



## **Former FERC Chair Keynote; Panels on Future Grid Scale Clean Energy Options for New England; and Transportation Electrification (#184)**

Friday, December 13, 2024

### **Biographies of Speakers & Moderators**



As Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, **Rebecca Tepper** oversees the Commonwealth's six environmental, natural resource and energy regulatory agencies. Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to combine energy and environmental agencies under one Cabinet secretary.

Rebecca joined the Office of Attorney General Maura Healey in 2015, serving as Deputy Chief of the Energy and Environment Bureau (EEB) and Chief of AG Healey's Energy and Telecommunications Division before being appointed Chief of the EEB. During her time at the AG's office, she advised on energy policy and served as the state's ratepayer advocate before regulators and courts. Prior to joining the AG's Office, Rebecca was General Counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, serving as the chief legal advisor and overseeing all DPU adjudicatory and rulemaking proceedings. She also served as Director of the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board and represented the state on the Eastern Interconnection States' Planning Council.

Before working for the Commonwealth, Rebecca was a partner at Rubin and Rudman in Boston, representing developers throughout the Northeast in siting, permitting, financing, and contracting of renewable, distributed generation and conventional energy facilities. Rebecca is a graduate of Boston University School of Law and the University of Wisconsin.



**Serge Abergel** is Chief Operating Office for Hydro Québec Energy Services (US), the U.S. subsidiary responsible for hydropower export initiatives to the New York and New England markets. Currently based in New York, Serge has held various positions in media and stakeholder relations as well as in government affairs. He has led information campaigns on the company's export initiatives and is a frequent public speaker on Hydro-Québec's clean energy generating fleet and transmission system. Prior to his most recent appointment, Serge was Director of Communications at the corporate headquarters in Montréal.

Serge also served in the Royal Canadian Air Force and acquired considerable experience as a public affairs officer in both the Canadian Armed Forces and the federal correctional system. Serge is Chair of the Board of Directors of WaterPower Canada, a trade organization representing the hydropower industry. He holds a bachelor's in operations management from HEC Montréal (the Université de Montréal's business school).



**Mason Emmett** is Senior Vice President of Public Policy for Constellation Energy Corporation, where he leads the company's development and implementation of federal, regional, and state governmental, regulatory, and public policy strategies. Constellation is the nation's largest producer of carbon-free energy and the leading competitive retail supplier of energy products and services for 2 million homes and businesses across the United States. He is also responsible for managing the company's wholesale market design advocacy in each of the regional markets where it operates.

Prior to his work at Constellation, Mason was Senior FERC Counsel for NextEra Energy, Inc., where he provided legal support and strategic advice on federal regulatory matters. Before joining NextEra, Mason served as Deputy Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Innovation at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, where he led the development of regulations and rules governing wholesale electric markets and the provision of interstate transmission service. Before he began at FERC, Mason was in private practice with the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom LLP. He received his law degree from Georgetown and his BS in Economics from the University of Texas at Arlington.



**Marianne Perben** is Director of Planning Services for ISO New England. In her current role, she is responsible for the development of the New England region's long-term load forecast, resource adequacy requirements, and the performance of regional economic studies.

Previously, Marianne served as Principal Quantitative Analyst in Commercial Development and Clean Energy Development at National Grid. An engineer, she has spent most of her twenty-year career at ISO New England, supporting its long-term planning activities such as transmission planning, resource adequacy planning, implementation and administration of the New England's Forward Capacity Market, analysis of non-transmission alternatives and performance of regional economic studies. Marianne received her Diplôme D'Ingénieur Electricien from the Grenoble Institute of Technology in France and her Master in Business Administration from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Connecticut.



**Rich Glick** is a Principal at GQS New Energy Strategies. He is the former Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). As Chairman, Rich initiated several key initiatives, including proposals to reform the planning and cost allocation process for electric transmission; expedite and enhance the generator interconnection process; improve the operation of organized electric capacity markets; and protect the reliability of the electric grid against weather-related, cybersecurity, and physical attack threats.

