



THE ASSOCIATION OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCIES

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# 2025 Spring Meeting

April 30, May 1, May 2 | Hilton Phoenix Airport | 2435 South 47th Street | Phoenix, Arizona

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## Speaker Biographies

(in order of programming)

Wednesday, April 30

Topical Session: Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Will Adrian, Senior Planner, Maricopa County Air Quality Department

Will Adrian is a senior planner with the Maricopa County Air Quality Department, where he has served since 2019. His previous roles include inspector in the Compliance and Enforcement Division and business assistance associate in the Travel Reduction and Outreach Division. In his current position, he focuses on rule development for projects involving organic material processing, the Title V Operating Permit Program, and the Emission Reduction Credit Program.

Greg Verkamp, Planning Supervisor, Maricopa County Air Quality Department

Greg Verkamp is a planning supervisor with the Maricopa County Air Quality Department. He oversees the Rules Unit within the Planning and Analysis Division. He supervises three senior planners who draft and finalize air pollution control rules and ordinances. Greg has been with Maricopa County since 2006. He started his career with the County as an air quality enforcement officer. After three and a half years as an air quality enforcement officer he moved to the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department as an environmental enforcement specialist. He returned to the Air Quality Department in 2016 as a senior planner and began his current position as a planning supervisor in 2018.

Dr. Matt Lakin, Director, Air and Radiation Division, U.S. EPA Region 9

Matt Lakin is the Air Director for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9, which covers Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Pacific territories and 148 tribal nations.

Matt has been with EPA for 23 years and has held several management positions, leading a wide range of technical, planning, and policy programs in Region 9's Air and Radiation Division. Matt started his career as an air quality risk assessor in EPA Region 5 (Chicago office) and Region 9, later managing the Air Quality Analysis and Air Planning offices in Region 9's air program. Matt served as the Deputy Air Director in Region 9 for eight years, before taking on the role of Air Director in 2023. Matt earned his Ph.D. in atmospheric chemistry from the University of California, Irvine.

Eric Massey, Director of Sustainability, Arizona Public Service

Eric C. Massey serves as Arizona Public Service Company's (APS's) Director of Sustainability. His role includes governance over the company's policies and reports regarding the protection of Arizona's natural resources, support for Arizona's communities, and building of trust through transparency. He has served in this role since April of 2020.



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Massey is responsible for oversight and implementation of the company's Sustainability strategy, policies, data analytics and reporting. He works directly with the Vice President of Sustainability to identify and integrate best practices and standards into the company's core business operations. He also works directly with the Sr. Vice President of Public Policy, engaging in Environmental Policy matters at the local, state and federal levels.

Prior to Sustainability, Massey served as APS's Director of the Environment, Water Resources and Sustainability Department, and APS's Manager of Environmental Support. Prior to APS, Massey served 18 years in various capacities and levels of leadership at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, ending his tenure as the State's Director of Air Quality.

Massey currently serves as a member of EPA's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, is on the board of directors for the Kyl Center for Water Policy at the Morrison Institute and serves as Chair of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Air Quality Working Group. He also served as Chair of the Governance 3Committee for The Center for an Arizona Carbon Neutral Economy (AzCaNE), working on their hydrogen hub efforts. Massey graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science & Engineering degree in Chemical Engineering with an emphasis on environmental studies.

## Amanda Reeve, Environmental & Regulatory Policy Advisor, Snell & Wilmer LLP

Amanda Reeve's experience of serving in the Arizona House of Representatives, in addition to her more than 20 years of working in the legal profession, ideally positions her as a key member of Snell & Wilmer's environmental and natural resources team. However, her expertise and focus extend beyond that scope and encompasses most other practice areas, especially in relation to elections, politics, and government.

Amanda provides public policy services to clients through stakeholder identification and organization; the regulatory and legislative processes and reforms; and research, analysis and strategic planning. She is well known for her ability to develop public policy and craft bipartisan support to advance bills of significant importance to Arizona.

Amanda has received numerous accolades recognizing her leadership and work on significant policy measures, environmental issues and community projects. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, Public Relations at California State University, Sacramento; and her Master of Science Technology in Environmental Management from the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering at Arizona State University.

Thursday, May 1

## Welcome and Opening Remarks

### Karen Peters, Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Karen Peters was tapped by Governor Katie Hobbs to lead the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in 2023. ADEQ fulfills its mission of protecting and enhancing public health and the environment in Arizona through implementation of state and federal environmental laws and regulations. During her tenure she has prioritized



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stabilizing agency funding and satisfying agency mandates, while also increasing employee and community engagement. Current agency priorities include finalizing rules to govern Advanced Water Purification; assistance to Arizona water utilities to respond to PFAS in source water; leading scientific research regarding ozone formation in metropolitan Phoenix; and securing state primacy for additional federal programs such as Underground Injection Control.

Peters is an Arizona lawyer and previously served in executive leadership at the City of Phoenix. She has over 30 years of experience in environmental and water law and policy and helped write Arizona laws and regulations on critical issues like protecting rivers and streams, cleanup of groundwater and soil contamination, and air quality. She earned her undergraduate degree from Arizona State University, studied law at Georgetown University, then returned to Arizona to begin her career. She and her husband have three adult sons and live in Phoenix.

