WYOMING ENERGY AUTHORITY

WYOENERGY.ORG  •  (307)635-3573
Welcome to the third annual Next Frontier Energy Summit. What a difference a year makes! This time last year, I was just starting out as the Executive Director of the Wyoming Energy Authority. Twelve months later, I am proud of all that we have accomplished, from continuing to spearhead advanced nuclear and carbon capture to exciting progress in critical minerals to breaking ground on one of the largest transmission projects in the country.

Something that you will hear a lot of over the next two days is how Wyoming understands energy, and that our future is going to demand more of us. The WEA is dedicated to making sure that in that future Wyoming and all of its resources – from coal to gas, to nuclear to renewable, to uranium and critical minerals – will play a part in that future. As we often say, this is not an either/or scenario but an everything-we-have approach.

But this can’t be done without the relationships with the very people in this room – the heart of the industry. Thank you for continuing to work with us. I’d also like to take a moment to thank our wonderful sponsors whose support makes this event possible. It is this kind of collaboration and investment that will keep Wyoming at the forefront of energy innovation for decades to come.

Rob Creager
Executive Director
Wyoming Energy Authority
All sessions will take place at Blue Community Events Center located at 2401 E Pershing Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82001.

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

10:30 - 11:30 Ignite! Session
11:30 - 12:30 Lunch
12:30 - 12:45 Welcome Remarks
  • Rob Creager, Executive Director, Wyoming Energy Authority
12:45 - 1:15 Keynote Address
  • Governor Mark Gordon
1:15 - 2:15 Not So Rare? Rare Earth Elements in Wyoming
  • Moderated by Dr. Erin Campbell, Wyoming State Geologist
  • Donald Swartz, American Rare Earths
  • Wes Adams, Visionary Metals Corp
  • Jaye Pickarts, Rare Element Resources
2:15 - 2:45 Break
2:45 - 3:15 Fueling Tomorrow: PAW's Perspective for the Next 50 Years
  • Pete Obermueller, President, Petroleum Association of Wyoming
3:15 - 3:45 Wyoming Coal Beyond Our Borders
  • Mike Nasi, Jackson Walker
3:45 - 4:15 Break
4:15 - 5:15 From Start to Finish: Wyoming's Nuclear Future
  • Moderated by Travis Deti, Executive Director, Wyoming Mining Association
  • Joe Miller, BWXT
  • Brent Berg, Uranium Energy Corp
5:15 - 6:00 Networking Reception
Thursday, May 2, 2024

7:45 - 8:00 Welcome Remarks
   - Wendy Hutchinson, Chairwoman, WEA Board of Directors

8:00 - 9:00 Power Grab: Exploring Electricity Market Evolution and Cutting-Edge Reliability Technologies
   - Moderated by Kara Fornstrom, Director, CERPA, UW School of Energy Resources
   - Carrie Simpson, Southwest Power Pool
   - Jake Gentle, Idaho National Laboratory

9:00 - 10:00 Subsurface Solutions: Exploring CO₂ Storage and Utilization
   - Moderated by Lon Whitman, Director, Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute
   - Joe Nicholas, Frontier Carbon Solutions
   - Kyle Schaper, Williams
   - Emily Luomala, ExxonMobil

10:00 - 10:30 Break

10:30 - 11:00 Wyoming Trona Mining and Recent Expansion
   - Joe Vasco, Director Of Operations, Genesis Alkali

11:00 - 12:00 Working Together: Renewables in Wyoming
   - Moderated by Chris Brown, Executive Director, Powering Up Wyoming
   - David Fuller, Power Company of Wyoming
   - Mayor Terry Weickum, Rawlins, Wyoming
   - Ryan Fitzpatrick, NextERA Energy

12:00 - 12:30 Wyoming Industrial Energy Consumers
   - Abby Briggerman, Holland & Hart

12:30 - 1:30 Closing Remarks and Light Networking Lunch
IGNITE AGENDA

Wednesday | 10:30 to 11:30

Ignite Session 1
- Jake Milne, ReviablEnergy
  Keeping the “Farm” in Solar Farming
- Weronika Nowak, Greenvolt Power USA
The Future of Wind Power
- Neal Rickner, AirLoom Energy Inc.
Regenerating Energy
- Mark Rossano, Sultech Global
Industrial Internet of Things for Complex Energy Systems
- Ryan Alford, Engineering Design Group
Wyoming Transportation Fuels & Technologies - No One Solution!
- Sherrie Merrow, WY Clean Fuels Alliance
- Alicia Cox, Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities
Leveraging Wyoming’s Legacy Energy Assets for New Sources of Value Creation: A CBM to RNG Case Study with Cowboy Clean Fuels
- Ryan Waddington, Cowboy Clean Fuels
Hydrogen & Wyoming
- John Cornish, EPC
Coal-Assisted CO$_2$ Capture & Sequestration
- John Pope, Carbon Geocapture
Project TerraBasin: Igniting the Wyoming Renewable Fuels Industry
- Kyle Adkins, Terraform Industries
Chris Brown is the President and CEO of Wyoming Associations and Governmental Affairs (WAGAN). With more than 30 years of experience representing consumer interests in state legislative affairs, Chris is dedicated to serving WAGAN members and advocating for Wyoming's energy policies and the integrity of Wyoming's energy resources.

Abby Smith is an attorney at Holland & Hart LLP and represents large industrial consumers and consumer advocacy groups in energy related matters. She represents her clients in matters relating to electric utility resource planning, energy efficiency, and the development and implementation of state and federal regulatory policies.

Kara Brighton Fornstrom is the President of NextEra Energy Resources and the President of the Wyoming Mining Association. She has been serving as an executive in the energy industry for nearly 15 years. Ms. Fornstrom was appointed by Governor Mark Gordon to the Governor's Energy Development Council, Governor Mead's Energy Development Council, and the Governor's Wyoming Energy Roundtable. She has received numerous awards and recognitions for her contributions to the energy industry.

Mark Adams is the President of Uranium Energy Corp. and is responsible for the company’s U.S. in-situ uranium operations in Wyoming and Nebraska. Before joining Uranium Energy Corp., Mr. Adams served as the President of /(Petproj) Energy, Ltd., a publicly traded company that owns and operates the Durango Mine in Durango, Colorado. Mr. Adams graduated from the University of Regina in 2017. In 2023, Brent received a Master of Legal Studies degree from the University of Windsor.

Brent Berg is an environmental engineer and project management professional with over 27 years of experience in the mining and geomechanics industry. He is currently the General Manager of the Florence Copper Project, and Excelsior Mining is the largest copper mine in the United States. Mr. Berg has held various roles at Cameco Corporation, including General Manager of the McArthur River Uranium Project and General Manager of the Weekes Uranium Project. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the University of British Columbia and an MBA from the University of Saskatchewan.

Emily Luomala is an environmental engineer with over 10 years of experience in the energy industry. She has worked in various roles at ExxonMobil, including as an Environmental Engineer in Operations program rotating to LaBarge, WY. Emily started her career with ExxonMobil in 2019 as part of an Engineering Internship program. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

David Fuller is a Senior Vice-President at Public Service Company of Wyoming and is responsible for the WAGAN’s current client list. Mr. Fuller has been working in the energy industry for over 25 years, holding positions at Public Service Company of Colorado (now Xcel Energy), Enron, Constellation Energy, and Barclays. He has experience in energy trading, marketing, and project development. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

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I consider myself to be very...