



**Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

**8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

University Club – University of Pittsburgh  
123 University Place, Pittsburgh, PA

## Agenda

- 8:00 a.m.    **Registration/Continental Breakfast/Exhibits Open**
- 8:30 a.m.    **Welcome**
- 8:35 a.m.    **Morning Keynote: Federal Update: Energy Policy at a Crossroads**  
– **Karen Harbert**, *President and CEO, American Gas Association*
- 9:35 a.m.    **Carbon Capture Hub Panel**  
– **Abby Smith**, *President & CEO, Team PA*  
– **Shawn Bennett**, *Energy and Resilience Division Manager, Battelle*
- 10:30 a.m.    **Refreshment Break/Exhibits Open**
- 11:00 a.m.    **Choose from the following two breakout sessions:**
- Air and Water Update**  
          – **Lisa Bruderly**, *Shareholder, Babst Calland, Attorneys at Law*  
          – **Gary Steinbauer**, *Attorney, Babst Calland, Attorneys at Law*
- Boomerang Properties**  
          – **David Rockman**, *Attorney, Eckert Seamans*  
          – **James Culp**, *Senior Principal Geologist, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.*
- 12:00 p.m.    **Lunch/Exhibits Open**
- 1:00 p.m.    **Choose from the following two breakout sessions:**
- Converting Manicured Lawn to Native Meadows for Cost Savings**  
          – **Jim Kooser**, *Senior Ecologist, Atlas Technical Consultants*
- Enabling Smart Cities and Communities**  
          – **Eric Rensel**, *Founder/President, Rensel Counseling*
- 2:00 p.m.    **Refreshment Break/Exhibits Open**
- 2:30 p.m.    **Afternoon Keynote: Permitting Chemistry to Drive Sustainability Progress**  
– **Chris Jahn**, *President and CEO, American Chemistry Counsel*
- 3:30 p.m.    **Adjourn**

## Speakers



### **Karen Harbert, President and CEO, American Gas Association**

Karen Alderman Harbert is president and chief executive officer of the American Gas Association. Founded in 1918, AGA represents more than 200 local energy utility companies that deliver natural gas to 187 million Americans nationwide.

Prior to joining AGA, she was president and chief executive officer of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Energy Institute (Energy Institute). Under Harbert's leadership, the Energy Institute evolved into a premier national and international organization dedicated to advancing a constructive energy agenda with the business community, policymakers and consumers. Harbert led the Energy Institute's development of its comprehensive Energy Works for US platform, which provides policy recommendations to secure our nation's energy future and create millions of jobs, billions of dollars in revenue, and trillions of dollars of private investment. Under Harbert's leadership, the Energy Institute established the groundbreaking Index of Energy Security Risk and the International Index of Energy Security Risk, the first tools to quantify America's energy security on an annual basis. Harbert frequently testifies in front of Congress and provides analysis to the media, policymakers, and industry leaders.

She currently serves on a number of not-for-profit boards including United States Energy Association, Bryce Harlow Foundation and Jefferson Islands Club. Harbert is a member of The Economic Club of Washington D.C.

Harbert is the former assistant secretary for policy and international affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). She was the primary policy adviser to the secretary of energy and to the department on domestic and international energy issues. She negotiated and managed bilateral and multilateral agreements with other countries and also served as vice chairman of the International Energy Agency, which advises its 28 member nations on energy policy issues and orchestrates international responses to energy supply disruptions.

Prior to joining the DOE, Harbert was deputy assistant administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). She had oversight of programs in 11 countries, totaling more than \$800 million and 1,000 employees. In the private sector, Harbert worked for over a decade developing international infrastructure and power projects valued at more than \$9 billion in countries in the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America.

Harbert gained experience on issues associated with economic reform and privatization through earlier positions at the USAID, the Organization of American States, and the International Republican Institute. She received a degree in international policy studies and political science from Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Harbert resides in Washington, D.C.



**Abby Smith, President & CEO, Team PA Abby Smith is President & CEO at Team Pennsylvania Foundation, a** nonprofit, nonpartisan, statewide organization dedicated to accelerating the commonwealth's economic growth through public-private partnership. Among other initiatives, Team Pennsylvania hosts the Pennsylvania Energy Horizons Cross-Sector Collaborative, an action-oriented, statewide public-private network that brings together leaders from industry, labor, government, nonprofits, and academia to unleash innovative, technological, and market-driven solutions to reduce emissions economy-wide while expanding the Commonwealth's clean energy economy. Currently, the Collaborative's work is focused on two strategies that promote decarbonization: 1) carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) and hydrogen deployment, and 2) advanced nuclear.

