

Speaker Biographies

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David E. Adelman

David E. Adelman teaches and writes in the areas of environmental law, intellectual property law, and climate change policy. Professor Adelman's research focuses on the many interfaces between law and science. His articles have addressed such topics as the regulatory implications of emerging genomic technologies, the tensions between legal and scientific evidentiary standards, and development of effective policies for promoting innovation relevant to addressing climate change. Professor Adelman clerked for the Honorable Samuel Conti of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Before entering academia, he was an attorney with the firm Covington & Burling and a Senior Attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council. Prior to joining UT Law, he taught at the University of Arizona Rogers College of Law.

Linda Breggin

Linda Breggin is a Senior Attorney with the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C. and serves as Director of ELI's Center for State, Tribal, and Local Environmental Programs. She is also a Lecturer in Law at Vanderbilt University Law School. Her legal and policy research focuses on municipal climate action, food waste, non-point and point source water pollution, and environmental enforcement. During the 1990s, she was counsel with LeBoeuf Lamb Greene & MacRae in Washington. She also served as a Special Assistant to the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Enforcement, as counsel to a U.S. House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Subcommittee and as the Associate Director for Toxics and Environmental Education in the White House Office on Environmental Policy. Ms. Breggin is based in Nashville, TN where she serves on the advisory committees for Friends of Warner Parks and the Harpeth Conservancy and Co-Chairs Mayor Cooper's Sustainability Advisory Committee. She is the author of the "Around the States" column for The Environmental Forum.

Jordan Diamond

On January 1, 2022, Jordan became the President of the Environmental Law Institute. Prior to ELI, she was the Executive Director of UC Berkeley's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, which designs and develops pragmatic policy solutions to environmental and energy issues, where she helped grow the team and launch initiatives including GrizzlyCorps and the California-China Climate Institute. She has received awards from the American Bar Association and ELI for her work on environmental and energy governance and, recognized for her work in marine policy, in 2018 was appointed by former California Governor Jerry Brown to serve on the California Ocean Protection Council. She lives in the Bay Area with her spouse and two young kids.

Tom Hassenboehler

Tom Hassenboehler is a partner with COEFFICIENT, a mission-based strategic consultancy focused on advancing public policy and market solutions in the energy and environmental sectors in Washington, D.C. Tom has a career history of being at the center of many of the major energy and environmental laws and debates of the last decade. From 2013-2017, he served as the Chief Counsel for Energy and Environment at the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce under Chairman Greg Walden (R-Oregon) and Fred Upton (R-Michigan). During his time in the House, he led and managed the issues and staff under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittees on Energy and Environment. He also often represented the Committee in international bilateral and multilateral meetings and Conferences, including multiple delegations related to energy trade, exports, and international climate policy. Before his roles in the U.S. House, he worked in the private sector as the Vice President of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs for America's Natural Gas Alliance. Tom's earlier experience was in the Senate as Counsel for the Committee on Environment and Public Works and he began his career working on various issues that led to the formation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 for the Energy and Commerce Committee under former Chairman Billy Tauzin (R-Louisiana) and Joe Barton (R-Texas). A native of New Orleans, Tom received both his undergraduate and juris doctorate degrees from Louisiana State University.

Jonas Kron

Jonas Kron is Trillium's Chief Advocacy Officer. With over twenty years of experience in shareholder advocacy, Jonas is responsible for leading and coordinating Trillium's extensive advocacy program, which works to engage companies on their environmental and social performance. His advocacy work includes direct communications with company leadership, investor education and awareness, shareholder proposals, and public policy advocacy at the municipal, state, and federal levels. As a recognized legal expert in the field and a leader in shareholder advocacy, Jonas regularly represents Trillium in the media, at public events, and with clients. Jonas currently serves as the Secretary of the board for US SIF - the Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment. Prior to joining Trillium, Jonas was an environmental attorney and public defender as well as outside counsel to many socially responsible investment organizations. Jonas holds J.D. and masters degrees from Vermont Law School.

