Energy and Environmental Conference

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey

AGENDA

8:00 – 8:30 A.M. **Registration, Breakfast, Exhibits**

8:30 – 8:40 A.M. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
- **Luke Bernstein**, President & CEO, PA Chamber
- **Justin Ladner**, President, PA American Water

8:40 – 9:35 A.M. **Moderated Conversation on Governor Shapiro's Executive Order on Data Centers**
- **Panelists:**
  - **Ramez Ziadeh**, Executive Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Environmental Protection
  - **Sam Robinson**, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Josh Shapiro
  - **Stephen DeFrank**, Chairman, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
- **Moderator**:
  - **Alex Halper**, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, PA Chamber

9:35 – 9:45 A.M. **Networking Break and Exhibit Engagement**

9:45 – 10:15 A.M. **Federal Regulatory & Policy Update**
- **Tim Bytner**, Shareholder, Babst Calland

10:15 – 10:45 A.M. **Energy and Environmental Policy Updates – State**
- **Will Hitchcock**, Senior Technical Consultant, Manko Gold, Katcher & Fox
- **Michael Dillon**, Partner, Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox

10:45 – 11:00 A.M. **Networking Break and Exhibit Engagement**

11:00 A.M. – Noon **Breakout Session #1**

Track One:

Financing Affordable Energy Infrastructure: How Return on Equity Powers Pennsylvania's Growth
Pennsylvania is entering a period of unprecedented demand for energy infrastructure. Meeting those demands requires billions of dollars in long-term investment, much of it financed through private capital attracted by a utility's authorized Return on Equity (ROE).

This panel will explore how utilities use ROE to raise the capital needed to build, maintain, and modernize critical infrastructure, from electric transmission lines and natural gas systems to water and wastewater facilities. Panelists will explain why a competitive regulatory environment is essential to attracting investment, how ROE impacts the affordability of financing, and why policies that support infrastructure investment ultimately help keep project costs, customer rates, and economic development opportunities on track.

- **Panelists:**
  - **Maryanne Hatch**, Vice President, Rates and Regulatory Affairs, Veolia
  - **Kelly Gower**, Vice President of State Finance and Regulatory, FirstEnergy
  - **Jessica Rodgers**, Vice President, Rates and Regulatory Affairs, UGI
- **Moderator:**
  - **Andy Tubbs**, President, Energy Association of PA

Track Two:

Climate Litigation and Pennsylvania's Energy Future: What's at Stake?
Across the country, a growing number of climate change lawsuits are seeking to hold energy producers financially responsible for the impacts of extreme weather and climate-related damages. Supporters view these cases as a tool for accountability, while opponents argue they amount to an attempt to establish energy and environmental policy through the courts rather than through legislatures and regulatory agencies. With litigation emerging in Pennsylvania and other states, the stakes extend far beyond the courtroom. This session will examine the legal theories driving climate lawsuits, the potential implications for taxpayers, businesses, consumers, and energy development, and the broader questions these cases raise about economic competitiveness, energy reliability, and the future of domestic energy production. Attendees will gain insight into one of the most consequential and fast-evolving legal and policy debates facing the energy sector today.

- **Panelists:**
  - **John Wagner**, Deputy General Counsel, API
  - **Kevin Palmer**, Counsel, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center
- **Moderator**:
  - **Neal Lesher**, Vice President of Government Affairs, PA Chamber

Noon – 1:00 P.M. **Lunch, Networking, Exhibit Engagement**

1:00 – 2:00 P.M. **Breakout Session #2**

Track One:

Building for Growth: Harnessing Pennsylvania's Energy Resources to Drive Economic Innovation
Pennsylvania's abundant energy resources provide a unique competitive advantage, creating opportunities to attract investment, support emerging industries, strengthen domestic supply chains, and drive long-term economic growth. From advanced manufacturing and industrial development to next-generation digital infrastructure, businesses across a range of sectors are finding innovative ways to leverage the Commonwealth's energy assets while investing in the infrastructure needed to support future growth. This session will explore how responsible energy utilization can serve as a catalyst for innovation and investment.

- **Panelists:**
  - **Christine Martin**, President, PPL Electric Utilities
  - **Perry Babb**, CEO, KeyState Nitrogen
  - **Terry Fitzpatrick**, Pennsylvanians for Reliable and Affordable Energy
  - **Glen Thomas**, President and CEO, GT Power Group
- **Moderator:**
  - **Clayton Bubeck**, President, Rettew

Track Two:
Maximizing Pennsylvania's Grid
As Pennsylvania grapples with how to meet rising energy demand, there are short-term opportunities to maximize the state's existing transmission infrastructure. This panel will provide updates on recent Pennsylvania legislation on Advanced Transmission Technologies as well as an update on the Pennsylvania Accelerated Transmission and Energy Redevelopment (PATER).

