

# AGENDA

## WOMEN ENERGY LEADERS (WEL) PROGRAM OPENING CONFERENCE

January 10, 2024, 9:00AM – 11:00 AM EST  
January 10, 2024, 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM ICT  
Virtual

**ADVANCING WOMEN IN ENERGY**

In partnership with the U.S. Government



# WOMEN ENERGY LEADERS PROGRAM OPENING CONFERENCE & PANEL DISCUSSION GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Bringing together industry stakeholders to discuss “Advancing Women in Energy,” this opening event will introduce the Women Energy Leaders (WEL) program and include a panel of U.S. and regional women energy leaders from Southeast Asia and the Pacific sharing their professional journeys and reflections on the challenges they faced, the programs or policies that facilitated their professional development, and the role that mentors and corporate leaders played in supporting them in the workplace.

**Background:** WEL is a new partnership between the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR) Power Sector Program (PSP) and the United States Energy Association (USEA) announced by the U.S. Department of State on December 4, 2023, during the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28). WEL aims to advance the professional development of early- to mid-career women in the clean energy workforce in Southeast Asia and the Pacific through mentorship, technical and leadership skills training, a capstone project, and job shadows to empower women to become leaders in decarbonization and the clean energy transition. WEL follows the completion of WEL’s predecessor program, ENR and USEA’s Female Leaders in Energy (FLIE) program for women in Southeast Asia and the Pacific that took place from 2021-2023. The WEL program will build off lessons learned from FLIE and welcome a cohort of mentees and mentors to take part in the program from April 2024-April 2026.

## Conference Objectives:

- Highlight the importance of women in the clean energy industry to ensure a just and equitable energy transition.
- Introduce the Women Energy Leaders (WEL) program.
- Answer questions on WEL for potential mentees/mentors interested in applying.
- Discuss challenges women face in the energy sector via a panel discussion with U.S. and regional women energy leaders.

## SCHEDULE

January 10, 2024

9:00 AM EST 9:00 PM ICT	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Speaker: Hon. Mark W. Menezes, President & Chief Executive Officer, USEA
9:10 AM EST 9:10 PM ICT	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Speaker: Laura Lochman, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Diplomacy, Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR), U.S. Department of State
9:20 AM EST 9:20 PM ICT	<b>Overview of the Women Energy Leaders (WEL) Program and Q&amp;A for Potential Mentee/Mentor Applicants</b> Speaker: Nancy Li, Program Manager, USEA <i>Overview of the program, activities, and expectations.</i> <i>Women Energy Leaders (WEL) is a two-year mentorship and professional development fellowship program for women in Southeast Asia and Pacific. Early-to-mid career women in the energy sector will be paired with a U.S. or regional senior-level mentor to</i>

explore and develop industry and job-function knowledge. Participants will complete a capstone project and the two-year program will consist of:

- Quarterly mentorship meetings.
- Five technical workshops and leadership trainings.
- One-on-one executive coaching.
- Job shadows; and
- Closing Conference

9:40 AM EST  
9:40 PM ICT

### **Panel: Advancing Women in Energy**

Women leaders from the energy sector will participate in a panel discussion about their professional journeys. The panelists will reflect on challenges they faced, programs or policies that facilitated their professional development, and the role that mentors/corporate leaders played in supporting them in the workplace.

Moderator: Nancy Li, Program Manager, USEA

Panelists:

- Sue Kelly, Member on the Board of Trustees, North American Electric Reliability Corporation – (United States)
- Juliet Homer, Team Lead of the Energy Policy Analytics Team, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory – (United States)
- Donna Priadi, Country Director, Vriens & Partners – (Indonesia)
- Anaflor Candelaria, Asset Management AVP, Aboitiz Power Corporation – (Philippines)
- Dr. Norasikin Ahmad Ludin, Associate Professor and Deputy Director at the Solar Energy Research Institute of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia – (Malaysia)

10:20 AM EST  
10:20 PM ICT

### **Moderated Questions for Panelists**

Panelists will answer the audience's questions that were submitted ahead of time and questions from the audience.

10:40 AM EST  
10:40 PM ICT

### **Summary and Path Forward**

Speaker: Nancy Li, Program Manager, USEA

- Summary of panel discussion.
- Application process for the WEL program.
- Concluding remarks.

