

Speakers



Kelvin Atkinson (D)

Nevada Senate

Atkinson is a Democratic member of the Nevada State Senate, representing District 4. He first elected to the chamber in 2012. Atkinson served in the Nevada Assembly, representing District 17 from 2003 to 2012, departing after serving as Senior Chief Deputy Whip. He is the Chairman of the Commerce, Labor and Energy Committee and the Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee.

Atkinson received his B.A. in Political Science from Howard University. He is also a 2004 graduate of the Western Legislative Academy and a 2005 graduate of the Henry Toll Fellowship. His professional experience includes working as a management analyst and mediator for the Clark County Government.



Lydia Ball

Executive Director

Clean Energy Project

Provides leadership for the organization by establishing and implementing strategic goals for CEP, acts as spokesperson to the media, conducts education and outreach to regional, state and local policy makers and ensures constant progression of CEP's mission.

Previously, Ball worked as a Surrogate Director for Organizing for America, was the State Director of the Sierra Club, and served as an Energy Representative for Senator Harry Reid.



Annette Bubak

Realtor, Green Alliance

President/Owner, Bubak Consulting

President, Nevada ENERGY STAR Partners/ GREEN Alliance

A 20-year veteran of the real estate marketing industry and a GREEN Designated REALTOR, Bubak is a founding member and current president

of Nevada ENERGY STAR® Partners, a coalition of stakeholders that includes home builders, developers, manufacturers, trade contractors, municipalities, utilities and consultants to implement ENERGY STAR qualified programs that improve energy efficiency.

Co-Founder of the Nevada ENERGY STAR Partners - GREEN ALIANCE, a statewide non-profit and coalition which brings together like-minded companies, businesses and individuals to exchange ideas, network and work together to advance the mission of conservation and adopting a greener lifestyle for the good of the planet. Proud recipients of 7 national Sustained Excellence awards by EPA.

In addition, Bubak runs her own consulting company, Bubak Consulting, where she brought her decades of experience to the market place after serving in a variety of executive marketing and sales positions for such Southern Nevada.

**Kateri Callahan***President**Alliance to Save Energy*

Kateri Callahan brings more than 25 years of experience in policy advocacy, fundraising, coalition building, and organizational management to her position as the president of the Alliance to Save Energy. The Alliance to Save Energy is a premier non-government organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. The Alliance has worked for more than three decades to advance energy efficiency

worldwide to achieve a healthier economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy security.

Serving as president of the Alliance since January 2004, Callahan leads a staff of nearly 90+; oversees a budget of approximately \$17 million annually; and serves on the Alliance Board of Directors which includes Members of Congress, state and local officials and top corporate and NGO executives. Under Callahan's leadership, the Alliance conducts policy, communications, research, education, and market transformation initiatives in the U.S. and more than a dozen other countries. In addition to these functions, the Alliance also conducts international conferences, summits and other education and outreach forums to further its mission.

Callahan is the principal spokesperson for the Alliance, appearing regularly before the Congress and the media, and addressing conferences and gatherings around the world. She is a trusted source for credible information on energy efficiency and its role in addressing the environmental, economic and national security issues associated with the use of energy.

Callahan also serves as a "C3E Ambassador" – a group of 20 distinguished senior professionals who share an interest in broadening the recruitment, retention, and advancement of highly qualified women

in the field of clean energy. She also currently serves as a member of the Board of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy. She also serves on advisory councils to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce 21st Century Energy Institute and the Institute for Electric Efficiency. In June 2009, Callahan was among the 23 inaugural inductees to the new Energy Efficiency Hall of Fame established by Johnson Controls Inc. and the United States Energy Association. Callahan also serves on the Advisory Board of Duke's Center for Energy, Development and the Global Environment (EDGE) and the Advisory Board for the UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy.

Prior to joining the Alliance, Callahan served for 11 years as the president/executive director of the Electric Drive Transportation Association. She also has served previously as a director of government relations for a nonprofit organization, as a non-lawyer professional at a Washington, D.C.-based law firm, and as a legislative assistant to a U.S. senator.

**Eric Dominguez**

*Corporate Director, Engineering, Utilities & Environmental Affairs
Caesars Entertainment*

When studying mechanical engineering at Cornell University, a school well known for its School of Hotel Administration, Dominguez had no intention of entering the hospitality industry. In fact, he wanted to be an aerospace engineer. After accumulating years of diverse experience in that area in both the public and private sectors, it was by fate, Dominguez adds, that he made some connections with Caesars

Entertainment.

Dominguez works at the corporate office of Caesars Entertainment, a 70,000-employee company that now has 52 properties worldwide. Some of those properties include Caesars Palace, Harrah's, and Paris Las Vegas. Three energy engineers and one environmental engineer report to Dominguez.

