

# Speaker Biographies

## Rachael Terada

Senior Project Manager, Center for Resource Solutions

Rachael Terada is a Senior Project Manager for the Center for Resource Solutions (CRS), a nonprofit organization that promotes policy and market solutions to advance sustainable energy. She manages verification for the Green-e Energy certification and consumer protection program, which certifies approximately three quarters of the voluntary market for retail renewable electricity and renewable energy certificate (REC) sales in the United States.

Rachael manages the annual verification of over 40 million MWh of renewable energy transactions for Green-e Energy and oversees the annual Renewable Energy Markets conference. Other projects include technical paper development and support for REC tracking system initiatives. She is a member of several REC tracking system advisory committees and is currently providing assistance to the State of New York as they develop their generation attribute tracking system.

Rachael began as a consultant with CRS in 2006, and joined CRS as a Project Manager in 2008. Prior to CRS, she worked in planning, engineering design, and construction management for government projects. Rachael earned her M.S. and B.S. degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

## Hon. Doug Scott

Chairman Illinois Commerce Commission

Doug Scott was appointed by Governor Pat Quinn as chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) on March 3, 2011 and named to a second term on March 14, 2014. If confirmed by the state senate his term will expire January 21, 2019.

Scott is currently a member of the Energy, Resources and Environment Committee for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and of the Task Force on Environmental Regulation.

Prior to his appointment Scott served as director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency from 2005 to 2011. During those years he chaired the Illinois Governor's Climate Change and Advisory Committee and was a member of the Midwestern Governors' Association panel charged with developing a regional cap-and-trade system. He was a member of the Air Committee for Environmental Council of States (ECOS) and the USEPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board. He is on a number of boards and committees, including serving as chair of The Climate Registry Board of Directors and co-chair of the Keystone Foundation Energy Board.

He was elected and served as mayor of Rockford, Illinois from 2001 to 2005. As mayor he held leadership positions in the Illinois Municipal League, United States Conference of Mayors and the national League of Cities. He also served as president of the Illinois Chapter of the National Brownfield Association.

Scott was elected a state representative from the 67<sup>th</sup> district in 1995 and served in the General Assembly until 2001 when he became mayor. Scott also served the city as city attorney.

A native of Rockford Scott received his undergraduate degree with honors from the University of Tulsa in 1982 and a juris doctorate with honors from Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI in 1985.

Scott is married to Tammy Scott.

# Speaker Biographies

## Michael Strong

Counsel, Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Michael R. Strong is of counsel in the Chicago office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP and is a member of the firm's Environmental Department. He concentrates his practice on complex regulatory and compliance counseling and litigation within the Energy sector and the confluence of Energy and Environmental issues--including climate change and sustainability.

Michael represents a wide range of clients, ranging from associations of end users and governments to retail suppliers on retail and wholesale energy matters in restructured states. Michael has focused on retail market issues as well as green and sustainable procurements. He also handles a wide range of environmental matters, including transactions in the energy and transportation sectors.

Previously the chief legal counsel for the Illinois Power Agency, Michael was the first in-house attorney in the Agency's history. During his tenure, he served as a key policy advisor to two Directors, as well as the legislative liaison and ethics officer.

Michael earned his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and his A.B. *cum laude* from Dartmouth College.

## Anthony Star

Director, Illinois Power Agency

Anthony Star was appointed Director of the Illinois Power Agency by the Illinois Executive Ethics Commission in March, 2013. His responsibilities include overseeing the development and implementation of plans to procure electricity and renewable energy resources for residential and small commercial customers who take supply service from Ameren Illinois or ComEd.

Prior to his appointment he served as a Policy Advisor to two Chairmen of the Illinois Commerce Commission. Before entering government service Anthony spent thirteen years at the Center for Neighborhood Technology in a variety of roles working on energy policy and environmental sustainability, culminating in the position of Director of Policy and Evaluation for CNT Energy. He helped develop and implement the nation's first residential real-time pricing program as well as community-based energy efficiency and demand response programs.

Anthony holds a BA in History and a MA in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago, serves as the Treasurer of the Chicago Recycling Coalition, and is a past Board Member and Treasurer of the Illinois Environmental Council. He lives in Chicago with his wife and two children.

## Mark Pruitt

Principal at Illinois Community Choice Aggregation Network

# Speaker Biographies

## John Richards – Subscriber Group Chair

Vice President of Operations, Northwestern Wisconsin Electric

John Richards grew up in northern Wisconsin and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin in River Falls. John has spent his career working in the utility industry. Currently, John works for Northwestern Wisconsin Electric (NWE), which is a small, investor-owned utility headquartered in Grantsburg, WI. As Vice President of Operations, John has many roles with NWE, including resource planning, electric operations and management.

As part of his responsibilities, John has worked with the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (MRETS) since its creation in fulfilling the RPS requirements for NWE as well as two other investor owned utilities and one Municipal utility.

John lives with his wife and daughter in rural Grantsburg, WI. He is active in the local community and serves as a Director on two County Development Corporation Boards as well as the local Planning Commission. John also serves on the Wisconsin Statewide Energy Efficiency and Renewables Administration (SEERA) Board of Directors.

As Chair of the MRETS Subscriber Group, John has worked since 2013 to facilitate open dialogue with the users of the system, board of directors and administrators.

## Connie J. Peotter – Subscriber Group & Enhancement Committee Vice Chair

Asset Manager of Distributed Generation, Wisconsin Public Service

I have worked for Wisconsin Public Service for 8 ½ years, first in Energy Supply and Control in market settlement area, and have been in my current role as the Asset Manager of Distributed Generation, which includes the RPS compliance responsibilities, since early 2011. I am currently the Vice Chair for both the M-RETS Subscriber Group, and the M-RETS Enhancement Committee.

I earned my B.S., in Accounting from Silver Lake College in and prior to working for WPS, I worked in the public sector, both for county and state government in financial analysis/accounting roles in the transportation sector. I look forward to co-chairing this committee in its efforts to enhance and improve the end-user experience of the M-RETS system.

## James Nicolls – Enhancement Committee Chair

Resource Planning, Alliant Energy

I have worked 20 years for Alliant Energy (and predecessors) in Distribution Engineering, Distribution Planning, and latest role of generation Resource Planning and renewable reporting. I have previously served on the M-RETS Enhancement Committee and chaired the M-RETS Subscriber Group. I received a B.S., Electrical Engineering from Marquette University in 1993, and am a registered Professional Engineer in Iowa.