10:50 AM EST  
10:50 PM ICT

### **Adjourn**

## SPEAKERS



### **Mark W. Menezes**

*President & Chief Executive Officer, USEA*

Mark W. Menezes is President and Chief Executive Officer of the United States Energy Association (USEA). In his role, Mr. Menezes represents the broad interests of the U.S. energy industry and interacts with domestic and international leaders to advance knowledge and seek partnerships to develop and enhance energy infrastructure worldwide.

Mr. Menezes is a nationally recognized energy attorney. Prior to this he served as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, former senior executive with two major energy companies, and former Congressional Committee Chief Counsel, and a strategic advisor to Wall Street, businesses, and policymakers. Mr. Menezes is the founder of Global Sustainable Energy Advisors LLC, a strategic advisory firm to energy, technology, and defense organizations. Additionally, Mr. Menezes is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown Law School teaching courses on energy law, policy, and climate change.

Mr. Menezes is a graduate of Louisiana State University receiving both his undergraduate and juris doctor degrees. He is licensed to practice in Washington D.C., Texas, and Louisiana, and is a member of the U.S. Supreme Court Bar.



### **Laura Lochman**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Diplomacy  
Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State*

Laura Lochman started as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Diplomacy in the Bureau of Energy Resources on December 13, 2021. She was previously Director of the Office of Canadian Affairs. From January-September 2021, she served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs for Canada, Haiti, and the Caribbean. Laura Lochman is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service with over 30 years of experience in policy analysis and implementation. She has served in various overseas assignments with the Department of State, including as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy to the Kingdom of Denmark; Economic Counselor in Bogota, Colombia; Consul General in Calgary, Canada; Deputy Economic

Counselor and Chief of the Trade and Investment Unit at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow; and Deputy Economic Counselor and Environment, Science and Technology Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. Earlier, she served in Caracas, Venezuela and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

In Washington, Laura previously served in the State Department's Office of Cuban Affairs, the Bureau of South Asian Affairs, and in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. Laura was detailed for one year from the State Department to a non-governmental organization, the Nature Conservancy, as a policy advisor. She also spent two years as the State Department's Deputy Director of the Office of Central European Affairs.

Laura graduated with a B.A. in International Studies and French from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She also studied at the Université de Montpellier, France. Laura holds a black belt in karate, and her foreign languages include French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian.



**Nancy Li,**

*Program Manager, USEA*

Nancy Li serves as Program Manager for the U.S. Energy Association implementing the Women Energy Leaders (WEL) program. The WEL project is a cooperative partnership between USEA and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR) Power Sector Program (PSP). WEL aims to advance the professional development of early- to mid-career women in the clean energy workforce in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Previously, Nancy implemented the Female Leaders in Energy (FLIE) program at USEA, WEL's predecessor program.



**Susan (Sue) Kelly**

*Member on the Board of Trustees, North American Electric Reliability Corporation*

Susan (Sue) Kelly was elected to the Board of Trustees of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation in February 2021 and serves on the Compliance, Finance and Audit, Enterprise-wide Risk, and Nominating Committees. Ms. Kelly also serves as liaison to the Standards Committee.

Ms. Kelly previously served as president and CEO of the American Public Power Association (APPA) from 2014 to 2019, where she led the national trade association serving public power utilities, having come to the organization in 2004 as its senior vice president of Policy Analysis and General Counsel responsible for APPA's energy policy formulation and policy advocacy before FERC, the federal courts, and other governmental and industry policy forums.

Ms. Kelly has served on several committees, including the Steering Committee of the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (2014 to 2019), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's Energy and Environmental Markets Advisory Committee (2015 to 2019), the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee (2008 to 2009 under the Bush Administration; 2012 to 2014 under the Obama Administration), and as the president of the Energy Bar Association (2010 to 2011). She was also a member of the E Source Advisory Board and served on the Board of Directors of the Center for Energy Workforce Development. She currently serves as chair of the Energy Bar Association Masters Council and has helped start a virtual mentoring program for Energy Bar Association members.

Ms. Kelly was named one of Washington's "Most Powerful Women" in the November 2015 issue of Washingtonian magazine in the "Business, Labor, and Lobbying" category. In March 2017, she was honored as Woman of the Year by the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment. In January 2020, she received Public Utility Fortnightly's Owen Young Award to honor her exceptional contributions to the electric utility industry.