Howard A. Learner

Howard A. Learner is an experienced public interest environmental and energy litigation attorney serving as Executive Director of the Environmental Law & Policy Center – the Midwest's leading environmental legal advocacy and eco-business innovation organization. Mr. Learner is responsible for the overall organizational strategic leadership, financial platform, and program direction for ELPC's successful work to promote clean energy development solutions to climate change challenges, advance innovative transportation policies, protect the Great Lakes, and preserve the Midwest's natural resources and heritage. One of ELPC's core premises is that environmental progress and economic development can be achieved together. ELPC's advocacy programs put that sustainable development policy principle into action.

Mr. Learner is also a Professor (Adjunct) at the University of Michigan Law School teaching advanced seminars on climate change and clean energy law, environmental constitutionalism, and sustainable development law. He received his J.D. from Harvard Law School, and his B.A. (Honors) from the University of Michigan.

Margaret E. Peloso

Margaret's practice focuses on climate change risk management and environmental litigation. She advises energy companies, financial institutions and funds on climate risk analysis and disclosure. The other significant component of Margaret's practice focuses on translational science. She advises clients on a broad range of litigation and regulatory matters in which there are significant scientific or technical issues that require the use of outside experts. She also has extensive experience representing clients in the notice and comment process on a broad array of federal environmental regulations.

Margaret also serves as V&E's Lead Sustainability Partner. In this role, she engages with clients on sustainability expectations and evaluates the firm's current impact and how to better support ecological, human, and economic health and vitality through engagement with all V&E staff.

Prior to joining Vinson & Elkins, Margaret completed her Ph.D. in environment at Duke University, where she wrote her doctoral dissertation on legal and policy issues associated with sea-level rise adaptation.

Todd Phillips

Todd Phillips is the director of financial regulatory and corporate governance at American Progress. He has worked on issues as diverse as consumer financial protection, derivatives and securities market structure, bank capital and prudential regulation, and the laws governing agency rulemaking and adjudication. Phillips has experience in both Congress and the executive branch, having served as an attorney for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Administrative Conference of the United States, and the Oversight and Reform Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Phillips' writing has been published by *The American Prospect*, the *Yale Journal on Regulation*, and the *Administrative Law Review*, among others. Phillips holds a J.D. from the University of Michigan and a B.S. in economics and political science from Arizona State University.

Bina Reddy

Bina is a Principal at Beveridge & Diamond. She litigates high-stakes cases nationwide involving federal and state environmental statutes, class actions, toxic tort, product liability, and constitutional claims. Bina has devoted a substantial portion of her practice to litigation under federal environmental citizen suit provisions. Her experience extends to all major environmental statutes — the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. This experience includes the defense of claims involving complex and evolving issues such as climate change impacts, natural disasters and lead in drinking water. Bina was named a Litigator of the Week by *American Lawyer* for her work on a landmark Safe Drinking Water Act citizen suit defending the City of Newark, and she has been nominated by her peers for recognition for her work on behalf of clients, which include FORTUNE® 50 companies and major municipalities.

Bina co-leads the firm's Toxic Torts & Mass Torts group and has served on the firm's Management Committee. She speaks and publishes on environmental litigation, and in particular on the subject of novel uses of federal citizen suits.

Jori Reilly-Diakun

Jori joined EPA's Office of General Counsel in 2020, as an attorney-advisor in the Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office. Prior to EPA, he worked as a Fellow at the University of Texas School of Law. He earned his B.S. in Physics from the College of William and Mary and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law.

Casey Roberts

In her position as a Senior Attorney at the Sierra Club, Casey advocates before state public utility regulators and at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for policies that protect consumers and allow full and fair competition by renewable energy, energy storage, and demand-side resources. Casey leads Sierra Club's work at several RTOs/ISOs and in federal court to promote wholesale market rules that minimize costs while ensuring market access for resources to provide the attributes that a changing electric grid and public policy require. She also has extensive experience in state utility regulatory matters, including utility rate cases, integrated resource planning, retail rate design, and distributed energy resources. In addition, Casey represents the Sierra Club in administrative proceedings and litigation concerning the development and implementation of several U.S. EPA rulemakings under the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act.

