California Legislature

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES
ASSEMBLYMEMBER AL MURATSUCHI, CHAIR

Informational Hearing: "Carbon Capture and Sequestration"

Tuesday, May 31, 2022, 10:30AM
1021 O St., Room 1100

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Sarah Saltzer, Ph.D, Managing Director, Stanford Center for Carbon Storage & Stanford Carbon Removal Initiative

Dr. Saltzer is the Managing Director of the Stanford Center for Carbon Storage and the Stanford Carbon Removal Initiative. Dr. Saltzer spent 25 years at Chevron where she held a series of scientific, managerial, and executive roles. She has a diversity of experience in positions of increasing responsibility, including geology research and teaching, petroleum engineering, leading exploration teams, competitor analysis and business planning, executive responsibilities for all business operations for Chevron's multi-national environmental remediation company, and responsibility for SEC-mandated reserves reporting for a quarter of the globe. Dr. Saltzer holds a M.S. and B.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

George Peridas, PhD, Director, Carbon Management Partnerships, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Dr. Peridas' works on promoting partnerships that result in the advancement and deployment of carbon management solutions and technologies, including the removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, or so-called negative emissions. Partnerships that can live up to today's climate challenge have to bridge developer, stakeholder, government and global interests. Dr. Peridas' recent experience of over a decade in the environmental NGO world has made him well versed in the fields of policy, legislation and regulation relevant to climate change, carbon management and energy, and keenly aware of the spectrum of views that need to be reconciled in order to reach meaningful consensus in this field.

Dr. Peridas' background in energy markets consulting and scientific research in an academic environment enable him to translate complex information into lay language in order to advance multiple goals. He is known for convening and managing broad coalitions that span diverse interest and forging common ground.

Ahmed Abdulla, PhD, Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Carleton University

Dr. Abdulla investigates energy system design for deep decarbonization—focusing on the role of disruptive energy technologies that sit at a low level of technical readiness, including electro-fuel production, advanced nuclear power, and negative emissions technologies. Dr. Abdulla employs chemical process modeling, systems engineering, engineering economics, and quantitative risk and decision analysis in his research. He also pays special attention to integrating insights from public policy and behavioral science in his models to optimize the design and deployment of truly sustainable technologies—ones that are both techno-economically viable and socio-politically acceptable.

Dr. Abdulla co-leads the APEX research group at Carleton. APEX—Alternative Pathways for the Energy Transition—comprises a group of highly interdisciplinary engineers devoted to accelerating the transition to a deeply decarbonized energy system to avert the worst consequences of climate change. Prior to Carleton, Abdulla was Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he continues to be an Adjunct Assistant Professor. He is also a Research Fellow at the UC San Diego Deep Decarbonization Initiative. He holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University

Mark Jacobson, PhD, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University

Dr. Jacobson's career has focused on better understanding air pollution and global warming problems and developing large-scale clean, renewable energy solutions to them. Toward that end, he has developed and applied three-dimensional atmosphere-biosphere-ocean computer models and solvers to simulate air pollution, weather, climate, and renewable energy. He has also developed roadmaps to transition states and countries to 100% clean, renewable energy for all purposes and computer models to examine grid stability in the presence of high penetrations of renewable energy. Dr. Jacobson is a Senior Fellow at the Precourt Institute for Energy and at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

Dr. Jacobson holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering, B.A. in Economics, and M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University, and a Ph.D in Atmospheric Science from the University of California Los Angeles.

John Thompson, Technology and Markets Director, Clean Air Taskforce

John promotes new technology and policy solutions to address climate change that emphasize carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).

His current work focuses on policy design to overcome barriers facing carbon capture and sequestration. These include policies to develop new transformational carbon capture technologies and overcoming economic and infrastructure barriers that limit the application of CCUS in industry, power, and zero-carbon fuels markets.

John's past work includes facilitating technology transfer between U.S. and Chinese companies, using economic models to determine the impact of potential federal policies on CCUS deployment, and advocating federal regulatory policies that limit carbon dioxide emissions.

John is a frequent presenter on carbon capture and sequestration at conferences in the United States, China, and Europe. Since 2012, he has served on the National Coal Council, an advisory body to the Secretary of the Department of Energy.

John holds a B. S. in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, as well as an M.B.A. from Olin School of Business at Washington University in Saint Louis.

Steven Feit, Attorney, Climate and Energy Program, Center for International Environmental Law

Steven Feit is an attorney in CIEL's Climate and Energy Program. Steven's work focuses on advancing law and policy to hold corporations, financiers, and governments accountable for their contributions to the climate crisis, resisting enablers of continued fossil fuel use, and incorporating climate-related financial risk into financial markets. He frequently advocates before international groups of technical experts and decision makers addressing fossil fuels, petrochemicals, and carbon capture and storage. He has also authored or contributed to several major reports on a wide array of topics, including on the risks of geoengineering, the nexus between plastic and climate change, the fiduciary and financial risks of climate change to pension fund fiduciaries, and the early history of the oil industry's knowledge of climate change.

Steven holds a BS in Applied Economics & Management from Cornell University and a JD from NYU. Steven is a member of the State Bar of New York and the District of Columbia.