Dominguez's group is charged with identifying ways to reduce energy and water consumption and also addresses air quality emissions. To ensure a high level of energy efficiency moving forward, Caesars has pledged to build to at least LEED standards for new construction.

**Pat Egan**

*Senior Vice President of Customer Operations
NV Energy*

Egan moved from VP role at PacifiCorp to NV Energy this year. Egan, who came to Pacific Power in 2006 after serving as then-Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski's chief of staff, formally moved into the role just before Jan. 1.

The change has been in the works for some time: Egan had begun making the transition to the Nevada company in May. Egan will oversee NV Energy's customer service group. The tasks include managing call services, billing, metering and energy efficiency.

**Dennee Evans**

*Executive Director
Energy Fit Nevada*

Dennee Evans is the Executive Director of EnergyFit Nevada, a program of HomeFree Nevada, the state's nonprofit sponsor of Home Performance with ENERGY STAR. A native Nevadan, Dennee brings 15+ years of banking, real estate finance, and management experience to her current role. With a proven track record of outperforming expectations she excelled in leading teams at Bank of America and Wells Fargo in both production and customer service. Her deep understanding of the construction process, industry regulations and customer service are key to EnergyFit's ability to achieve its vision to see every Nevadan living in a healthy home that saves energy and money, while contributing to the economic development and future prosperity of Nevada. She holds a degree in Real Estate Finance from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and is a LEED Green Associate.

**Tim Farkas**

*Finance Manager
Ameresco*

Tim Farkas worked in the investment management industry for several years, specializing in investments in companies that demonstrate social and environmental responsibility. For the past 9 years, he has worked in municipal finance and for the past four years has exclusively worked on financing energy

efficiency and renewable energy projects. Tim works as a finance manager for Ameresco, Inc. a publicly traded energy services company and directly assisted clients in financing over \$70 million in projects in 2013 alone.

**Dan Huard***Director**USGBC Nevada*

Daniel Huard LEED AP BD+C, PMP, LFA is an Engineer, Architectural Designer, Urban Planner and Sustainable Development Expert actively working on virtually every aspect of diverse specialty purpose facility projects to program, plan, design, construct and deliver new facilities and infrastructure as well as to provide facility and infrastructure legacy improvements that restore and improve these for improved operability, efficiency and sustainability. Daniel's project expertise includes office facilities, government agency facilities, cultural - museum facilities, educational facilities, sustainable improvements to historical restorations, National Register facilities rehabilitation, Landmark facilities rehabilitation, as well as utility infrastructure operational facilities.

Daniel received degrees in Mechanical Engineering, from Niagara College, Canada; Undergraduate in Architecture, Masters of Architecture and Masters of Urban Planning from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Daniel is a LEED BD+C Accredited Professional with the GBCI (Green Building Certification Institute) and the CaGBC (Canadian Green Building Council), a Project Management Professional accredited by the Project Management Institute, a member of the Green Building Certification Institute's International Education Review Team (responsible for credential maintenance education program approvals, the evolution of the profession and credential specialty knowledge thresholds), a Director and Executive Committee President Elect with USGBC Nevada, Nevada's Ambassador to the International Living Future Institute and founder of the Las Vegas Valley Living Building Challenge Collaborative.

Daniel has been active in Green Building for over 20 years a commitment that includes USGBC Emerging Professionals Chair -West (South) Region 2012-2014, Nevada Team Leader, USGBC LEED 2012 Regionalization (authoring contributor to the development of the LEED v4 Certification Systems Standards), Greenbuild International 2013-2014 Program Review Team; Technical Subject Matter Expert to the US Department of the Interior since 2009; as well as Subject Matter Expert, Mentor and LEED Project Administrator for DesertSol the University of Nevada at Las Vegas US Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2013 entry which placed second globally while winning the global Market Appeal contest. In November 2013 Daniel became a part of a team designing, delivering and certifying Asia's first Living Building Challenge project in Shanghai, China and in January 2014 registered Nevada and Las Vegas' first projects to pursue the International Living Future Institute's Net Zero Energy Building Certification Program.

**Rep. Steven Horsford (D-NV)***U.S. Congress*

Steven Horsford, born and raised in Las Vegas, was elected to the United States Congress on November 6th, 2012, as Nevada's representative for its newly created Fourth Congressional District. Horsford is the first person to hold this House seat and the first African-American to serve in Nevada's federal delegation. Representative Horsford comes to Congress with experience in public service as a bipartisan legislator who is a strong advocate for middle class and working families.

Before running for office, Steven served as the head of the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas. As the CEO of Nevada's largest labor-management partnership, he worked with local unions and Nevada hotels like MGM Resorts, Wynn Las Vegas, and Caesars Entertainment to train thousands of unemployed or underemployed Nevadans for work in the hospitality industry. To this day, the Academy continues to place 80 percent of their graduates with good-paying jobs.

