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California State Assembly

UTILITIES AND ENERGY



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Quirk, Bill
Reyes, Eloise Gómez
Santiago, Miguel
Ting, Philip Y.

INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Wednesday, August 25
1:30 p.m. -- State Capitol, Assembly Chamber

Beyond New Construction: Decarbonizing California's Existing Building Stock

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Andrew McAllister, Ph.D.



- Commissioner, California Energy Commission.
- Appointed in 2012 by then-Governor Brown; reappointed in 2017.
- Holds the *economist* designation on the Commission.
- Focused on enabling modern, data-rich analytical tools to support strong clean energy policy; leads the policy areas of energy efficiency and energy assessments.
- Previously was the managing director at the California Center for Sustainable Energy, among other esteemed positions.
- Holds a master of science and a Ph.D. from the Energy and Resources Group at the University of California, Berkeley; and a B.A. from Dartmouth College.
- Served as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Jose Torres



- California Director, Building Decarbonization Coalition.
- Previously the Energy Equity Program Manager for the California Environmental Justice Alliance, and at the Office of Governmental Affairs at the California Energy Commission.
- Began his career in public service as a Senate Fellow in the Office of Senator Alex Padilla, and held positions in both the California State Assembly and Senate.

Srinidhi Sampath Kumar



- Sustainable Housing Policy and Program Manager, California Housing Partnership.
- Leads policy initiatives and helps design and implement electrification, energy efficiency, and solar programs that impact low-income Californians by engaging with affordable housing property owners and community-based organizations.
- Previously worked as a customer programs specialist with Marin Clean Energy.
- Holds a Master of City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Stella Maris College.

Joshua C. Greene



- Corporate Vice President of Government and Industry Affairs, A.O. Smith Corporation.
- Advocates for A.O. Smith's business goals and objectives in front of federal, state, and local policymakers and regulators across North America.
- Previously was a Partner at the law firm of Squire Patton Boggs LLP in Washington D.C.
- Also served as a senior legislative assistant and aide to two members of the New York Congressional delegation.

Yuri Freedman



- Senior Director of Business Development, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas).
- Broad experience in development and acquisitions of energy infrastructure assets.
- Held various executive positions at Sempra, Fortress Investment Group, and GE Energy Financial Services.
- Began his career as a geologist working in Arctic regions of Western Siberia on the development and construction of natural gas pipelines.
- Holds an MBA from the Yale School of Management and a Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Energy Research from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

Michael Wara, JD, Ph.D.



- Director, Climate and Energy Policy Program and Senior Research Scholar, Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University.
- A lawyer and scholar focused on climate, energy and wildfire policy.
- Appointed in 2019 to the California Wildfire Commission, and currently serves on the California Catastrophe Response Council, the oversight board of the Wildfire Fund.
- Previously was an associate professor at Stanford Law School and an associate in Holland & Knight's government practice.
- Holds a J.D. from Stanford Law School and Ph.D. in Ocean Sciences from the University of California at Santa Cruz