Formerly the Vice President of Policy & Programs and Senior Advisor to the Foundation, Abby's 20-year career includes high-level strategic planning and leading cross-sector collaboratives at the state level in Pennsylvania as well as in several other states. Abby has ample experience as a grant and project manager overseeing multi-million dollar grants, serving on various state-level councils, and leading multiple public-private partnership efforts. Before serving as Vice President, Abby was the Director of Education & Workforce Development at the Foundation.

Prior to joining Team Pennsylvania in 2013, Abby worked as a policy specialist at the PA Department of Education; for Teach For America as a recruitment director; and as a 7th grade social studies teacher and Teach For America corps member. Abby attended Yale University and has master's degrees in teaching from The Johns Hopkins University and in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University. She serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg and JCC and is a board member of the Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA. As Chair of the Federation, Abby spearheaded the acquisition of a new Jewish community campus - the Alexander Grass Campus for Jewish Life - set to open in Fall 2023. Abby lives in Harrisburg, PA with her husband, twin 12-year-old sons, and her dog Comet.



**Shawn Bennett, Energy and Resilience Division Manager at Battelle**, where he oversees all government-funded energy projects awarded to Battelle. In this role, he primarily focuses on opportunities in Carbon Capture and Storage, Hydrogen, Rare Earth Elements and Critical Minerals, and Direct Air Capture. Mr. Bennett is a former Managing Director at FTI Consulting in their Energy and Natural Resources sector. Mr. Bennett is also the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Oil and Natural Gas at the U.S. Department of Energy, where he oversaw the Department's research and development in the oil and gas sector, policy analysis, methane quantification and mitigation, and regulated LNG export authorizations for the United States.



**Lisa Bruderly, Shareholder, Babst Calland, Attorneys At Law**

Lisa is a shareholder and past chair of the Environmental Group of Babst Calland. She is also a member of the Firm's Energy and Natural Resources Group. Ms. Bruderly primarily focuses on regulatory compliance issues associated with water resources, including the management of wastewater, stormwater, drinking water, and sewage, as well as the permitting and mitigation of impacts to streams and wetlands. Ms. Bruderly represents clients in negotiating federal and state enforcement actions, including civil penalty assessments and consent decrees. Notably, she was lead counsel in two of the largest settlements associated with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. She has been with Babst Calland for 22 years. For nine years prior to law school, she was an environmental consultant and an environmental auditor for a large natural gas transmission company. Ms. Bruderly graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in Environmental Resource Management and received her J.D., cum laude, from Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law. Ms. Bruderly is a regular contributor to the *Water Law Newsletter* for The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law and a past president of the Appalachia Chapter of the Women's Energy Network.



**Gary Steinbauer, Attorney, Babst Calland, Attorneys At Law**

Gary Steinbauer is a Shareholder in the Environmental Practice Group at Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C. in Pittsburgh, PA. Gary advises clients on a variety of matters arising under major federal and state environmental regulatory programs. He provides strategic advice on permitting matters, day-to-day compliance needs, government investigations, and enforcement actions. Gary devotes a significant portion of his practice to advising clients on issues arising under the Clean Air Act (CAA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and related state programs regulating air emissions and wastewater discharges. Prior to joining Babst Calland, Gary worked as an attorney for the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he handled civil judicial and administrative enforcement matters and advised EPA program offices on CAA Title V and CWA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting issues. He began his legal career as a judicial law clerk for a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Gary graduated, *magna cum laude*, from the University of Toledo College of Law. He earned his undergraduate degree in Environmental Biology from the Ohio University.



**David Rockman, Attorney, Eckert Seamans**

David Rockman is the Chair of the Environmental Practice Group for Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC. Mr. Rockman is a graduate of Rutgers University and the University of Virginia School of Law. Mr. Rockman provides counseling and litigation representation in connection with the many federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulatory programs. He has experience dealing with compliance, permitting and enforcement actions under air, water, waste, toxins, cost recovery and brownfields programs. He regularly provides advice to clients in connection with environmental remediation and regulatory compliance, as well as business transactions, including due diligence on compliance matters and the All-Appropriate Inquiries Standard for purchases of real estate. Mr. Rockman is experienced in responding to government agency inquiries, information requests, violation notices, and administrative and civil complaints and penalty demands. Mr. Rockman has experience pursuing cost recovery claims and defending both private and governmental cost recovery actions. He is a former chair of the Allegheny County Bar Association Environment and Energy Section.



