



LOCAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS Conference



2022

AGENDA
SPEAKERS & SESSIONS
EXHIBITOR MAP

WELCOME

Never before in the history of the United States,
has the clean energy industry had a runway this long.

In the early 2000s, when the wind industry was still nascent and feeling its way down the cost curve towards competitiveness, Congress would intermittently extend tax credits for wind and solar production. Whenever Congress failed to act, new installations would crater, and when they were extended again they would skyrocket. A similar effect was observed in the solar investment community and was dubbed the “solar coaster.”

This July I had cause to reflect on these years of boom and bust, feast and famine, when we were put through another whiplash inducing back-and-forth. Senator Joe Manchin first walked away from and then dramatically revealed he had consummated the negotiations over what would eventually come to be called the Inflation Reduction Act. In a very brief window, I went from thinking the clean energy revolution would be a complicated muddle led by state and local actors, to waking up to a suite of policies whose breadth and depth would have defied belief two years prior.

And yet, the accounts of how the bill was eked across the finish line are instructive. Unlikely climate advocates came out of the woodwork—including names like Bill Gates and Larry Summers—to coax Manchin back to the negotiating table. When you consider the bill is predicted to reduce US emissions by 40 percent by 2030, the fact that it all came down to a few conversations with a few key dudes is a little head-spinning.

“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice” Martin Luther King Jr told us, standing in the National Cathedral in 1968. These words are comforting and they might ultimately prove to be true, but they obscure another truth: when you look closely at the moments in which history is made, the precise reasons for the precise circumstances that led to the precise historic turning point start to look like a whole lot of random chance.

I hope that we are in a universe that is bending towards justice, but I’m not prepared to count on it. While the clean energy transition may be inevitable, in the near term it is contingent upon us. It is contingent upon each of us putting our shoulder to the wheel and doing what we can to bring it about. Whether that be eliminating emissions from our own lives or putting in a key call at a key moment to someone who has more power than us to make a bigger and more systemic change, and convincing them to walk back to the negotiating table.

We’ve made a huge step toward a cleaner future,
but it's still up to us to keep walking.



Sam Evans-Brown
Executive Director

AGENDA

2022 LES CONFERENCE

8:00AM

Registration, Breakfast and Networking

9:00AM

Welcoming Remarks

9:15AM

Keynote Address: Katie Theoharides, *Head of US Offshore (East)*, RWE

10:00AM

Networking Break and Visit the Exhibitors

10:30AM
SESSION
SERIES 1

Community Power for All
Current State of Charge: EV Charging Investments & Opportunities
What's HOT with Heat Pumps: COLD Water on the Myths
Building the Workforce of Tomorrow

11:45AM

Luncheon Address, Electric Vehicle Expo: Ride and Drive, Visit the Exhibitors, and Networking

1:30PM
SESSION
SERIES 2

A New Generation of Sustainable Housing Communities
Policy Pitches: Tomorrow's Ideas Today
Federal Infrastructure and the IRA
Leaders to Follow: Business Success Stories

2:45PM

Networking Break and Visit the Exhibitors

3:00PM
SESSION
SERIES 3

The Magic Electric School Bus
Resilience and Reliability in a Changing Grid
The Next EE Plan: Defending NHSaves
Developing a New Energy Framework

4:15PM

Networking

4:45PM

Conference Adjourns

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Katie Theoharides is the Head of RWE Renewables Offshore (East), overseeing all offshore wind development activities of RWE, from the Gulf of Maine to the Gulf of Mexico. In her previous role, Katie was the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs in Governor Baker's administration, overseeing more than 3,000 staff, a budget of \$232 million and six energy and environmental agencies. In this role Katie worked to help establish the first utility scale offshore wind farm in the country, the 800MW Vineyard Wind project, followed by subsequent procurements for 800 and 1600MW wind farms, and the establishment of major supply chain and port investments in the Commonwealth. Trained as an ecologist, Katie has significant experience in leading complex projects and policy initiatives, team management, and strategy. She loves sharing her passion for clean energy and climate change with her husband and three kids.

*Katie
Theoharides*

**Head of
US Offshore East
RWE**



Serving under a Republican governor in a state where Democrats controlled the legislature, she learned a great deal about how to craft policy compromises across lines of difference. From aggressive action on building codes while simultaneously confronting a housing crisis, to deploying the nation's first large-scale offshore wind farm while simultaneously working to keep electric rates low, to navigating the fraught landscape of interconnections between New England and Quebec's hydropower system, Theoharides has seen her share of complex negotiations.

During this keynote presentation, she will share insights gleaned from this rich experience, and discuss how the lessons she learned can help New Hampshire capitalize on the economic opportunity offered by the vast wind resource in the Gulf of Maine.