Casey received her JD from the University of California, Berkeley in 2007, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of *Ecology Law Quarterly*. Following law school, she clerked for Judge James Parker in the District of New Mexico, and Judge Diana Murphy on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Casey received her BA from Rice University in biology and public policy and then worked as an environmental policy consultant in Cambridge, MA. Before she joined Sierra Club in 2011, Casey was a fellow at the Natural Resources Defense Council and at Altshuler Berzon LLP, working on labor, low-wage employment, environmental, and civil rights litigation. Casey is based in Denver, Colorado.

Kirby Smith

Kirby Smith is an investment professional and acting general counsel at Bridgeport Partners, a private investment firm. He previously was an associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz ("Wachtell Lipton"), where he focused primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, capital markets transactions, takeover defense, ESG matters and other corporate and securities matters. At Wachtell, Lipton, he advised both public and private companies in a wide range of industries in connection with domestic and cross-border mergers, acquisitions,

divestitures, spinoffs, ESG matters and other securities offerings. Prior to Wachtell, Lipton, Kirby served as a law clerk to then-Chief Justice Leo E. Strine, Jr. of the Delaware Supreme Court and to Judge Andrew D. Hurwitz of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Kirby previously served as a credit analyst at Goldman Sachs. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the University of Chicago Law Review, and the Stern School of Business at New York University.

Reilly S. Steel

Reilly S. Steel is a lawyer and a Ph.D. student in the Department of Politics at Princeton University. Broadly, his research examines collective choice and principal-agent problems in both public and private institutions, with a focus on American political institutions and corporate governance. His publications appear or are forthcoming in the Yale Law Journal, Columbia Law Review, Iowa Law Review, and Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law. Before starting graduate school at Princeton, he was an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, a law clerk to Chief Justice Leo E. Strine, Jr. at the Delaware Supreme Court, and the inaugural Millstein Fellow with the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. He received his J.D. from Columbia Law School and B.A. from Middlebury College.

Leo Strine

Leo E. Strine, Jr., is Of Counsel in the Corporate Department at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz; the Michael L. Wachter Distinguished Fellow in Law and Policy at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School; a Senior Fellow of the Harvard Program on Corporate Governance; former Chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery and former Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court.

Rebecca L. Tepper

As the Chief of the Energy and Environment Bureau in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office (AGO), Rebecca serves as the Attorney General's chief advisor on energy and environmental law and policy.

Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Rebecca was the General Counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU). Prior to the DPU, Rebecca served as the Director of the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board.

Before joining the State in 2009, Rebecca had 15 years of experience in the private sector, representing developers throughout the Northeast in siting, permitting, financing and contracting of renewable, distributed generation and conventional energy facilities. She also advocated on behalf of various stakeholders before state public utility commissions and the FERC in proceedings involving rates, energy efficiency, demand response, and the ISO-NE markets and rules.

Rebecca is a magna cum laude graduate of Boston University Law School and received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Wisconsin/Madison.

Michael Vandenberg

Michael Vandenberg is a leading scholar in environmental and energy law whose research explores the relationship between formal legal regulation and informal social regulation of individual and corporate behavior. His work with Vanderbilt's Climate Change Research Network involves interdisciplinary teams that focus on the reduction of carbon emissions from the individual and household sector. His corporate work explores private environmental governance and the influence of social norms on firm behavior and the ways in which private contracting can enhance or undermine public governance. Before joining Vanderbilt's law faculty, Professor Vandenberg was a partner at a national law firm in Washington, D.C. He served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1993 to 1995. He began his career as a law clerk for Judge Edward R. Becker of the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the Third Circuit in 1987-88. In addition to directing Vanderbilt's Climate Change Research Network, Professor Vandenberg serves as co-director of the law school's Energy, Environment and Land Use Program. He was named a David Daniels Allen Distinguished Professor of Law in fall 2013. A recipient of the Hall-Hartman Teaching Award, he teaches courses in environmental law, energy, and property. Professor Vandenberg has been a visiting professor at the University of Chicago Law School and at Harvard Law School. He is a fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers and a member of the Board on Environmental Change and Society of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

Shelley Welton

Shelley Welton is an associate professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law and the incoming Presidential Distinguished Professor of Law and Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania (beginning summer 2022). Prior to academia, she was the deputy director of Columbia Law School's Sabin Center on Climate Change Law.