



**DOE Keynote Address; and
Panel: Role of Utility Regulation in Decarbonizing New England**

Friday, June 18, 2021, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Bios of Speakers/Moderator



Kelly Speakes-Backman is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and Acting Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Energy. In this role, Kelly leads and directs the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, focused on creating and sustaining American leadership in the transition to a global clean energy economy. She oversees the planning and execution of the organization's \$2.8B portfolio of research, development, demonstration, and deployment activities in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable transportation.

Kelly has spent more than 20 years working in energy and environmental issues in the public, NGO and private sectors. Most recently, Kelly served as the first CEO of the Energy Storage Association, the national trade organization for the energy storage industry. From 2011 to 2015, she served as Commissioner of the Maryland Public Service Commission.

In 2019, Kelly was named Woman of the Year by the Cleanie Awards. She holds a BA in mechanical engineering from Boston University.



Matthew Nelson is Chair of the Department of Public Utilities. He was appointed in 2019 by Governor Baker. Matt began his energy career at the DPU in the Natural Gas Division. Subsequently, he served as the Supervisor of Regulatory, Policy, and Planning for Eversource Energy, as part of the nationally recognized Mass Save program. Returning to the DPU (and before assuming the chair position), Matt became the Director of Electric Power, as well as the director of Regional and Federal Affairs.

During his tenure at the DPU, he has investigated a wide range of utility issues, including grid modernization investments, general rate case issues, solar and renewable energy development, energy efficiency, climate strategies, competitive supply, and storm restoration issues.

Matt is a graduate of Stonehill College and holds a master's degree in economics from Tufts University.



Marissa Paslick Gillett is Chairman of Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. She was appointed by Governor Ned Lamont in 2019. Previously, she served as Vice President of External Relations for the Energy Storage Association – the national trade association representing the energy storage industry.

Prior to joining ESA, Marissa worked at the Maryland Public Service Commission, where she served as the senior advisor to the chairman. Her duties included advising the agency's chairman and other commissioners on technical, legal and policy matters related to offshore wind procurement, statewide energy efficiency programs, advanced metering infrastructure, grid reliability issues and electric vehicles. She represented the commission before the Maryland General Assembly and led stakeholder engagement initiatives as part of the state's grid modernization proceeding.

Marissa received her B.S. in bioengineering from Clemson and her JD from the University of Baltimore.



Philip L. Bartlett II was appointed to the Maine Public Utilities Commission in 2019 by Governor Janet Mills. Prior to his appointment, he practiced law with Scaccia, Bartlett & Chabot. Phil previously served in the Maine Senate from 2004 to 2012 and was elected by his peers to serve as Senate Majority Leader from 2008 to 2010. While in the Senate, he chaired the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee as well as the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Energy Future. He also served on the Government Oversight Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, and the Labor Committee.

Phil holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a BA in economics and political science from Tufts. He has taught micro and macroeconomics at the collegiate level.



Ron Gerwatowski was appointed to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission as Chairman in 2020 by Governor Gina Raimondo. Ron has worked in the utility and energy industry for over thirty years. Prior to his appointment, he served as a Senior Regulatory Advisor to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers. For the past four years, he has been a guest lecturer and instructor in the Energy Fellows Program at the University of Rhode Island.

Ron previously served as Assistant Secretary of Energy in Massachusetts in 2015. Prior to that time, he served in several different legal and utility executive capacities in various jurisdictions, including Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New York.

Ron graduated from Boston College Law School, where he served as Managing Editor of the Boston College Law Review.



Dr. Jonathan Raab has served as the convener and moderator of the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable since 1995, and of the Energy Policy Roundtable in the PJM Footprint from 2016 to 2020.

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 (RGGI); the New England Demand Response Initiative (NEDRI); 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.

Prior to establishing Raab Associates, Jonathan was the Assistant Director of the Electric Power Division at the Massachusetts DPU. He 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*.



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 as a result of the sale or retirement of generating facilities.

Prior to joining to Foley Hoag, Carol was the Senior Director of Government Affairs at Dynegy Inc., the largest generator in New England and one of the largest power producers in the country prior to its 2018 merger with Vistra Energy. Before that, she served as Director of Government Affairs for the New England Power Generators Association, representing competitive power producers before state policy makers, regulators, and infrastructure siting boards. Carol also served as the Director of the Office of Legislative Services in New Hampshire, the non-partisan bill drafting and research office of the state's 424-member legislature. She earned her JD from Suffolk Law School and her BS from Georgetown.