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TRACK 1: CLEAN POWER IN THE GRANITE STATE

LOCATION: Pemigewasset Room

10:30AM - 11:45AM

COMMUNITY POWER FOR ALL

Passed into law in 2019 and finally implemented in 2022, Community Power represents a transformational opportunity for New Hampshire. The ability to use the buying power of an entire community to drive down cost, emissions, and grow the local clean energy market is well aligned with New Hampshire's traditions of local control and seeking market-based solutions to intractable problems. Now that the market has launched, this panel looks to the future of Community Power, by exploring the experiences of other states and asking how the Granite State can learn from what has come before.

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

PANELISTS: **Josh Brock**, *Calpine Energy Solutions*; **Robert Hayden**, *Standard Power*; **Henry Herndon**, *Herndon Enterprises*; and **Scott Wrigglesworth**, *Ascend Analytics*.

1:30PM - 2:45PM

A NEW GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE HOUSING COMMUNITIES

Can Multifamily Buildings work to build sustainable housing? Industry professionals will discuss how progress can be expanded throughout the state, and how Resident Owned Communities (ROC) can benefit their stakeholders.

MODERATOR: **Melissa Elander**, *Clean Energy NH*

PANELISTS: **Carmen Lorentz**, *Lakes Region Community Developers*; **Josh Meehan**, *Keene Housing*; and **Jeannie Oliver**, *Vermont Law and Graduate School, Energy Clinic*.

3:00PM - 4:15PM

THE MAGIC ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS

The US vehicle fleet is entering a period of rapid transition as combustion engine vehicles are phased out and federal funding provides for electric vehicles and the necessary charging infrastructure. Electric school buses will be part of this transformation and offer communities lower energy costs, lower maintenance costs, and vastly improved air quality. In addition, buses' sizable batteries could be used as a grid resource, providing power to the grid during high demand. Getting to these benefits will take coordination of bus fleet operators, school systems, and utilities. This session will address those opportunities while reviewing the challenges to adoption, challenges that will pass as experience, expertise, and market innovation expands.

MODERATOR: **Jay Minkarah**, *Nashua Regional Planning Commission*

PANELISTS: **Jim Anderson**, *Blue Bird*; **Alex Pine**, *VEIC*; and **Barry Russell**, *Champlain School System*.

TRACK 2: LIVE FREE AND DRIVE

LOCATION: Piscataquog Room

10:30AM - 11:45AM

CURRENT STATE OF CHARGE: EV CHARGING INVESTMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITIES

New Hampshire is gearing up for groundbreaking investments in Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Volkswagen (VW) Mitigation Trust settlement. Battery Electric Vehicles (EV) are an exhaust-free solution to greenhouse gas emissions from cars, trucks, and buses. With mainstream automakers bringing more diverse EV models to the market, access to public charging has become top-of-mind for consumers. This session will explore the need for public charging in NH, review the current landscape and steps being taken, and provide guidance to municipalities on how to be shovel ready if and when funding opportunities or investments become available to your community. Learn from municipalities leading the charge with successfully completed projects: the crew, steps, and costs. Take away insights and strategies you can apply towards developing an EV charging action plan for your community and the types of projects communities can and should proceed with on their own.

MODERATOR: **Jessica Wilcox**, *NH Department of Environmental Services / Granite State Clean Cities Coalition*

PANELISTS: **Brian DeShaies**, *Selectman, Town of Wolfeboro*; **Seth MacLean**, *Assistant Town Manager, Town of Peterborough*; **Emily Manns**, *Committee Member, Peterborough Energy Committee*; **Daniel Shanahan**, *EVSE LLC.*; and **Bruce Tucker**, *Committee Member, Peterborough Energy Committee*.

1:30PM - 2:45PM

POLICY PITCHES: TOMORROW'S IDEAS TODAY

While it's easy to continue to talk about the policies we have already passed, and how to implement and defend them, sometimes it's important to think about how to solve tomorrow's problems. In this session, hear three proposals for forward thinking policy solutions solving tomorrow's problems.

MODERATOR: **Robert Hayden**, *Standard Power*

PANELISTS: **Commissioner Victoria Sheehan**, *New Hampshire Department of Transportation*; **Ethan Goldman**, *Resilient Edge*; and **Donald M. Kreis**, *Office of the Consumer Advocate*.

3:00PM - 4:15PM

RESILIENCE AND RELIABILITY IN A CHANGING GRID: KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON AND THE CAR CHARGED

As the world transitions towards an ever greater volume of renewable power generation and building and transportation electrification, we must develop a grid that can accommodate higher volumes of intermittent and distributed energy and higher loads of electricity. We will need more dispatch able energy systems, and have structures in place to accommodate the electrification of heat and transportation. How do we keep reliability in an "electrified market" and promote resilience in our systems when renewable intermittence occurs?

MODERATOR: **Amanda Gokee**, *New Hampshire Bulletin*

PANELISTS: **Molly Connors**, *New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA)*; and **Michael Conway**, *New Leaf Energy*; and **Ryan Doherty**, *Enel North America*.