Under Steven's leadership, the Culinary Academy also became the caterer of record for the world-renowned Smith Center for the Performing Arts and the Springs Preserve, a cultural and sustainability attraction in southern Nevada.

In 2004, Steven was elected to the Nevada State Senate, and in 2008, he became Nevada's youngest and first African-American State Senate Majority Leader. During his tenure in Carson City, Steven passed renewable energy legislation that positioned Nevada to become a leader in the green economy, prevented widespread teacher layoffs by negotiating a budget compromise that preserved funding for public schools, and worked across the aisle to pass bipartisan legislation that provided small businesses with tax relief and new companies incentives to relocate to Nevada.

In the Nevada Legislature, Steven served as chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and was a member of the Senate Committee on Health and Education and the Senate Committee on Government Affairs, among others.

Always active in his community, Steven has received numerous local honors, including In Business Las Vegas' "Top 40 under 40," AFL-CIO's "Friend to Working Families" award, and "Distinguished Man of Southern Nevada" from the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Committee.

Horsford represents one of the most diverse districts in the country. Nevada's 4th covers approximately 52,000 square-miles and is geographically and demographically diverse. To meet the needs of this broad base of constituents, Congressman Horsford serves on three committees: the House Natural Resources Committee, Homeland Security Committee, and Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

**Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D)***Speaker of the Nevada Assembly*

Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick is the Speaker of the Nevada Assembly. She was first elected in 2004, and has served in six special and five regular sessions. She represents Assembly District 1, located in Clark County.

Kirkpatrick works as a Sales Executive for local food distribution companies working directly with executive chefs and purchasing agents in major hotels.

**Rose McKinney-James***Managing Principal**Energy Works LLC*

Rose McKinney-James is Managing Principal of Energy Works Consulting and McKinney-James & Associates. The firms provide business-consulting services and advocacy in the areas of government and public affairs, economic development and public policy related to energy, education, and the environment. Prior to establishing her own firm, she served as President of Brown & Partners, President of Government Affairs for Faiss Foley Merica, and President and CEO of the Corporation for Solar Technology and Renewable Resources (CSTRR). In her current capacity, she provides real time consulting and strategic planning guidance to businesses engaged in energy intensive endeavors. A registered lobbyist with the Nevada Legislature, Rose currently represents a range of public and private entities with interests in regulatory and energy policy.

McKinney-James serves as a member of the Board of Directors of of MGM Resorts International, MGM Detroit, and Employers Holdings Inc. In addition, McKinney-James serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Toyota Financial Savings Bank, VOTE Solar, Alliance to Save Energy and the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE). Rose is currently the Board Chair for Nevada Partners a nationally recognized workforce development agency. She is also currently a U.S. DOE C3E (Clean Energy Education & Empowerment) Ambassador and a member of the Las Vegas Chapter of the International Women's Forum.

McKinney-James was a candidate for Lieutenant Governor the first African-American to win a statewide primary in the state of Nevada. Ms. McKinney-James served as a member of the Obama-Biden Transition Team with responsibility for the US Department of Energy and the Team Lead for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). A native of Detroit, Michigan, she is a graduate of Antioch School of Law in Washington D.C., and secured her undergraduate degree from Olivet College in Olivet, Michigan. McKinney-James is married and the mother of two sons.

**Cindy Ortega**

*Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer
MGM Resorts International, Corporate Sustainability Division*

Cindy Ortega is Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer of MGM Resorts International. She leads the Corporate Sustainability Division, the group responsible for development and implementation of strategies for environmental sustainability and awareness throughout the company. These include natural resource conservation, sustainable new construction, and environmentally sensitive company operations.

Cindy was also responsible for the oversight and achievement of the LEED certification of the \$8.5 billion dollar CityCenter Project in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip. Under Cindy's guidance, six developments at CityCenter were awarded LEED Gold certifications making it the largest single Gold certified new construction project in the world.

Cindy has a distinguished career with MGM Resorts International. Prior to her current position she was Vice President/CFO for Corporate Services. She is recognized for her leadership and expertise on energy issues and testifies routinely before the Nevada State Legislature. In 2011, Cindy was elected Chair of Green Chips, a private/public non-profit organization that encourages and facilitates environmental sustainability initiatives in Southern Nevada to advance the region's identity as a sustainable destination. She is often a speaker before industry and professional associations and serves on environmental policy advisory panels.