- **Panelists:**
  - **Tom Murphy**, Senior Managing Director for Strategic Energy Initiatives, Team Pennsylvania
  - **Jenny Netherton**, Officer, Energy Modernization, The Pew Charitable Trusts

2:05 – 2:50 P.M. **Afternoon Keynote**
- TBA

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.

Christine M. Martin, President, PPL

Martin joined PPL in June 2003. Prior to becoming president of PPL Electric Utilities in September 2023, Martin was PPL's senior vice president–Public Affairs and chief sustainability officer, overseeing the corporation's advocacy and policy development, corporate communications and sustainability efforts.

Before coming to PPL, Martin was deputy secretary for water management in Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection, where she was responsible for statewide water resources management and policy. Martin also served as senior policy manager for environmental, infrastructure, energy and regulatory issues for Governors Tom Ridge and Mark Schweiker and as executive policy specialist for Governor Ridge.

Martin holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/International Studies with minors in Economics and French from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Public Administration from The Pennsylvania State University. She also completed studies at the University of Nancy in France.

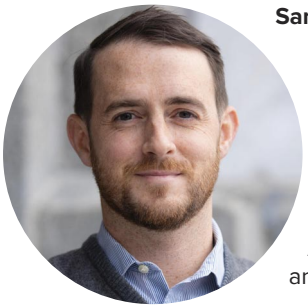
A native of Pennsylvania, Martin is co-chair of the Edison Electric Institute's Operating Company Leadership Work Group. She also serves on the boards for the Energy Association of Pennsylvania, the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation, the Pennsylvania Chamber and the Baum School Board of Trustees. Martin is also an officer of the PPL Foundation.

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Stephen M. DeFrank was nominated to serve as Commissioner by Governor Tom Wolf on September 20, 2022, and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate on October 19, 2022. Once on the Commission, he was elected as Vice Chairman on October 27, 2022, and appointed as Chairman on August 30, 2023, by Governor Josh Shapiro. He was renominated by Governor Shapiro on March 24, 2025, and confirmed unanimously by the Senate on June 4, 2025. His term expires on April 1, 2030.

Some of Chairman DeFrank's board and committee memberships include: Chairman, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) Committee on Gas; NARUC Board of Directors; Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners (MACRUC) Board of Directors; Organization of PJM States, Inc (OPSI) Board of Directors; Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority; Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations; New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities (CPU) Board of Directors; Gas Technology Institute Public Interest Advisory Committee (GTI PIAC); NARUC Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative; NARUC Electric Vehicles State Working Group; and National Petroleum Council.

Chairman DeFrank earned his bachelor's degree in public policy from California University of Pennsylvania. He resides in the Harrisburg area with his wife Colleen and their two daughters Brynn and Paige.



Sam Robinson, Deputy Chief of Staff for Consumer and the Environment, Commonwealth of PA

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.

Will Hitchcock, Senior Technical Consultant, Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP

Will joined Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP in 2016 as an in-house technical consultant and has more than 15 years of experience in chemical engineering, environmental consulting, regulatory compliance, site remediation, and cost recovery. With degrees in both Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, he has a diverse skill set that allows him to advise clients on complex technical and regulatory issues. His experience in corporate environmental, health, safety, and sustainability programs make him intimately familiar with the challenges facing today's businesses and enables him to suggest practical and cost-effective solutions to meet their needs.

He brings valuable technical capabilities to the firm by quickly developing engineering plans, maps, figures, and other exhibits using Computer-Aided Design (CAD), Geographic Information System (GIS), and graphic design software applications. Will's knowledge of statistical analysis, Fate and Transport modeling, risk analysis, and environmental forensics allows the firm to make strong, scientifically supported arguments in matters where determining the date and/or responsibility of a release is key.

In his technical reports and presentations, Will is able to explain complex technical arguments in ways that are easily understandable to decision-makers who may not have extensive scientific backgrounds or familiarity with the subject matter. In several cases, his work has significantly altered the standing of cases to the clients' benefit. His expertise in emissions modeling, process engineering, life-cycle analysis, and multi-media permitting gives him the ability to provide data-driven insights and technical solutions to support the objectives of the firm's attorneys and clients, and to secure the permits necessary for client's complex industrial operations.

