



CLEAN ENERGY NH
Your Voice in All Energy Matters

15TH ANNUAL

LOCAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS Conference

**AGENDA
SPEAKERS & SESSIONS
EXHIBITOR LIST**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023
MANCHESTER, NH**

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WELCOME LETTER

FROM MUDDLING TO VISIONING

Last year at the Local Energy Solutions Conference, the ink was still drying on the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and we, and our assembled attendees, were trying to get our arms around everything that it contained. In the year that has followed, tax credit guidelines have been written, guidance documents for the various programs the IRA contains have been released, and in some instances, funding has even begun to flow.

In grasping for a metaphor that matches the moment, I can't help but think of hiking above tree-line in the White Mountains when the cloud deck is low. Throughout the course of this past year, there have been moments when patches of sky open and close, hinting that indeed there is an impressive landscape that we can't quite see. Now, the sun has started to burn off the fog, and the full picture of the path ahead of us is starting to become clear.

To torture that metaphor a bit and see if it still holds: suggesting the energy transition is like a walk in the Whites maybe has some merit. There are a lot of ways to get from point-to-point, some of which take a lot more work, but have better views. It's easy to get led astray by the many side-paths that branch from the main trail, and without a good map you can take wrong turns that lead to back-tracking and wasted time.

The broader point is that unless you know where you're going, it's nearly impossible to make the right decisions for how to get there. At each branching trail, we look out into an uncertain future and the temptation is to follow whichever trail looks easiest to walk at that particular intersection.

More than a half-century ago, Yale political scientist Charles Lindblom wrote an essay called the "*Science of Muddling Through*" which argued for gradualism and incrementalism in the face of uncertainty. In 2016, Carnegie Mellon's Granger Morgan – one of the Deans of energy policy studies in the US – wrote that transitioning to a cleaner energy system will require us to move past "muddling" and toward "visioning" by which we "gracefully move past short-term strategies to address the longer-term need for major emission reductions."

I would posit that as the spending from the Inflation Reduction Act begins to get out the door, we're witnessing the moment in which the clouds are dispersing and revealing that we're in an entirely different landscape than the last time we looked up from our boots in New Hampshire. **We've been muddling along in the woods for a while now, but there's a much clearer path that will get us to our destination, if we've got the vision to choose it.**



Sam Evans-Brown
Executive Director



CLEAN ENERGY NH
Your Voice in All Energy Matters

AGENDA

2023 LES CONFERENCE

8:00AM

Registration, Breakfast and Networking

9:00AM

Welcoming Remarks

9:15AM

Keynote Address: Jennifer Downing, *Senior Advisor,*
U.S. Department of Energy Loan Programs Office

10:15AM

Networking Break and Exhibitor Hall

10:30AM
SESSIONS

Morning Sessions

- Phase Two Of Community Power: Local Programs
- The Big Picture: Economic Development, Energy Innovation, and Climate Planning
- Battery Storage: Enabling Cross Sector Energy Transition
- NH's Energy Agenda: Insights from State Legislators

11:45AM

Lunch, Electric Vehicle Expo: Ride and Drive, Exhibitor Hall, and Networking

1:30PM
SESSIONS

Afternoon Sessions

- Distributed Energy Resources: Growth Through Multiple Paths
- Regional Roundtable: Our Neighbors' Perspective
- Energizing the Future: Workforce Collaborations
- Community-Powered Energy Solutions

2:45PM

Networking Break and Visit the Exhibitors

3:15PM
SESSION

Plenary Session

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) / Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL): One Year In

4:45PM

Conference Adjourns

5:00PM

After Hours Networking
2nd Floor: Frost and Hawthorne Rooms



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Jennifer
Downing

Senior Advisor



U.S. Department of Energy Loan Programs Office

Jennifer Downing is a Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Loan Programs Office, where she focuses on accelerating deployment of Virtual Power Plants for a more reliable, affordable, and sustainable power grid. She is the lead author of the DOE report, ***Pathway to Commercial Liftoff for Virtual Power Plants***. Prior to joining DOE, Downing was a Senior Manager at Bain & Company in the Sustainability and Strategy practice areas. She holds a B.A. in Ethics, Politics, and Economics from Yale and M.B.A from Harvard Business School where she was a Baker Scholar. Downing is based in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

In this keynote address,

Downing will impart insights from the report on the strategic bundling of small-scale clean energy resources into cost-effective clusters. “With electricity demand growing for the first time in a decade and fossil assets retiring, deploying 80-160 GW of virtual power plants (VPPs)—tripling current scale—by 2030 could support rapid electrification while redirecting grid spending from peaker plants to participants and reducing overall grid costs.”

