

Dentons Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank

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The Path to Decarbonization: COP-28 and Beyond

December 12, 2023

11:30 am - 1:00 pm ET



Welcome: **Christine Scanlan**, President and CEO, Keystone Policy Center



Moderator: **Clint Vince**, Chair of the US Energy practice, Co-chair of the Global Transportation & Infrastructure sector for the US Region, and Co-chair of the Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank, Dentons



Dr. Karl Hausker
Senior Fellow in World Resources Institute (WRI) Climate Program

Panelist

Dr. Karl Hausker is a Senior Fellow in WRI's Climate Program. He leads analysis and modeling of deep decarbonization climate mitigation, electricity market design, and the social cost of carbon. He testifies before Congress, lectures widely on deep decarbonization, and led the Risky Business study of clean energy scenarios for the US.

He has worked for three decades in the fields of climate change, energy, and environment in a career that has spanned legislative and executive branches, research institutions, NGOs, and consulting. He has led climate policy analysis and modeling projects for USAID, USEPA, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the Western Climate Initiative, and the California Air Resources Board. Much of his work has focused on the electricity and transportation sectors, and on low carbon, climate resilient development strategies.

From 2007-2013, Karl was a Vice President at ICF International. He previously served as Deputy Director at the Center for Climate Strategies and as a Principal with Hagler Bailly. Karl lived in India all of 1999 as a Visiting Fellow at TERI.

His experience also includes: serving President Clinton as Deputy Assistant Administrator in EPA's Policy Office where he represented EPA in interagency climate policy development and at COP-1; and serving as the Chief Economist for the US Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, where he worked on a diverse set of issues including electricity restructuring, CAFE standards, alternative fuels, western water policy, nuclear power, and energy security.

Karl holds an MPP and PhD in Public Policy from University of California, Berkeley, and received his Bachelor's degree in Economics from Cornell University.



**Melanie A.
Kenderdine**

Principal, Executive Vice
President, Energy Futures
Initiative (EFI)

Panelist

Melanie Kenderdine joined former Secretary of Energy Ernest J. Moniz and fellow Principal Joseph S. Hezir in founding the Energy Futures Initiative (EFI), a nonprofit organization dedicated to driving innovation in energy technology, policy, and business models.

Kenderdine worked in the Obama administration at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) from May 2013 to January 2017. She served concurrently as energy counselor to the secretary and as the director of DOE's Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis. Her 100-person office was responsible for analysis and policy development in areas, including DOE's role in the annual review of the Renewable Fuel Standard Program requirements, energy innovation, and climate change. Her office produced two installments of the Quadrennial Energy Review and helped conceive and develop the Energy Security Principles adopted by Group of Seven (G-7) leaders in 2014. As energy counselor to the secretary, Kenderdine helped create Mission Innovation, now a 24-country/European Union initiative that supports transformational clean energy research, development, and demonstration; North American grid integration and security; and the modernization of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Prior to her service at DOE, Kenderdine helped establish the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI) and served there as executive director. During her six-year tenure at MITEI, she managed large research and administrative staff, was a key contributor to MIT's Future of Natural Gas study, the MITEI Symposium Report on Alternative Fuels and Vehicles, and edited the MIT Future of the Electric Grid study. Kenderdine also started the C3E Symposium series, a joint MIT-DOE program to support women's careers in clean energy with cash prizes; she still serves as a DOE C3E Ambassador.

Before joining MITEI, she was vice president of Washington operations for the Gas Technology Institute (GTI) from 2001 to 2007. While at GTI, Kenderdine established a separate not-for-profit company, the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA). As RPSEA's first CEO, she transformed it from an MOU between GTI and one university to an industry/academic unconventional natural gas research consortium of 26 universities and 30 industry partners. Concurrently, she was a key architect of the Royalty Trust Fund, the only federal trust fund dedicated to energy research and development.

From 1993 to 2001, Kenderdine was an appointee in President Bill Clinton's administration, where she served in several key posts at DOE, including senior policy advisor to the secretary, Bill Richardson, director of the Office of Policy, and deputy assistant secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.

She was a primary architect of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve oil exchange of 2000, the creation of the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve, and the return of the Naval Oil Shale Reserve No. 2 to the Ute tribe in Utah, the largest land transfer back to Native Americans in the lower 48 in over 100 years. Prior to joining DOE, Kenderdine was chief of staff and legislative director for then-New Mexico Congressman Richardson.

She is a graduate of the University of New Mexico, has homes in New Mexico and Hawaii, and is an avid global traveler and enthusiast of fly fishing.



Kasparas Spokas
Director of Insights and
Integration Strategy, Clean
Air Task Force (CAFT)

Panelist

Kasparas is the Director of Insights and Integration Strategy at Clean Air Task Force (CATF), a global organization that catalyzes climate solutions and strategies based on scientific evidence, intellectual integrity, and pragmatism. In his role, Kasparas supports CATF's overall strategy, mission, and specific projects and initiatives through intelligence gathering, synthesizing CATF knowledge and insight, and initiating and developing special projects.

Prior to joining CATF, Kasparas was an Associate at The Brattle Group working on energy sector topics such as energy infrastructure planning, power sector modeling, energy policy design, transmission planning, and emerging clean energy technologies. His clients ranged from state and city agencies, to utilities, developers, and NGOs.

Kasparas received his PhD at Princeton University in Civil & Environmental Engineering, where he studied carbon capture and sequestration and energy policy. In addition, Kasparas was a Princeton Energy and Climate Scholar at the Princeton Environmental Institute, and a Science, Technology and Environmental Policy Fellow in the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.



Dr. Sue Tierney
Senior Advisor, The
Analysis Group and
Director, World Resources
Institute (WRI)

Panelist

Dr. Sue Tierney is a leading energy policy analyst currently serving as senior advisor at the Analysis Group. Dr. Tierney is also a director of the World Resources Institute and the Energy Foundation.

She has consulted to businesses, federal and state governments, tribes, environmental groups, foundations, and other organizations on energy markets, economic and environmental regulation and strategy, and energy projects. She has served as an analyst of and an expert witness on a variety of issues, including: industry structure, regulation, and markets; resource planning and procurements; siting of electric and gas infrastructure; electric system reliability; utility ratemaking; clean energy-resource, climate-change and carbon-emission-reduction policies; and other regulatory issues.

Previously, she served as the Assistant Secretary for Policy at the US Department of Energy. She was the Secretary of Environmental Affairs in Massachusetts, Commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Council.

Sue has authored numerous articles and speaks frequently at industry conferences. She serves on a number of boards of directors and advisory committees, including chairing the Boards of Resources for the Future. She is a trustee of the Barr Foundation, the Sloan Foundation, and the Energy Foundation, a board member of World Resources Institute, a member of the Keystone Center's Energy Board, and a member of the advisory councils at New York University's Institute for Policy Integrity and the New York Independent System Operator. She chairs the Board on Energy and Environmental Systems, and has served on numerous National Academies Committees (the Future of Electric Power (2021), Accelerating Decarbonization of the US (2021-2023)). She recently chaired the Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee, chairs the External Advisory Council of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, co-chaired the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Committee, was co-lead author of the energy chapter of the National Climate Assessment, and served on the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board.

She taught at the University of California at Irvine, and has lectured at MIT, Harvard, Yale, New York University, Tufts University, Northwestern University, and University of Michigan. She received NARUC's Mary Kilmarx Award in 2015. She earned her PhD and MA in regional planning at Cornell University and her BA at Scripps College.