

## **Biographies of Presenters and Panel Members**

### **Ron Edelstein**

**Director, State Regulatory Programs  
Gas Technology Institute**

Ron is responsible for managing Gas Technology Institute's (GTI) voluntary or state funding program, working with gas local distribution companies and state commissions to develop a gas consumer interest research and development (R&D) program. Ron is senior staff facilitator for GTI's Public Interest Advisory Committee, with membership from NARUC, NASUCA, and other public interest groups. Ron is serving on the Home Energy Conservation Task Force to develop a low-income consumer conservation program for Tennessee. Ron has served on the Technical Advisory Board of the California Institute for Energy Efficiency and on the California RD&D Working Group to define public benefits R&D.

He has also been director of GTI strategic and R&D planning, developing GTI's five-year plans for approval by the FERC for over 15 years. Prior to GTI, Ron performed R&D program planning for the Solar Energy Research Institute (now NREL), engineering consulting for the U.S. Department of Energy's solar thermal program, and structural engineering on gas turbines for Pratt & Whitney.

Ron received two Master's Degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Engineering Science: Environmental Science & Technology and Engineering Science: Solid Mechanics. He received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Florida in Aerospace Engineering.

### **Andy Hammerschmidt**

**Program Manager, Gas Storage, Pipeline & Gas Quality  
Gas Technology Institute**

Andy is Program Manager of Gas Storage, Pipeline, and Gas Quality in the Gas Technology Institute's Distribution and Pipeline Technology group. In this role, Andy is responsible for developing focused research and development programs to address identified industry issues and concerns. His primary focus has been developing technologies to improve operational efficiencies and safety, as well as natural gas storage applications such as emerging casing inspection technologies and hydrate mitigation.

Prior to joining GTI, Andy spent 8 years in various roles with Nicor Gas, a Local Distribution Company based in Northern Illinois. His experience includes supervisory positions within Supply Operations, Distribution Operations, Storage Development and Management, and Engineering. Special projects include serving as a project manager for a compressor/turbine installation and subsequent expansion of the Troy Grove aquifer storage field and related facilities, as well as a team leader role for the inspection and

removal of mercury regulators throughout Nicor's service territory. Andy also filled various engineering roles involving reservoir and production technologies/management applications in various aquifer storage fields.

Mr. Hammerschmidt's degrees include a B.S. Geological Engineering from the University of Minnesota (1996), and a M.B.A. in Finance, Marketing, and Economics from the University of Chicago GSB (2004). He has also completed the Six Sigma Black Belt Certification program at Motorola University (2004).

**Bruce B. Henning**  
**Vice President, Regulatory and Market Analysis**  
**Energy and Environmental Analysis, Inc.**

Bruce Henning has worked in the area of natural gas and energy economics for 27 years. Mr. Henning testified before the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on the relationship between gas and electric markets in California and the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs on the impact of the Enron bankruptcy on electricity and gas markets. Mr. Henning has also testified before FERC and the Canadian National Energy Board

Mr. Henning served as the Chief Economist for the American Gas Association. In his 15 years at AGA, he was responsible for economic analysis of gas utility regulation and FERC pipeline regulation, short and long term energy and economic forecasts and modeling, and the statistics publications and analysis of AGA. He was a member of the FERC Pipeline Competition Task Force and the NARUC Technical Advisors Groups for Gas Integrated Resource Planning. He has served as an instructor for Gas Rates Fundamentals at the University of Wisconsin and Advanced Ratemaking for Gas Utilities at the University of Maryland. Mr. Henning received his B.S. in economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, completing his thesis under Robert Solow, Nobel Laureate in Economics.

**Suzie Kito**  
**Senior Project Manager**  
**MRW & Associates**

Suzie Kito is a Senior Project Manager at MRW with over ten years of experience in the energy industry. Her current work focuses on providing regulatory and litigation support regarding energy related matters for regulatory agencies, municipalities, power producers, utilities, financial institutions, developers, governmental agencies and end-use customers. Ms. Kito previously worked at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the California Public Utilities Commission and ICF. She holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of California at Berkeley and a BA in Economics from Yale University.

**Kevin R. Petak**  
**Vice President, Gas Market Modeling**  
**ICF International**

Kevin Petak has over 23 years experience in the energy industry. Since joining Energy and Environmental Analysis, Inc (EEA), now an ICF International business unit, in June of 1993, Mr. Petak has directed numerous energy market analyses to support strategic planning needs at energy companies, including natural gas producers, pipelines, and energy marketing affiliates. These analyses have investigated, among other factors, the impact of pipeline expansions on gas prices, the effect of weather and oil prices on gas markets, strategies to comply with stricter emissions regulations, use of oil backup in power generation to assure system reliability, and the impact of declining productivity on gas price. These analyses have been widely used to support facilities/fuels/contracts management and planning, mergers and acquisitions, investment decisions, risk management, and hedge strategies.