KEYNOTE
SPEAKER



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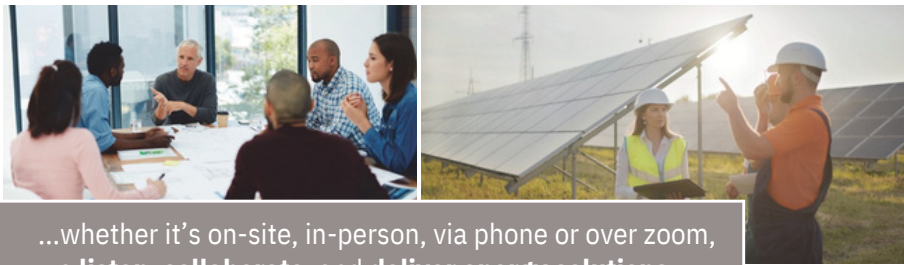


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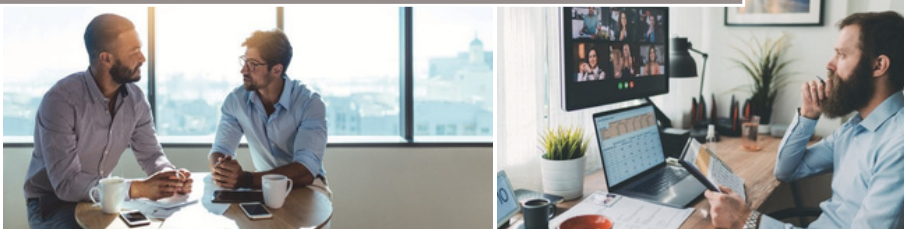
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10:30AM - 11:45AM

COMMUNITIES

 Pemigewasset Room

PHASE TWO OF COMMUNITY POWER: LOCAL PROGRAMS

Community Power aggregation has launched in New Hampshire and is providing tens of thousands of residents with savings on their electric bills as we speak. However, Community Power is about a lot more than just saving money. On this panel, we will hear from more mature community power agencies from all over the country to learn about the bright future that Community Power can bring.

MODERATOR: **Bart Fromuth**, *Freedom Energy Logistics, LLC.*

PANELISTS: **Don Eckert**, *Pioneer Community Energy*; **Mariel Marchand**; *Cape Light Compact*; and **Glenn Weinberg**, *Joule Assets*;

TRANSITION

 Contoocook Room

THE BIG PICTURE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY INNOVATION, AND CLIMATE PLANNING

Innovations in clean energy technology increasingly offer not only significant public health and environmental quality benefits, but also the long sought after promise of reduced energy costs and economic growth. However, realizing the triple bottom line benefits of a cleaner environment, stronger communities, and a resilient economy requires careful, coordinated, and comprehensive planning. Our speakers will discuss how to use planning and policy development to ensure that renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate change are part of ongoing discussions at all levels: local government, community-wide and even regionally.

MODERATOR: **Phil LaMoreaux**, *NH Department of Environmental Services.*

PANELISTS: **Deb Chisholm**, *City of Nashua, NH*; **Angela Cleveland**; *Strafford Regional Planning Commission*; and **Brian Norton**, *Loon Mountain Resort.*



10:30AM - 11:45AM

INDUSTRY



Merrimack Room

BATTERY STORAGE: ENABLING CROSS SECTOR ENERGY TRANSITION

Energy storage is key to the transition away from fossil fuels towards local, clean, low-costs energy resources that support the economy, community vitality, and environmental quality. Innovations in battery technology enable the shift in electric demand to off-peak periods, deferring expensive transmission and distribution investments, integrating large amounts of intermittent renewables, while also enhancing resilience. This session will explore the application of batteries across sectors of the economy and the policy changes needed to optimize this resources potential.