**James Culp, Senior Principal Geologist, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.**

During his 30+ years in the environmental industry working for Federal, industrial, commercial and legal clients, Mr. Culp has developed a diverse background in geologic and hydrogeologic evaluations, environmental investigation and remediation design, building decontamination and demolition, and multimedia contaminant migration evaluations. Additionally, Mr. Culp has assisted with cost allocation evaluations and environmental liability negotiations with other responsible parties, as well as due diligence and regulator negotiations for legal and industrial clients. Jim is a Senior Principal at Geosyntec responsible for the Pittsburgh, PA and Louisville, KY office operations, is a member of Geosyntec's Corporate Risk Management Committee, and has been a professional geologist registered in Pennsylvania since 1995.



**Jim Kooser, Senior Ecologist, Atlas Technical Consultants**

Mr. Kooser has been a practicing ecologist since 1986, with experience in both the private and public sectors. His responsibilities at Atlas include leading wetland and natural resource investigations, permitting, business development, mentoring staff and project management. Mr. Kooser has performed and managed natural resource evaluations, wetland delineations, permitting and mitigation, endangered species assessments, NEPA and FERC documentation, park and nature preserve planning and management, ecosystem restoration and ecological risk assessment, and surveys for invasive and state and federally listed species. His clients have included state, local and federal governments, and agencies; electric and gas utilities; oil and natural gas pipeline companies; not-for-profit groups and developers. He has completed projects in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. He regularly presents research findings at state and national meetings. He is a leader in the use of field portable computers to collect ecological data, and an experienced user of ESRI GIS products. From 1996 through 1999 Mr. Kooser served as the vice-chair of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Wetland Advisory committee.



**Eric Rensel, Founder/President, Rensel Consulting**

Eric has over 25 years of experience in the engineering and transportation planning field. Throughout his career he has been focused on helping clients strategically plan for change and develop action plans to implement their agenda. For the past 15 years Eric has focused on technology integration planning for agencies to improve communities. With a focus on developing opportunities to use technology to help communities that need it while also creating favorable economic conditions for investment, Eric has been able to help agencies implement successful plans. Eric recently launched his new company, Rensel Consulting, LLC with the tag line of "Turn Thoughts of Transformation into Actions of Empowerment." The primary message behind this tag line is an acknowledgment that technology offers the opportunity to change but we must prepare our organizations through strong visions and clear communication that they can understand and own. This type of empowerment offers the highest value.



**Chris Jahn, President and CEO, American Chemistry Council**

As President and CEO of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), Chris is responsible for advancing ACC's mission to advocate for the people, policy, and products of chemistry that make the United States the global leader in innovation and manufacturing. Chris has been named by The Hill as one of Washington, DC's "Top Lobbyists" and by the Washingtonian as one of DC's "Most Influential People" for representing the U.S. business of chemistry and its customers within the halls of Congress. In 2021, Chris partnered with Harris County officials in Houston to expand an extensive state-of-the-art air monitoring system to continuously track and evaluate air quality. The partnership included a \$1 million donation from ACC's foundation for mobile and stationary monitors. In 2020, Chris spearheaded ACC's role as a founding partner of the Future of STEM Scholars Initiative (FOSSI), which provides scholarships for students pursuing STEM degrees at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Chris received the AIChE "Doing a World of Good Medal" and the CME STEM Leadership Award™ for his commitment to supporting a skilled, diverse workforce. Also in 2020, Chris oversaw a strategic review of Responsible Care®, the chemical industry's environmental, health, safety and security (EHS&S) performance initiative, resulting in enhancements to the Responsible Care Process Safety Code and Responsible Care Security Code. Prior to joining ACC in 2019, Chris served as President and CEO of The Fertilizer Institute, president of the National Association of Chemical Distributors, and president of the Contract Services Association. He began his career on Capitol Hill, including time as chief of staff to U.S. Senator Craig Thomas (R-WY). Chris earned an MBA from the University of Maryland and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Columbia University in New York.