Prior to serving at FERC, Rich was the General Counsel for the Democrats on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Previously, he was Vice President of Government Affairs for Iberdrola's renewable energy, natural gas storage, and electric and gas utility businesses in the US. Prior to his role at Iberdrola, Rich served as Director of Government Affairs for PPM Energy and before that, for PacifiCorp, a large western utility. He also served as a Senior Policy Advisor to U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and was the Legislative Director and Chief Counsel to U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers, of Arkansas. Rich is a graduate of George Washington University and Georgetown Law.



**Zeryai Hagos** is Executive Director of the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (ORES). Prior to his ORES appointment, Zeryai served as the Deputy Director of Clean Energy and Markets within the Office of Markets and Innovation at the New York Department of Public Service (DPS). In this role, he was responsible for all areas pertaining to grid connected large-scale and distributed energy resources. Zeryai and his team were also responsible for the development and monitoring of New York’s long-term grid planning processes, its wholesale and retail market policies, along with its energy storage and electric vehicle charging deployment goals and policies.

Before coming to DPS, Zeryai was the Senior Director of Business Development at Tendril (Uplight), where he helped grow a new distributed energy resources platform called Orchestrated Energy. Zeryai began his career at General Electric, where he most recently served as the Growth & Strategy Director for GE’s Power business in the US. His responsibilities at GE included leading cross-business growth initiatives in the electric power sector, managing GE’s long-term power market forecast in North America and serving as a subject matter expert for the US power markets in support of corporate strategy. Zeryai holds a bachelor’s in computer science and political science from Bucknell and a master’s in economic forecasting from the State University of New York at Albany.



**Chris Rauscher, JD**, is the Head of Grid Services & Virtual Power Plants at Sunrun. He leads the business unit responsible for originating and operating distributed power plant programs and contracts across the country. He and his team aggregate tens of thousands of customers and many dozens of Megawatts to provide peak reduction, capacity, and demand response, among other utility services. Chris joined Sunrun in 2015 and was previously Senior Director of Market Development & Policy, where he led new business policy and regulatory work with a focus on market entry and development of Sunrun’s EV and electrification business as well as storage, virtual power plants, and wholesale markets.

Prior to joining Sunrun, Chris was an energy policy advisor in the US Senate where he worked on a diverse issue set, with a particular focus on DERs. Chris has been on various political campaigns and involved in several startup businesses. He serves on various boards, including the Efficiency Maine Trust, and was the founding board president of the Puerto Rico Solar and Energy Storage Association. He holds a Juris Doctorate from University of Maine and a bachelor’s in classics from Dalhousie.



**Roger Kranenburg** is Vice President of Energy Strategy and Policy at Eversource, where he is responsible for developing, communicating, and overseeing the execution of Eversource’s long-term clean energy and growth strategy and policies along with leading transportation electrification. In addition, he leads federal affairs on funding and other legislative and regulatory matters. Prior to joining Eversource, Roger was with IHS Markit (formerly CERA or Cambridge Energy Research Associates and now S&P Global) advising the top electric utilities and power sector owners/operators and suppliers in North America, Europe, and globally on energy sector transformation, investment, and operations. Prior to IHS Markit, Roger worked for Edison Electric Institute, where he led strategy, policy development, analysis, and advocacy for the electric utility industry in the areas of energy supply and taxation.

Earlier in his career, he led the development and deployment of wireless telecommunications infrastructure joint ventures in multiple European countries at Teligent. He has done research and published in the areas of high-temperature superconductors, high-performance electric drive systems and high frequency telecommunications. Roger holds a BSc and an MSc (plus PhD course requirements) in electrical engineering/ applied physics as well as an MBA from the University of Houston. Roger serves on the Board of Directors for the Woodwell Climate Research Center.



**Dr. Andrew DeBenedictis** serves as director at Energy and Environmental Economics (E3). A member of E3’s Distributed Energy Resources (DER) team, Andrew embraces opportunities to practice integrated system planning by elucidating the many connections between DER and rates to the bulk system and long-term policy goals. This interest draws him to topics including rate design, electric utility cost of service, performance incentive mechanisms (PIMs), avoided costs, benefit cost analysis, DER incentive design, grid modernization, building electrification, wildfire risk analysis, resource adequacy, and integrated resource planning.