MODERATOR: **Chris Skoglund**, *Clean Energy NH*.

PANELISTS: **Amy Findlay**, *Eversource Energy*; **Ari Jackson**, *Glenvale Solar*; **Sarah Jackson**, *Form Energy*; **Pierre Denis**, *EnerSys*; and **Yasmin Tayeb**, *Champlain Energy Systems*.

POLICY



Piscataquog Room

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S ENERGY AGENDA: INSIGHTS FROM STATE LEGISLATORS

This engaging session will offer a unique opportunity to hear directly from state legislators who are at the forefront of shaping New Hampshire's energy policy. Our esteemed panelists will discuss their vision for the state's energy future, the legislative initiatives driving change, and the challenges and opportunities in achieving a sustainable, clean energy agenda.

MODERATOR: **Sam Evans-Brown**, *Clean Energy NH*.

PANELISTS: **Representative Kat McGhee**; **Senator David Watters**; and **Representative Michael Vose**.

MORNING SESSIONS



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1:30PM - 2:45PM

POLICY



Pemigewasset Room

DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES: GROWTH THROUGH MULTIPLE PATHS

The energy system of the future will be characterized by hundreds of thousands of small-scale distributed energy resources (DERs), backed by sophisticated data and analytics, deployed across the landscape and sited at residential, business, and industrial facilities. For this system to function energy markets, rules, administrative procedures, and planning will need to be aligned in order to reduce bureaucratic barriers and optimize deployment. This session will consider what's new for DERs in the regulatory realm and what problems need further attention.

MODERATOR: **Madeleine Mineau**, *Essex Hydro*.

PANELISTS: **Josh Brock**, *Calpine Community Energy*; **Matt Doubleday**, *Rewild Renewables*; and **Deandra Perruccio**, *NH Department of Energy*.

TRANSITION



Contoocook Room

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE: OUR NEIGHBORS' PERSPECTIVE

Gain a deeper understanding of the policy frameworks, incentives, and regulations that are shaping the clean energy sector in New England states.

MODERATOR: **Nicole Verdi**, *Orsted*.

PANELISTS: **Eliza Donoghue**, *Maine Renewable Energy Association*; **Natalie Treat**, *Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)*; and **Peter Sterling**, *Renewable Energy Vermont (REV)*.



1:30PM - 2:45PM

INDUSTRY



Merrimack Room

ENERGIZING THE FUTURE: WORKFORCE COLLABORATIONS

Discover how industry leaders, educational institutions, and communities are coming together to propel the energy transition forward through skill development, innovation, and shared expertise. Learn how these partnerships are addressing the growing workforce needs, and driving meaningful progress towards a cleaner, more efficient, and resilient energy future.

MODERATOR: **Barry Reaves**, *Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)*.

PANELISTS: **Kristine Dudley**, *Community College System of NH / Manchester Community College*; **Jennifer Thornton**, *GDS Associates, Inc.* and **Vaughan Woodruff**, *ReVision Energy*.

COMMUNITIES



Piscataquog Room

COMMUNITY-POWERED ENERGY SOLUTIONS

This session puts the spotlight on local energy champions, showcasing how collective efforts are driving the transition to cleaner, more resilient energy sources. Learn from inspiring community success stories and discover the potential for localized change in the energy landscape. The Energy Circuit Riders (ECRs) with Clean Energy NH will present new programs and resources, including a database for Federal and State grants.

MODERATOR: **Sarah Brock**, *Vital Communities*.

PANELISTS: **Gabe Chelius** and **Melissa Elander**, *Clean Energy NH*; **Dori Drachman**, *Peterborough Renewable Energy Project (PREP)*; **Louis Grondin**, *Town of Lee Energy Commission and Community Power Committee*; and **Mary Lou Krambeer**, *Bethlehem Energy Commission*.

EV EXPO: RIDE & DRIVE

Experience driving an electric car with no obligation to purchase. Knowledgeable dealers will be available to address any inquiries you may have regarding electric vehicles, as they accompany you on a test drive.

