



STEVE SWEENEY CENTER
FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Powering a Resilient Energy Future: Developing New Jersey's Energy Workforce in a Changing Landscape

Rowan University, Chamberlain Student Center, Eynon Ballroom,

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

8:00 am Registration and Breakfast:

8:45 am **Welcome**

Nawal Ammar, Ph.D., Dean, Ric Edelman College of Communication, Humanities & Social Sciences. Rowan University

Introductory Remarks

Ali A. Houshmand, Ph.D., President, Rowan University

Steve Sweeney, Chair, Sweeney Center for Public Policy

9:10 am. **Opening Keynote: The Federal Perspective on Energy Development**

Michael Martucci, Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

(Introduced by Richard Henning, President, New Jersey Utilities Association)

9:45 a.m. **Panel I: Meeting New Jersey's Energy Needs in the Wake of Federal Policy Changes**

- Bob Brabston, Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
- Asim Z. Haque, Senior Vice President, Policy-Law, PJM Interconnection
- Nathan Howe, Partner, K&L Gates
- Andrew J. McNally, Senior Director, Government & Regulatory Affairs, South Jersey Industries
- Mark Magyar, Director, Sweeney Center for Public Policy (moderator)

10:45 a.m. Networking Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. **Panel II: Expanding Nuclear, Solar and Battery Storage: Challenges and Opportunities**

- Thomas Marcille, Vice President, Holtec International
- Joseph P. Milo, Outage Manager, Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station, PSEG
- Kate Grant, Director of Regulatory Affairs and Policy for the Northeast, Elevate Renewables
- Lyle Rawlings, President & CEO, Advanced Solar Projects
- Robert Gordon, Vice President, Stevens & Lee Public Affairs, and former NJ Board of Public Utilities commissioner (moderator)

12:10 p.m. Luncheon

12:45 p.m. **Luncheon Keynote: Economic Development Tools to Expand Energy Capacity**

Tim Sullivan, CEO of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority

Introduction by Anthony Lowman, Ph.D., Chancellor, Rowan University

1:30 p.m. **Panel III: Meeting the Demand: Employer Insights on Energy Workforce Needs**

- Lesley Hirsch, Assistant Commissioner, Research & Information, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Briona Forrester, Global Senior Strategy Consultant, Siemens;
- Peter C. Connolly, CEO, New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP);
- Yolanda Mack, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Industry Partnerships and Workforce Development, Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering (moderator)

2:30 p.m. **Panel IV: Partners in Power: Innovation and Collaboration in Training Tomorrow's Energy Workforce**

- Ibrahim Branham, CEO, IJB Electrical Contractor LLC, IJB-U;
- David Coyner, Vice President for Academic Innovation & Partnerships, Rowan University;
- Joseph M. Gurrentz, Ph.D., Director of External Affairs, New Jersey Utilities Association;
- Charlotte Parker, Director of Community Engagement, Dimension Renewable Energy;
- Stephanie Staub, Director, Workforce Strategy, New Jersey Community College Consortium on Workforce & Economic Development
- Marie Casanova, Coordinator of the Rowan Energy Collaborative (ROWEC) and Assistant Director of the Green Jobs Academy, Rowan University (moderator)

3:30 p.m. Closing Remarks

Mark Magyar, Director, Sweeney Center for Public Policy