This work has connected Andrew with clients including the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, the Illinois Commerce Commission, the District of Columbia Public Service Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, National Grid, Pacific Gas and Electric, BC Hydro, and others. Andrew originally worked at E3 for five years before attending graduate school. During that time, he contributed to E3’s landmark study, published in the journal *Science*, that analyzed the technology path to deep decarbonization by 2050. He earned both a master’s and a PhD and a masters in physics from Tufts. He holds a BA in physics and astronomy from Bowdoin.



**Janet Gail Besser**, is a nationally recognized energy policy and regulatory strategy expert, with experience as a regulator, clean energy business association leader, utility executive, developer, consultant, and consumer advocate. She has been moderating the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since the beginning of 2023. Prior to 2023, she led the Smart Electric Power Alliance's Regulatory and Business Innovation work as vice president. Previously, she was executive vice president of the Northeast Clean Energy Council; VP, Regulatory Strategy and Policy at National Grid; Chair and Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities; and an executive and expert at Analysis Group and Lexecon. She also held senior staff roles at the Massachusetts Energy Office and New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, was policy director for a national IPP association, and worked for a small hydro developer and low-income consumer advocate.

Janet is the recipient of the 2019 Northeast Energy and Commerce Association (NECA) Vanguard Award and the 2014 New England Women in Energy and the Environment (NEWIEE) Achievement Award. She recently chaired the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) Committee on the role of net metering in the evolving electricity system. She is the chair of the Power Options Board and serves on the VEIC Board, where she chairs the Impact and Evaluation Committee. Janet has an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and a B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Williams College.



**Carol Holahan** is a partner in Foley Hoag's Energy & Cleantech practice. She advises large, competitive regional generators and other participants in the wholesale and retail competitive electricity markets on regional policy initiatives, changing environmental regulations, decommissioning and sale of plants, and matters pending before the FERC. In addition to concentrating on traditional fossil fuel generation, Carol's practice includes renewable energy resources such as large solar, storage, and biomass. She has significant experience in the NEPOOL stakeholder process, and with legal challenges to new or existing laws and regulations, environmental permitting, facility siting, and assessment or limitations of liability due to the sale or retirement of generating facilities.

Prior to joining Foley Hoag, Carol was the Senior Director of Government Affairs at Dynegy, Inc. Before that, she served as Director of Government Affairs for the NEPGA, representing competitive power producers before state policy makers, regulators, and infrastructure siting boards. She also served as the Director of the Office of Legislative Services in New Hampshire. Carol earned her JD, *magna cum laude*, from Suffolk Law School, and her BS from Georgetown.



**Dr. Jonathan Raab** has been the convener of the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since 1995 (and was moderator from 1995-2022). He convened and moderated the Energy Policy Roundtable in the PJM Footprint from 2005-2010. A national leader in applying consensus building processes to energy, environmental, and regulatory issues, some of his major cases include the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the New England Demand Response Initiative; the Greenhouse Gas planning processes for the City of Boston, Maine, and Rhode Island; RPS rules for Massachusetts and Rhode Island; the energy plan for Tennessee; energy efficiency stakeholder processes in California, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts; market rules for Alberta; and Grid Modernization in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. He has also run stakeholder processes for U.S. DOE, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, and U.S. EPA. Jonathan assisted both PJM and MISO in reforming their respective stakeholder processes. He was the Moderator of the Joint Federal (FERC) and State (NARUC) Task Force on Electric Transmission and is the Liaison between the PJM Members and the PJM Board on matters related to the Independent Market Monitor.

Prior to establishing Raab Associates, Jonathan was the Assistant Director of the Electric Power Division at the Massachusetts DPU. Jonathan holds a Ph.D. from MIT, and an M.S. and A.B. from Stanford. He has taught courses at the University of Oregon, Stanford, UMass (Boston) and MIT, and is the author of *Using Consensus Building to Improve Utility Regulation*.