure Jeff presided over some of the most dramatic clean energy developments in Colorado's regulated electric sector, spanning from accelerated retirement of fossil-fuel generating resources to grid modernization and electrification of the transportation sector. Concurrently in 2019-2020, Jeff served as chair of the Energy Resources and the Environment Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Prior to serving as PUC chair, Jeff served as director of the Colorado Energy Office in the Hickenlooper Administration for four years, starting in 2013. In this capacity, Jeff provided leadership for various initiatives that expanded the state's clean energy agenda.



Jeff draws upon extensive experience in staff and leadership roles, within the Colorado PUC and various organizations developing and implementing innovative energy efficiency programs and addressing the needs of income-stressed households. Jeff has a Master's of Nonprofit Management degree from Regis University and an Environmental Economic Policy degree from Albion College.