Will's real-world experience across multiple OSHA programs including Process Safety Management (PSM), Industrial Hygiene, Respiratory Protection, Confined Space Entry, Hazardous Waste Operations, and Emergency Planning/Response, coupled with his depth of understanding of chemical hazards, toxicology, asbestos inspection, and risk assessment practices means he is a valuable technical resource for the firm's OSHA and site remediation/brownfields redevelopment practices, as well.

Perry Babb, CEO, KeyState Energy

Perry Babb is CEO of KeyState Energy and a partner and developer of KeyState Nitrogen, a proposed U.S.-based company focused on expanding domestic nitrogen fertilizer production. The project integrates natural gas, advanced manufacturing, power generation, carbon management, and transportation planning to strengthen fertilizer availability and supply chain resilience for American agriculture.

In 2016, Perry conceived the design and business model for a planned $3.5 billion integrated fertilizer and chemicals complex in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. The project is designed to utilize U.S.-sourced feedstock and energy resources while enhancing long-term supply reliability and product availability for American farmers. As CEO, Perry leads corporate strategy, stakeholder and partner engagement, government relations, project advocacy, and organizational development as the initiative advances through engineering, financing, construction, and operational planning.

A published author whose work has been translated into seven languages and a frequent invited lecturer, Perry regularly briefs and provides testimony to local, state, and federal policymakers on entrepreneurship, economic development, and energy-related issues. His expertise in strategic communications has helped build broad support among government officials, educators, labor organizations, business leaders, and community stakeholders. Perry holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from James Madison University.

Michael Dillon, Partner, Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP

Michael works in the firm's complex industrial and regulatory practices, with a particular focus in the areas of air, water quality, and endangered species regulation.

He has worked with a wide array of clients, including those in the manufacturing, waste, power generation, commercial development, transportation, education, and municipal sectors. Michael counsels clients on environmental matters at both the state and federal level, including permitting, agency enforcement, and regulatory compliance involving air emissions, wastewater, stormwater, impacts to endangered species, and solid and hazardous waste.

He has negotiated complex settlement agreements on behalf of clients, including several Consent Decrees with the United States Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency. He also assists clients with the environmental aspects of corporate transactions, in conducting internal investigations and audits, and in the preparation of comments on proposed agency rulemakings. Additionally,

Michael has extensive experience in matters involving the Delaware River Basin Commission, including securing required approvals, commenting on Commission rulemakings, negotiating settlement agreements, and participating in administrative hearings.

Michael graduated magna cum laude from Temple University's James E. Beasley School of Law where he was the Managing Editor of the Temple Law Review and received multiple academic awards, including the Burton Award for Legal Achievement "Distinguished Law School Winner," a national writing award presented for excellence in legal writing. In law school, Michael served a year-long Federal Judicial Clerkship Clinical with the Honorable Gene E.K. Pratter in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He has been recognized in the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Star listing for environmental law since 2018 and was included on the initial Best Lawyers "One to Watch List" for environmental law in 2021.

Outside of the office, Michael is also an adjunct professor at Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law where he teaches environmental law. He served on the Board of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary for five years and recently joined the Board of the Lower Merion Conservancy. He lives in Narberth, where you will often find him cooking with his family.

Andy Tubbs, President and CEO, Energy Association of Pennsylvania (EAP)

Andy Tubbs is president and CEO of the Energy Association of Pennsylvania, where he spearheads EAP's initiatives to advocate for the energy industry and strengthen collaboration among policymakers, regulators and utility providers. He has extensive state and federal regulatory utility experience, including serving as vice president of external and customer affairs for Columbia Gas of PA, a subsidiary of NiSource. Prior to joining EAP, he led regulatory strategy for corporate initiatives across six states for NiSource.

Previously, Andy was an attorney in Post & Schell P.C.'s Energy Practice Group, where his practice focused on representing electric and gas utility clients in a variety of state and federal regulatory and transactional matters before the Pennsylvania PUC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). He also served as an attorney for the Pennsylvania PUC, where he was actively involved in the Pennsylvania PUC's efforts to restructure the state's electric and natural gas industries and served as one of the commission's primary counsels on federal energy matters before the FERC. In addition, during his tenure at the Pennsylvania PUC, he served as energy counsel for Pennsylvania Commissioner Kim Pizzingrilli.

Andy is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, Maryland and U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh and his Juris Doctor from Widener University School of Law.

