

Mark your calendar now to participate in the 2022 Connecting to the Energy Economy Speaker Series!



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Brought to you by the Maryland Clean Energy Center, the Connecting to the Energy Economy Speaker Series webinars feature significant and current topics, with an impressive assembly of panelists offering information for those who want to enable resilient operations and decarbonize facilities and fleets.

Scheduled sessions will address the programs, policies, and initiatives that could redefine and further the advancement of clean energy generation, facilitate environmental justice for disadvantaged consumers, and encourage access to incentives and financing strategies to assist in implementation- including the Energy as a Service model.

View the complete program details and register for FREE at www.mdcleanenergy.org/speakerseries.

MACRO MEETS MICRO IN THE GRID OF THE FUTURE

Tuesday, September 13, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

This session examines efforts to coordinate improvements for the transmission system to enhance capacity, gain efficiency, and strengthen the ties between regional operators at the macro level and ensure adequate generation to meet future demand. The panel will talk about what it means to be a “prosumer” and showcase examples of how microgrid applications are being designed, implemented, and funded, by featuring local model projects. Find out how macro and micro align to enable resilience, and learn about financing strategies to add your facility into the mix.

Moderator: Geoff Oxnam, Founder & CEO, American Microgrid Solutions & Chair, Board of Directors, MCEC

Panelists:

Jake Friedman - VP, Project Development, Strategic Accounts, GreenStruxure

Nicole Geneau - SVP, Development, AlphaStruxure

Jana Gerber - President, North American Microgrid, Schneider Electric

Barbara Tyran - Director, Macro Grid Initiative

Michael Yambrach - Interim Chief, Office of Energy & Sustainability, Montgomery County

HARDENING OPERATIONS OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE: ENERGY STORAGE & RENEWABLE GENERATION FOR RESILIENCE

Tuesday, September 20, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

Municipal governments, institutions, hospitals, and businesses are seeking solutions for resilience in their facilities to prepare for the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events. Our panel will highlight model project scenarios that can be replicated, and share their knowledge of programs and resources designed to assist with project development and financing.

Moderator: I. Katherine Magruder - Executive Director, Maryland Clean Energy Center

Panelists:

Brandon Bowser - Energy Program Manager, CHP & Resilience, Maryland Energy Administration

Brandy Espinola - Climate and Sustainability Program Manager, Environmental Finance Center University of MD

Cherise Seals - Sr. Account Executive, NORESKO

Dave Wright - Director of Project Development, Groundswell

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SHIFTING TO A ZERO EMISSIONS FLEET: INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING, FINANCING & MANAGEMENT

Tuesday, September 27, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation is crucial in the effort to achieve climate change related goals. Panelists in this session will report on state and regional initiatives and incentives to enable the transition to clean fuel vehicles and efforts being made in aviation. Solutions for planning the installation of charging infrastructure and creative financing for fleet conversion will also be covered.

Moderator: Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo - MD District 15, House Environment & Transportation Committee

Panelists:

Claire Broido Johnson - Chief Operating Officer, Fermata Energy

Kristy Fleischmann Groncki - Sr. Manager, Strategic Programs, BGE

Jason Hewitt, Development Partner, Sustainability Partners

Burrell Kilmer - Vice President, Connected DMV

Dan Laurent - Sr. Business Developer, eMobility, Siemens

Darline Terrell-Tyson - Director, Office of Environmental Compliance & Sustainability, MDOT/MAA

SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES & REMOVING ROADBLOCKS TO IMPLEMENTATION

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

In 2022, the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) for Maryland calls for 30.1% of the power served to consumers in the state to come from Tier 1 sources, including at least 5.5% from solar generation. This panel will examine whether or not the target is being met and address how to remove some of the real or perceived roadblocks to achieving the RPS goal. Views will be considered from the perspective of the regional transmission organization, local land use and permitting, and entrepreneurs seeking to deploy cutting edge technologies. The session will also address models to finance solar installations, as well as nationally coordinated recycling efforts for the life cycle management of obsolete equipment.