Ms. Kelly earned her bachelor's degree in Honors Interdisciplinary Studies and Economics from the University of Missouri and her juris doctorate from the George Washington University, both with high honors.



**Juliet Homer**

*Team Lead of the Energy Policy Analytics Team, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

Juliet Homer is team lead of the Energy Policy Analytics Team within the Energy Policy and Economics Group at PNNL. She is a professional engineer with expertise in the changing electric power grid and associated changes to planning, policy, and regulation. Juliet's work at PNNL centers on electric integrated distribution system planning with distributed energy resources.

She also works on planning, operation, and governance issues associated with integrated water and power systems. Juliet also supports the distributed wind portfolio at PNNL. Juliet regularly works with state public utility commissions and state energy offices around the United States on issues of characterizing, valuing, and planning for distributed energy resources.

Before joining PNNL, Juliet worked as a utility analyst with the Oregon Public Utility Commission where she managed the review of electricity and natural gas utility resource planning dockets. She also performed economic analyses of utility-proposed energy efficiency, renewable energy, and grid modernization investments. Juliet previously worked at Greeley and Hansen, LLC, a multi-national engineering consulting firm where she was a project engineer on water and wastewater planning and design projects in Arizona. Juliet holds a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering from Arizona State University.



**Donna Priadi**

*Country Director, Vriens & Partners*

Ms. Donna Priadi joined Vriens & Partners as the Country Director for Indonesia operations in August 2020. Previously, Donna worked as the Director of Corporate & Government Affairs at General Electric (GE) Indonesia, covering energy, healthcare, and aviation industry. She has 25 years of experience in the Energy and Oil and Gas industry, starting with ARCO, BP, Pertamina, and GE. Donna has been responsible for various positions, from project engineer, commercial, business development, public relations, and corporate communications to corporate and government affairs. Donna graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB),

Indonesia, with an Architecture Engineering degree and an MBA degree from the University of San Francisco.



**Dr. Norasikin Ahmad Ludin**

*Associate Professor and Deputy Director at the Solar Energy Research Institute of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia*

Norasikin Ahmad Ludin holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry (Solar Photovoltaic Technology) from the University of Wales, United Kingdom in 2012. Currently, she is an Associate Professor/Deputy Director of Solar Energy Research Institute, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She has been in the field of renewable energy for more than 20 years. Her specialization is on advanced materials for solar photovoltaic and the impact analysis of the technologies (environment and economic). Her research interest includes energy policy, LCA, LCCA, and end of

life (EoL) management of renewable energy systems.

Dr. Ludin has been awarded the Top Research Scientist Malaysia (TRSM) 2022. She has published and presented more than 100 papers in high-impact journals, books, proceedings, and conferences. She acts as a project leader and co-researcher for international and national grants related to renewable energy



with cumulative total of USD2.5 million (2011-2021). She also supervised more than 40 local and international postgraduate students (MSc and PhD) in related renewable energy areas. She was appointed as a Visiting Professor at Claremont McKenna College University, California, USA in 2018 and a Visiting Researcher at Tokyo University of Science, Japan in 2016.

She is the ASEAN COSTI Sustainable Energy Committee, APEC Project Overseer and a working group member at Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). She is also a Certified Energy Manager (CEM), a member of Royal Society of Chemistry, United Kingdom, and a committee member of Malaysia Energy Professionals Association (MEPA). Recently, she completed an Executive Education on Circular Economy and Sustainability Strategies from Cambridge University, United Kingdom.

**Anaflor Candelaria**

*Asset Management AVP, Aboitiz Power Corporation – (Philippines)*

Ms. Candelaria serves as the Asset Management Assistant Vice President in the Office of the Chief Asset Management Officer at Aboitiz Power Corporation. In her role, she is responsible for aligning asset management strategies with AP strategy, providing assurance and governance required for the operation of assets due to competing business unit priorities and organizational interdependencies of outputs, proactive resource management, and management of business exposure with respect to the decision-making process for risk management of physical assets. Ms. Candelaria received her degree in civil engineering from St. Louis University, Baguio City.