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3:15PM - 4:30PM

PLENARY SESSION



Armory Room

THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT & THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: ONE YEAR IN

One year after the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act and two years after the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the dust has begun to settle. As programs open up, how will these funds begin to flow into New Hampshire? What programs has the state pursued, and when will we start to feel the impact of these investments in our communities?

MODERATOR: *Sam Evans-Brown, Clean Energy NH.*



Andre Briere

Deputy Commissioner
NH Department of
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Chris Ellms

Deputy Commissioner
NH Department of Energy



Jessica Wilcox

Supervisor, Mobile Sources Section
NH Department of
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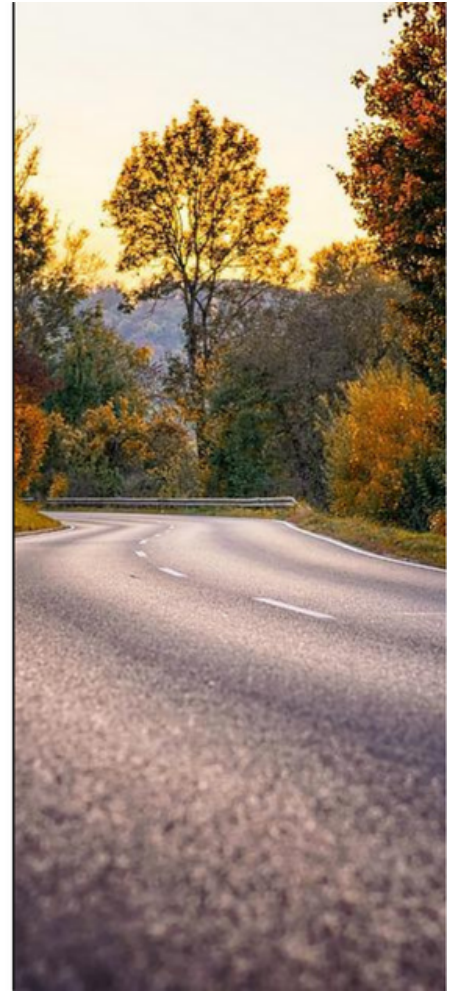
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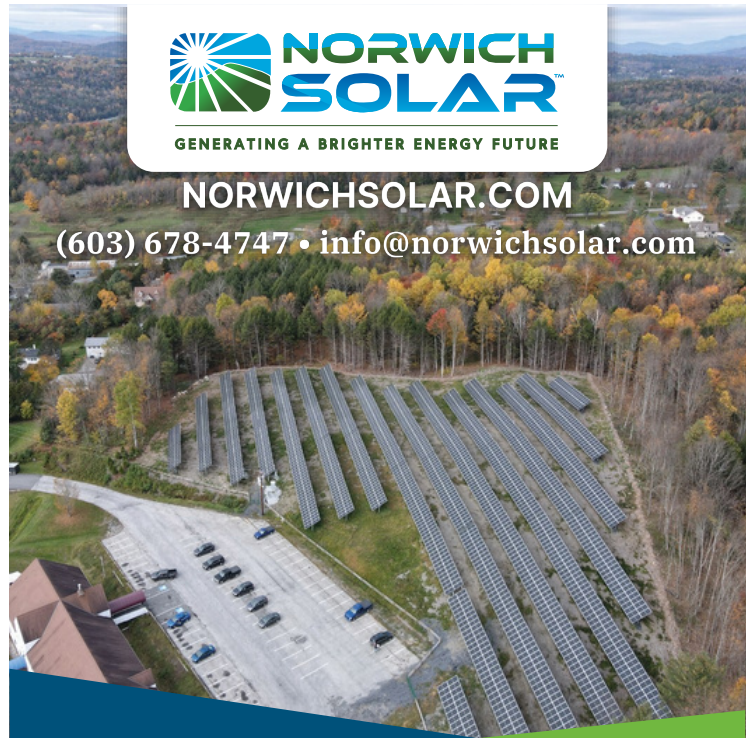


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