Recently, Mr. Petak directed work for gas infrastructure analyses for the states of Arizona and Nevada. Mr. Petak has also directed work for the U.S. Department of Energy that investigated the impacts of disruptions to gas infrastructure in Western States. Most recently, he has completed a few different analyses of gas storage requirements for various regions throughout North America.

Prior to joining EEA/ICF, Mr. Petak worked for nine years in Reservoir Engineering with Halliburton Company, a major energy services provider. Mr. Petak has a M.S. in Business from the University of Texas at Dallas and a B.S. in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University.

**Deepa Poduval**  
**Senior Associate**  
**Lukens Energy Group / Black & Veatch Corp.**

Deepa Poduval is a Senior Associate with Lukens Energy Group, a part of the Enterprise Management Solutions Division of Black & Veatch Corporation. Her responsibilities at Lukens Energy Group include project analysis and management. These responsibilities extend over a range of activities including the valuation of energy industry assets; analysis of oil & gas marketing strategies; evaluation of asset portfolios; research of industry networks & structures; and analysis & utilization of the natural gas industry structural models.

Ms. Poduval's client engagements focus on strategic analytical services supporting portfolio optimization, asset acquisition, risk management, and business strategy development. Examples of this work are the real option valuation of storage fields and interstate pipelines for developing optimization strategies and supporting contract negotiations. She has worked on extensive projects to analyze natural gas marketing

practices and develop business strategies to optimize asset portfolios. Ms. Poduval's work also involves analysis of the North American natural gas infrastructure. Some recent client engagements include the analysis of the impact of gas-fired electric generation on the natural gas infrastructure, taking into consideration the historical and emerging differences between the electric and natural gas industries, and analysis of the capability of existing infrastructure to provide adequate take-away capacity for a large proposed pipeline project.

Prior to joining Lukens Energy Group, Ms. Poduval obtained a Masters in Engineering Management from Dartmouth College. During this time, she acted as a project coordinator for the design and development of a decision analysis tool for strategy formulation and evaluation in hyper-competitive industries.

M.E.M.	Dartmouth College (2000)
M.Sc., Economics	B.I.T.S., Pilani, India (1999)
B.E., Mechanical Engineering	B.I.T.S., Pilani, India (1999)

**Rocio Uria, Ph.D.**  
**Economist**  
**Iberdrola**

Rocio Uria works in Madrid as an economist for the research department of Iberdrola. Up till last month she was a "postdoc" at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at U.C. Davis where she also completed her Ph.D. in December 2006. Professor Jeffrey Williams was her advisor. In her dissertation she investigated spatial and intertemporal arbitrage in the California natural gas network. She has recently participated in several energy economics conferences in the U.S. and Europe.

**Robert Weisenmiller, Ph.D.**  
**Principal and Co-Founder**  
**MRW & Associates**

Robert Weisenmiller is a Principal and Co-founder of MRW & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in economic and technical analysis of electric power and fuel markets. For more than 20 years, he has provided clients with critical analyses of the development of competitive markets for power generation and natural gas. He also has served as an expert witness in numerous federal and state regulatory proceedings and commercial litigation cases. Previously, Dr. Weisenmiller was the Director of the Policy and Program Evaluation Office of the California Energy Commission.

**Jeffrey Williams, Ph.D.**  
**Professor**  
**University of California, Davis**

Jeffrey Williams is the D. Barton DeLoach Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at U.C. Davis. Previously, he taught at Brandeis University and Stanford University. His Ph.D., in economics, is from Yale in 1980. He has published three books with Cambridge University Press, including one titled *Storage and Commodity Markets*.

**Denny Yeung**  
**Consultant**  
**Black & Veatch**

Denny Yeung is a member of Black & Veatch's natural gas fundamental market analysis group. He is responsible for modeling detailed fundamentals factors in the North America natural gas market, and assessing the impact on price, basis, pipeline and storage infrastructure. He has accumulated extensive knowledge on market fundamentals in his four-year experience with Black & Veatch. As the lead analyst in multiple Black & Veatch engagements involving fundamental analysis of the North American natural gas market, Denny has developed expertise in modeling major supply/demand regions in comprehensive detail.

B.A., Economics/Managerial Studies/Political Science    Rice University (2004)  
M.B.A. Candidate    University of Texas at Austin  
(Expected-2009)