TRACK 3: PAY LESS, GET MORE: BUILDING EFFICIENCY

LOCATION: Merrimack Room

10:30AM - 11:45AM

WHAT'S HOT WITH HEAT PUMPS: COLD WATER ON THE MYTHS

NH households and businesses are uniquely exposed to the price of fuel for building heating. Located in a cold climate and far from domestic sources of fossil fuels, the state spends billions per year importing oil, propane, and natural gas. Going forward, New Hampshire buildings, many centuries old, will need to be decarbonized if the state is to meet its share of climate change efforts. Heat pumps will play a critical role, offering a chance to retrofit hundreds of thousands of NH buildings in all corners of the state, dramatically reducing energy consumption, improving efficiency, and reducing costs. Heat pumps will offer NH homes an opportunity to efficiently cool buildings, a growing need in the state as the climate continues to warm. This session will provide an overview of the technology, its traditional and innovative applications, as well as what installers are seeing on the ground.

MODERATOR: **Dave Lis**, *Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)*

PANELISTS: **Kim Bergeron**, *K.E. Bergeron Mechanical Systems, LLC*; **Matt Rusteika**, *Building Decarbonization Coalition*; and **Matt Tilas**, *Mitsubishi Electric Trane US*.

1:30PM - 2:45PM

FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE IRA: HOW WILL IT AFFECT NEW HAMPSHIRE?

The Inflation Reduction Act has completely changed the landscape of financing and delivering clean energy. Hear from three speakers who will lay out how this legislation will affect electric vehicles, renewable energy, and energy efficiency programs.

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

PANELISTS: **Dan Bennett**, *New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association (NHADA)*; **Rachel Eades**, *ReVision Energy*; and **Dave Hazel**, *Mitsubishi Electric Cooling & Heating*.

3:00PM - 4:15PM

THE NEXT EE PLAN: DEFENDING NHSAVES - 2022 LES CONFERENCE

2021 brought enormous challenges and unprecedented drama to the energy efficiency industry. This session will feature a recap of 2021's pivotal regulatory decisions, the legal and legislative action that followed, and an outlook for the future of New Hampshire's energy efficiency programs. After taking a closer look at the energy efficiency conditions in the state, this session will offer attendees a chance to better understand regional and national energy efficiency trends.

MODERATOR: **Ray Burke**, *New Hampshire Legal Assistance*

PANELISTS: **Donald M. Kreis**, *Office of the Consumer Advocate*; **Kate Peters**, *Eversource*; and **Mike Turcotte**, *Turn Cycle Solutions*.

TRACK 4: INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION

LOCATION: Contoocook Room

10:30AM - 11:45AM

BUILDING THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW

According to recent analysis by BW Research commissioned by The Nature Conservancy, the federal Inflation Reduction Act is slated to send \$2.6 billion to the Granite State. This will generate 4,000+ new jobs and \$350.7 million in the local economy over the ten years. A clean energy economy will need full participation by the state's academic institutions - integrating skills training with academic curriculum in schools, colleges and universities is critical. So critical that skills shortages could potentially stall the transition to clean energy. Learn how New Hampshire's higher education institutions and other organizations are preparing to train a highly skilled workforce to meet the energy demands of the future.

MODERATOR: **Will Stewart**, *Stay Work Play NH*

PANELISTS: **Jeff Beard**, *Bureau of Career Development NH Department of Education*; **Andy Duncan**, *Community College System of NH (CCSNH)*; **Aubrey Nelson**, *NH/VT Energy Education Project (NHEEP/VEEP)*; and **Vaughan Woodruff**, *ReVision Energy*.

1:30PM - 2:45PM

LEADERS TO FOLLOW: BUSINESS SUCCESS STORIES

New Hampshire's energy costs make it a difficult state for manufacturers and other businesses that consume large amounts of energy. But companies can reduce their energy spending dramatically by investing in energy efficiency and local generation. We'll hear from three path-setting companies that are doing just that.

MODERATOR: **Michelle Veasey**, *NH Businesses for Social Responsibility*

PANELISTS: **Turner Hansel**, *Filtrine Manufacturing*; **George Parmenter**, *Ahold Delhaize US*; and **Robin Tindall**, *Hypertherm Associates*.

3:00PM - 4:15PM

DEVELOPING A NEW ENERGY FRAMEWORK: INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONSUMERS

What does a decarbonized electric grid look like? The majority of our transmission lines are over 25 years old with an expected lifespan of 50 years. Meanwhile, the Biden Administration has set a goal of zero carbon electricity generation by year 2035, which could require the construction of over a million miles of new transmission lines. This session will focus on innovative ways that the electric grid can be transformed, including the role of competitive procurement in transmission grid planning and upgrades, how performance-based ratemaking can incentivize transformation within our utilities, and how a transactive energy rate can spur the adoption of clean energy technologies.

MODERATOR: **Sherrie Trefry**, *VHB*

PANELISTS: **Brian Callnan**, *New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.*; **Dave Littel**, *Bernstein Shur Law Firm*; and **Erica Menard**, *Liberty*.



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11:45AM - 2:45PM

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