**Tom Perrigo**

*CSO
City of Las Vegas*

Tom Perrigo is the Chief Sustainability Officer and Deputy Director of Administrative Services for the City of Las Vegas. Programs and capital projects managed through the Office of Sustainability will exceed 20% reduction in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, saving over \$5 million annually. Las Vegas now has in excess of 5 megawatts of solar power at 31 city facilities, making it a leading municipal government for renewable energy. The Office of Sustainability has instituted recycling at all city facilities, bringing the total recycling rate to over 55% and saving in excess of \$350,000 annually. Tom also has responsibility for Organizational Development, Emergency Management, Special Events, Neighborhood Planning and Government Affairs.

Tom also serves as a member of Green Chips, a local non-profit bringing public and private sector organizations together for a sustainable future, and serves as a member of the Las Vegas Bicycle Coalition. On weekends he is a coach for kids ski camp at Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort. He holds a Bachelor's in Finance from the University of Northern Colorado and a Master's in Economics from the University of Nevada. Most importantly Tom celebrated his 23 year wedding anniversary this year, has three kids in college, and has been blessed to call Las Vegas home for over 20 years.

**Tom Polikalas***Nevada Representative**SWEEP*

Polikalas is SWEEP's Nevada representative in Nevada. Before joining SWEEP, Polikalas worked for consumer-owned electric utilities in Colorado and Nevada, promoting cost-effective energy efficiency programs over the past 15 years. Polikalas is a strong advocate of energy efficiency as a powerful tool to benefit our local, state and national economies, creating jobs and economic development while also conserving resources and improving the environment.

The electric cooperatives for which Polikalas worked--the Delta-Montrose Electric Association and Valley Electric Association, Inc. (www.vea.coop)--both won national community service awards for their energy efficiency programs from NRECA, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, during his tenure with each utility.

While he was with DMEA, the Montrose, Colorado headquartered cooperative also earned many other awards including recognition for Excellence in ENERGY STAR outreach and "Achievement in Energy Services Award" from the Association of Energy Services Professionals International (AESP), an internationally-recognized organization of utilities, energy service companies, governmental agencies, and financial institutions. AESP's awards program recognizes work in energy efficiency practices and innovative marketing that supports energy efficiency.

Polikalas has extensive experience in the economics of residential energy efficiency programs ranging from geothermal heat pumps for home heating and cooling, domestic solar water heating, to home air-infiltration control and insulation.

Polikalas previously served as the Nevada State Energy Office's public information officer from 1990-91 before becoming Nevada's first recycling coordinator in the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. He was also a contractor for the National Energy Management Institute, promoting the cost effective retrofit of commercial buildings and institutions in Nevada. While a graduate student in

economics at the University of Nevada Reno in 1984, he interned in the Office of Advocate for Consumers of Public Utilities.

His experience in government affairs includes service as a lobbyist for Nevadans Opposed to MX (NO MX) and as Executive Director and lobbyist for Citizens Against Nuclear Waste In Nevada (CANWIN).

He earned a BA in Economics from the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) in 1984 and undertook graduate studies economics at Brigham Young University (BYU) and UNR.

**Vinny Spotleson**

*Energy and Public Lands Manager
Office of Senator Harry Reid (R-NV)*

**Zolaikha Strong**

*Director of Sustainable Energy
Copper Development Association*

Strong promotes key electrical sector trends in energy efficiency in areas such as renewable energy, distributed generation / demand side management, energy storage, efficient motors, and transformers. Maximize copper's recognized value and contribution to the sustainable supply and use of electricity.

Previously worked as a Federal Regulatory Affairs Manager at Edison Electric and was an federal Energy Policy Analyst.



Paul Thomsen

Director

Nevada State Governor's Office of Energy

Paul Thomsen is the Governor's Energy Advisor and Director of the Governor's Office of Energy.

Nationally, Mr. Thomsen has served as President of the Board of Directors of the Geothermal Energy Association; Chairman of the United States Clean Heat and Power Association; and as an industry expert to the U.S. Department of Energy Geothermal Technologies

Program Blue Ribbon Panel. In Nevada, Thomsen served as the President of the Nevada Geothermal Council and sat on the boards of the Economic Development Authority of Nevada, Nevada Mining Association, and Nevada Lung Association.

Before coming to the GOE Mr. Thomsen worked for the law firm of Lionel Sawyer and Collins, United States Senator Richard Bryan, and United States Senator Harry Reid. Most recently Mr. Thomsen worked in the geothermal industry for Ormat Technologies.

Thomsen received a Bachelor's degree in political science and a Master's degree in public administration from the University of Nevada, Reno. Academic works include: "Renewable Energy in the State of Nevada: Public Policy Implications for an Emergent Resource Area" presented at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association, Vancouver, British Columbia; and "Nobody Puts Geothermal in a Corner", Geothermal Resources Council Transactions, Vol 37, 2013, Davis, California.