Clayton Bubeck, PE, President & CEO, RETTEW

Clayton Bubeck is the President and CEO of RETTEW, a multidiscipline engineering firm with ten offices across the United States. He joined the firm in 2000 and has a diverse background in environmental engineering, oil and gas, and renewable energy services. Mr. Bubeck works closely with RETTEW's chief operations officer and regional vice presidents and managers to lead the company's growth and profitability and has been instrumental in growing RETTEW to a staff of more than 300 employees. He guides RETTEW's strategic business development efforts in the energy, transportation, industrial, and development markets. Previously, as a senior vice president, Mr. Bubeck helped evolve RETTEW from a mid-Atlantic-based firm to one developing and delivering service offerings throughout the United States.

Mr. Bubeck has served on RETTEW's Board of Directors for more than ten years, and as a licensed Professional Engineer in more than 30 states, he has developed an in-depth understanding of our business and the architecture, engineering, and construction industries. He is a recent graduate of the American Council of Engineering Companies' Senior Executive Institute and received a certificate from the Wharton School of Executive Education, having completed coursework geared toward emerging leaders in organizations like RETTEW.

Ramez Ziadeh, Executive Deputy Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection

Ramez Ziadeh, PE, started his career with DEP in January of 1994 in the Southwest Regional Office as a Civil Engineer in the Soils and Waterways Section of the Water Management Program. Since then, he served as the Permitting and Technical Services Chief in the Watershed Management Program in the Southcentral Region, Chief of the Project Inspection Division in the Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands, Director of the Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands, Executive Deputy Secretary of Programs and Acting Secretary during the last 7 months of Governor Wolf's term. Ramez is a licensed professional engineer in the States of Pennsylvania and California. He received his B.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1993.

Tom Murphy, Senior Managing Director for Strategic Energy Initiatives, Team Pennsylvania

Tom Murphy is Senior Managing Director for Strategic Energy Initiatives at Team Pennsylvania, bringing 40 years of experience working across industry, government, academia, and local communities. His work focuses on the economic, technical, and community dimensions of a rapidly evolving energy landscape and the opportunities it presents for Pennsylvania.

Tom leads education, consultation, and strategic collaboration at the convergence of shale gas, renewable energy, renewable natural gas (RNG), biogas, hydrogen, waste heat utilization, and emerging power-generation technologies. His recent work emphasizes new power-generation opportunities on brownfield and previously developed sites, including strategies that leverage and revitalize existing transmission infrastructure.

He also works closely with county and township officials on the local implications of developing diverse, reliable, and increasingly lower-carbon energy resources. His broader efforts encompass utility-scale solar, industrial and transportation decarbonization, infrastructure modernization, and strategies that position Pennsylvania's energy assets to support long-term economic competitiveness and community development.

Jenny Netherton, Officer, Energy Modernization, The Pew Charitable Trusts

Jenny Netherton is an officer on Pew's energy modernization project, leading state campaigns to advance solutions for transmission infrastructure in the United States.

Before joining Pew, Netherton was the Louisiana senior program manager at Southeastern Wind Coalition. She focused on facilitating offshore and land-based wind energy development and related transmission. As an attorney, Netherton worked on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination and coastal restoration issues.

Netherton holds a bachelor's degree in English from Centenary College of Louisiana and a Juris Doctor from Tulane University School of Law with a certificate in environmental law.

Tim Bytner, Shareholder, Babst Calland

Tim Bytner is a shareholder in the Environmental Group of Babst Calland. He practices primarily on federal and state environmental regulation and litigation, including counseling clients on Pennsylvania's Act 2 Land Recycling and Environmental Remediation Standards Act. He has counseled clients on a variety of matters involving storage-tank jurisdictional issues and compliance, environmental compliance, and a wide range of state regulatory issues. He also regularly handles wetlands, stream encroachment, and stormwater issues associated with site development. In addition, Bytner has experience in matters involving environmental emergency response and various state planning requirements. He was appointed to the Pennsylvania Storage Tank Advisory Committee in 2009.

Bytner previously worked as an environmental consultant, assisting numerous commercial and industrial clients in environmental regulatory compliance and site remediation/development issues. He performed hundreds of Phase I Environmental Site Assessments and was qualified as an environmental professional as defined under the All Appropriate Inquiries Rule. In addition, Bytner received formal training in wetland delineation methods and performed delineations for hundreds of wetlands.

Bytner received a B.S. in Biology from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 1996, and his J.D. from the Duquesne University School of Law in 2007.

Kevin Palmer, Counsel, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center

Kevin Palmer is counsel at the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, the litigation arm of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. In this capacity, he handles a variety of litigation matters for the Chamber.

