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PA Chamber of Business and Industry
417 Walnut Street, Harrisburg PA
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- 10:00 a.m. Welcome Remarks**
- Luke Bernstein, President and CEO, PA Chamber
- 10:05 a.m. Introductory Remarks**
- Andy Bockis, Partner, Saul Ewing and PA Chamber's Energy & Environmental Policy Committee Chair
- 10:05 a.m. Introduction of Speaker**
- John Oberer, Sr. Vice President/Principal, GZA GeoEnvironmental
- 10:05 a.m. DEP Update**
- Jessica Shirley, (Acting) Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection
- 10:35 a.m. Introduction of Speaker**
- Charles Boruchowitz, Government Affairs Manager, Bentley Systems
- 10:35 a.m. PA RISE Overview**
- Louie Krak, RISE Implementation Lead, Office of the Governor
- 11:20 a.m. Introduction of Speaker**
- David A. Rockman, Member Chair, Eckert Seamans
- 11:20 a.m. Update on the Governor's Lightning Plan**
- Sam Robinson, Deputy Chief of Staff for Consumer and the Environment, Office of the Governor
- 12:00 p.m. Conclude**

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Luke Bernstein, President and CEO, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

A seasoned financial, government, and public policy professional, Luke came to the organization in 2022 with more than 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors.

Before leading the PA Chamber, Luke was most recently executive vice president, chief operations and technology officer at Orrstown Financial Services. He had served as Orrstown's corporate spokesperson since 2017.

He was previously senior vice president of external affairs at the Pennsylvania Bankers Association from 2015 to 2017 and deputy chief of staff for former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett from 2011 to 2015.

In addition to his executive leadership roles in the private sector and state government, Luke has experience working at the federal level, as a former appointed advisor in the Administration of President George W. Bush and as an aide in the U.S. Senate. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and policy studies from Dickinson College, where he also served as an adjunct professor.

Luke also completed the Duke Leadership Program at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. He is a very active member of his community, serving on numerous boards and as a youth sports coach.



Andrew Bockis, Partner and Environmental Practice Co-Chair, Saul Ewing

Andrew Bockis helps clients obtain and defend environmental permits for their projects.

Industrial projects are subject to ever-changing rules and increased agency review time.

Whether related to industrial warehouses or oil and gas facilities or renewable energy projects, many business leaders are frustrated with the uncertainty created by complex environmental regulation. The situation is magnified when there is public opposition to a project. Based on his prior experience as counsel to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and

Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board, Andy helps clients in a variety of industries minimize

project delays and secure the permits they need. When projects are challenged, he helps companies defend their interests in court. He has litigated and defended environmental permitting decisions before the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Third Circuit, D.C. Circuit, and in response to petitions for certiorari before the U.S. Supreme Court. Andy also helps clients navigate their interactions with regulatory agencies in order to avoid extra costs and lost time so that they can commence construction and operate with confidence. He is the immediate past Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Environmental and Energy Law Section, and co-editor of Pennsylvania Environmental Law and Practice, published by PBI Press. He is also Chair of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry's Environmental Council. Mr. Bockis is a partner in the Harrisburg office of Saul Ewing LLP and is Co-Chair of the Firm's Environmental Practice.



Jessica Shirley, DEP Interim Acting Secretary

Currently serving as the Acting Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP), Jessica Shirley plays a pivotal role in the guidance of the department in its mission to protect and preserve Pennsylvania's environment while fostering sustainable and equitable practices. Jessica arrives to the role of Acting Secretary with extensive experience within the agency. Most recently, Jessica served as the Executive Deputy Secretary overseeing all programs.

As the first appointed Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator at the PA DEP, Jessica oversaw the influx of federal funding supported by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). She ensured that the Department used all available funds for the betterment of Pennsylvania's environment, economy, residents, and communities. In this role, she also placed strong emphasis on consideration of the impact of programs in historically underinvested communities.

Jessica's previous role as Policy Director from May 2016 to April 2022 was marked by her dedication to shaping the environmental and energy policy agenda. In this position, Jessica helped to develop groundbreaking executive orders related to PFAS, climate change, energy conservation and sustainability in Commonwealth operations, and environmental justice. These executive orders established the first greenhouse gas reduction goal for the Commonwealth, set performance goals for state agencies, established the PFAS Action Team to remove silos and address emerging contaminants, and memorialized various processes and opportunities to meaningfully engage and address underserved communities in Pennsylvania. She coordinated the DEP Policy Office's efforts, while overseeing the finalization of numerous rulemakings and promoting meaningful dialogue with stakeholders. Jessica and her counterpart at PennDOT lead the effort to develop Pennsylvania's first ever Litter Action Plan which received several awards and national recognition. Jessica also served on the agency steering committee of DiversEP, the agency's DEI committee with a mission of actively cultivating a culture of equity and inclusion and establishing a more diverse workforce representative of the population we serve.

In her earlier role as Executive Policy Specialist, Jessica was a trusted advisor in various policy areas, including oil and gas development, air quality, climate change, energy, waste, clean water, and environmental cleanup. She also demonstrated leadership in diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, and her representation of the Administration in discussions with key organizations showcased her influence and expertise. She built extensive relationships by serving as the Policy Office liaison to the Oil and Gas Technical Advisory Board, Air Quality Technical Advisory Board, Climate Change Advisory Committee, Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee, Cleanup Standards Scientific Advisory Board, Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority, Recycling Fund Advisory Committee, Radiation Protection Advisory Committee, Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Sewage Advisory Committee and Storage Tank Advisory Committee.

Jessica's educational background includes a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Pennsylvania State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Political Science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



Louie Krak, RISE Implementation Lead, Office of the Governor

Louie Krak is a Lancaster County native who spent a decade living, studying, working, and growing in New Haven, Connecticut before returning to the Keystone State. After obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Geography and a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Southern Connecticut State University, Louie moved to Harrisburg to pursue a career in public service. Already a longtime veteran of the service industry, Louie transitioned into public sector life as an Administrative Officer in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Farmland Preservation. During his time there, Louie helped to preserve over 1,200 acres of prime farmland, including the berry farm in his hometown where he worked for a year as a young adult.

Although farmland preservation has numerous environmental benefits, Louie felt drawn to explore the work at the Department of Environmental Protection, where he served as an Executive Policy Specialist focusing on air, energy, and climate change policy. During his tenure in the Policy Office, Louie also worked closely with other programs, including the Office of Oil and Gas Management, Office of Active and Abandoned Mining Operations, and the Bureau of Laboratories. This invaluable policy experience prepared Louie to step into his current role as Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator. He now works strategically with programs across the Department to maximize the historic federal funding opportunities available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 to catalyze clean energy deployment, remediate legacy pollution, and rectify environmental injustices and inequities.



Sam Robinson, Deputy Chief of Staff for Consumer and the Environment, Office of the Governor

Sam Robinson serves as Deputy Chief of Staff for Consumer and the Environment in the administration of Governor Josh Shapiro. Prior to joining the current administration, Robinson served in numerous positions in the prior administration, including as Deputy Chief of Staff for the four years of Governor Wolf's second term. Robinson works closely with Pennsylvania's environmental and energy agencies, as well as a number of administrative and regulatory agencies.

Prior to joining the Wolf administration, Robinson served as an Assistant City Solicitor with the City of Philadelphia Law Department working in the Regulatory Affairs group. A proud Philadelphian, Robinson received his law degree from The College of William & Mary and his bachelor's degree from Earlham College.