Moderator: Stephanie Johnson - Executive Director, CHESSA

Panelists:

Adam Dubitsky - Consulting Director of State Relations, Land & Liberty Coalition of Maryland

Cindy McCabe - Solar Program Manager, Montgomery County Green Bank

Robert Nicholson - Recycling Project Lead, SEIA

Bob Reid - Owner/President, American Vertical Solar, Inc.

Mark Sims - Sr. Manager Interconnection Analysis, PJM Interconnection

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

Underserved and disadvantaged communities are front and center with new directives for the spend of public dollars dedicated to addressing and mitigating climate change. Panelists will bring their perspectives and offer ideas related to the challenges of broadening inclusivity for climate justice. They will also discuss questions related to how the consumer audience defined, the assistance programs in place, and the initiatives needed to bring about environmental justice in relation to energy supply and demand in Maryland and the region. This session will explore what is missing from the equation and identify the economic opportunities associated with addressing this market sector.

Moderator: Brooke Smallwood - Associate VP, CARIAN

Panelists:

Charmaine Brown - Vice President, Finance of America & Co-Chair, MCCC Climate Justice Committee

Joshua Galloway - Senior Project Manager, New Ecology, Inc.

Divesh Gupta - Director, Strategy - Utility, BGE

Berneta Haynes - Staff Attorney, National Consumer Law Center

Sam Impink - Utility Assistance Director, Fuel Fund of Maryland



CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGIES AND THE POTENTIAL FOR NET ZERO EMISSION CREDITS

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

With a focus on decarbonizing the grid, this panel will focus on the pros and cons of adopting policy to incentivize energy generation with net zero emissions as a means to achieve climate related goals. Guest speakers will share strategies being used in other states and discuss considerations for some of the social and economic benefits connected to carbon reductions for Maryland.

Moderator: Sen. Brian Feldman - MD District 15, Vice Chair - Senate Finance Committee

Panelists:

Chris Hoagland - Director of Air & Radiation, Maryland Department of the Environment

Marie Rinkoski - Sr. Manager of Clean Energy Policy, Constellation

Doug Vine - Director of Energy Analysis, C2ES

SOLUTIONS TO ACHIEVE BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, from 10:30 AM – Noon

The built environment has long been identified as the greatest area of demand for energy consumption, and presents the most opportunity for greenhouse gas emissions reductions with implementation of measures for efficient consumption. Policies being implemented now require owners and operators to manage their buildings with certain Energy Performance Standards. This session will offer a better understanding of the Building Energy Performance Standard (BEPS) regulations for Maryland and strategies for compliance. Panelists will discuss the carrots and sticks relevant to this topic, and share step-by-step tips for navigating from project assessments to improvements, and exploring financing resources.

Moderator: Lisa M. Ferretto - Sr. Director, Sustainable Practice & Knowledge, AIA

Panelists:

Jared Lyles - Mechanical Engineer, Maryland Energy Advisors

Michael Powell - Member, Gordon-Feinblatt, LLC & Member of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Ben Roush - Principal, FSi Engineering

Alison Shea - VP of Sales, Limbach

Mark Stewart - Climate Change Program Manager, Maryland Department of the Environment

MASTER ENERGY PLAN DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION FOR FACILITY MAINTENANCE & OPERATION

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, from 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Corporate, government, and campus facilities managers are designing and implementing energy master plans through a proactive versus reactive strategic process for sustainable operation and cost effective maintenance. More than just a building specific energy audit, this approach includes evaluation of supply and demand-side requirements, along with a multi-phased improvement plan, including funding and financing options. The experts on this panel will talk about the elements of good plan that identifies inefficiencies, allows for existing asset optimization, hedges against future energy risks, and reduces the carbon footprint for end-users.

Moderator: Anton Cohen - Partner & Renewable Energy Industry Leader, CohnReznick

Panelists:

Chris Evanich - Program Director for Energy As a Service, Schneider Electric

Sean Metivier - Sr. Sustainability and Decarbonization Consultant, Siemens

Thomas D. Peterson - President and CEO, Center for Climate Strategies & Adjunct Professor and Lecturer at JHU

Tim Thoman - President and CEO, Performance Services

View Series Schedule and Program Details at www.mdcleanenergy.org/speakerseries.
Registration is FREE!



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