Before joining the Litigation Center, Palmer practiced as a senior associate in the Boston office of the international law firm Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP. He maintained a diverse appellate practice including business litigation, real property disputes, First Amendment litigation, immigration and criminal matters, and institutional reform litigation through the firm's appellate and Supreme Court litigation practice. He also represented clients in a variety of industries through the firm's securities litigation and enforcement practice.

Palmer served as a law clerk to the Honorable Jay Bybee of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the Honorable Angel Kelley of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. He graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he served as Online Editor for the Virginia Law Review. He received his undergraduate degree in History from Harvard University.

John Wagner, Deputy General Counsel, API

John Wagner is the Vice President and Deputy General Counsel with the American Petroleum Institute (API). Mr. Wagner supervises API's legal advocacy and has worked on a wide variety of regulatory and legislative issues in environmental law, natural resource law, and international trade. In addition, Mr. Wagner has diverse corporate counseling experience in a wide variety of issues faced by nonprofit organizations, including employee benefits, worker classification, nonprofit taxation, state and federal lobbying restrictions, and antitrust. Prior to working at API, Mr. Wagner was an associate at Sims, Walker, & Steinfeld, P.C., specializing in litigation and transportation.

Mr. Wagner received a Juris Doctorate from the George Washington University Law School, and graduated with honors from Colgate University.

Alex Halper, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

Alex Halper serves as Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for the PA Chamber and oversees public policy development, advocacy and outreach, as well as the organization's political efforts.

Halper serves on the Pennsylvania Minimum Wage Advisory Board, Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children Board of Directors, Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Advisory Council, the Governing Board of the Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau, the Pennsylvania Association for Chamber Professionals Board and the Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations Board and was appointed to Gov. Josh Shapiro's Transition Advisory Committee. He regularly speaks to local chambers of commerce, trade associations and employers across the Commonwealth about key legislative issues impacting business and Pennsylvania's overall political landscape.

Alex Halper joined the PA Chamber's Government Affairs team in 2011. He previously served as a legislative assistant in Washington, D.C. to former U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter where he worked on numerous areas of public policy, including transportation and infrastructure, homeland security and appropriations.

Originally from Allentown, Halper graduated from the George Washington University in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. He lives in Lower Paxton Township with his wife, two children, and their dog, Kelce.

Neal Lesher, Vice President of Government Affairs, PA Chamber

Neal Lesher serves as Vice President of Government Affairs and leads the PA Chamber's advocacy on state and local tax policy, healthcare, legal liability reform, and economic development.

Prior to joining the PA Chamber, Lesher served in senior leadership positions with the state House of Representatives, including serving as Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the House and as the Director of Policy and Communications for the Appropriations Committee Chairman. He also has executive branch experience, serving as the Legislative Director for the Governor's Budget Office under the Corbett Administration.

Lesher serves on the Health Care Cost Containment Council and on the Board of Directors for the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education. A central Pennsylvania native, he graduated from Susquehanna University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Justin Ladner, President, Pennsylvania American Water

Justin Ladner is president of Pennsylvania American Water, the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and wastewater services to approximately 2.4 million people. In this role, he reinforces and strengthens customer, regulatory, and local government relationships; drives the company's operational and financial results; and leads the company in providing safe, clean, affordable, and reliable water services to help keep customers' lives flowing.

Prior to this role, Ladner served as president of Illinois American Water from 2020 to 2022, where he led the company's Illinois subsidiary serving approximately 1.3 million people. Ladner joined American Water in 2018 as director of National Regulatory Affairs. In this national role, he was responsible for developing and implementing strategies, practices, and processes related to national regulatory affairs and positioning the company as an industry leader with utility commissioners across the nation.

Before joining American Water, Ladner served in multiple roles at Southern Co., including attorney for Southern Nuclear and governmental affairs and policy manager, project manager for the Integration Management Office, and assistant to the executive vice president of Nuclear Development at Southern Power. Prior to joining Southern Co., Ladner was an associate attorney for Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart in Birmingham, Alabama. He also worked for U.S. Steel as a metallurgical engineer.

Ladner currently serves on the boards of directors for the American Water Charitable Foundation and Pittsburgh Works. He is also the current board vice chair for the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry. He has been recognized as one of Pennsylvania Business Central's Top 100 People and named to the Pittsburgh Power 100 by City & State Magazine and is a member of the 2024 Class of Henry Crown Fellows within the Aspen Global Leadership Network at the Aspen Institute.

Ladner received his law degree, cum laude, from the University of Alabama School of Law, as well as a master's and a bachelor's degree in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering with honors from the University of Alabama. He is married and has two daughters.