## *Daniel Czecholinski, Air Quality Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality*

Daniel Czecholinski was appointed as ADEQ's Air Quality Director in October 2019. His role as Director involves protecting public health and the environment by helping control present and future air pollution sources. In this position, he oversees the following Arizona air quality programs: the ambient monitoring network, pollution forecasting, compliance and enforcement, permitting, vehicle emissions inspections, and the development of state implementation plans and rules.

Daniel has been with ADEQ since November 2006, holding several positions in the Water Quality Division, including the Drinking Water Value Stream Manager, where he was responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act through various ADEQ programs.

Prior to joining ADEQ, Daniel had a 15-year career with Clean Harbors and Laidlaw Environmental Services and received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

## Intermountain West Clean Air Act Priorities

### *Matt Poppen, Environmental Director, Maricopa Association of Governments*

Matthew Poppen is the Environmental Director for the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), responsible for directing MAG's regional work in air quality, water quality, and solid waste planning. Mr. Poppen has over 20 years of experience in air quality planning, regulation, and policy analysis, specializing in managing the complex technical and legal process to prepare regional air quality plans. Matthew received his bachelor's degree in Biology at Fresno Pacific University and his master's degree in Urban and Environmental Planning from Arizona State University.

### *Ryan Bares, Utah Division of Air Quality*

Ryan Bares's career in air quality started while conducting research at the University of Utah in the Departments of Biology and Atmospheric Sciences. During this time, Ryan participated in a broad array of studies looking at the convergence of anthropogenic emissions, atmospheric transport, and the resulting atmospheric chemistry.



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Through this research he gained a great appreciation for policy that aims to bridge the gap between research and real-world solutions targeted at addressing pressing air quality challenges. This appreciation led Ryan to his current position working as an Environmental Scientist for the Utah Division of Air Quality, where he serves as the State Implementation Plan coordinator for ozone pollution along the greater Wasatch Front.

*Nancy Vehr, Administrator, Air Quality Division, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality*

Nancy has served as the Air Quality Administrator for the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality since November 2015. Prior to serving as Air Quality Administrator, she held two other careers. First, she received her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and worked as a nurse for fifteen years. As a working mom, she then returned to school and received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Wyoming, College of Law. After receiving her J.D., she spent over a decade working at the Wyoming Attorney General's Office, worked several years in private practice, and then returned to public service with the Wyoming DEQ. She has served as President of the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA) and President of the 15-member Western State Air Resource Council (WESTAR). She currently serves as co-chair of the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP).

## Ground Level Ozone Research (GLOR) Project

*Dr. Armin Sorooshian, Professor, Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, University of Arizona*

Armin Sorooshian is a Professor and University Distinguished Scholar in Chemical and Environmental Engineering at the University of Arizona. He has ~20 years of experience in instrument development, field work, laboratory characterization experiments, and remote sensing and model data analysis targeting air pollutants, clouds, and precipitation. Armin has been involved in 15 airborne field projects, with seven as a mission PI including a \$30 million Earth Venture Suborbital (EVS) mission sponsored by NASA. Armin has 265 peer-reviewed publications and has graduated 23 Ph.D. students.

*Hilary Hafner, Principal Scientist, Sonoma Technology*

Hilary Hafner is a Principal Scientist at Sonoma Technology. She has been with the company since 1989 and served in many leadership positions. Ms. Hafner has led the development of data validation, data analysis, low-cost sensing, and monitoring network assessment guidance, building on her real-world experience with air quality data and measurements. Her work includes helping state, local, and tribal air quality monitoring agencies measure, understand, and improve their air quality. Her goal is to help clients maximize data usefulness within their available resources.

*Dr. Crystal McClure, Senior Atmospheric Data Scientist, Sonoma Technology*

Dr. Crystal McClure is a Senior Atmospheric Data Scientist at Sonoma Technology. Dr. McClure has over 15 years of expertise in the measurement of air pollutants, air parcel trajectory and dispersion, analysis of satellite remote sensing data products, and modeling to assess the smoke impacts from wildfires. She uses her advanced knowledge of atmospheric chemistry, experience with field and lab experiments, and programming expertise to determine the cause and impacts of air pollution events.



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## Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Updates

*Ted Lendis, Planning Manager, Division of Air Quality, Clark County Department of Environment & Sustainability*

Ted Lendis is the Planning Section Manager for Clark County's Department of Environment and Sustainability, Division of Air Quality. In this role, he oversees State Implementation Plan development, air modeling, regulatory development, and applied research initiatives. Since joining Clark County in 2004, Ted also held positions in air quality permitting for stationary sources and served as a compliance inspector.

Ted began his career after earning a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Pennsylvania State University. He later obtained an M.S. in Public Administration from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Before his tenure with Clark County, Ted worked as an environmental consultant across various industries, including mining, pulp and paper, steel production, and oil refining.

*Dr. Jim Boylan, Chief, Air Protection Branch, Georgia Environmental Protection Division*

Dr. Boylan has worked at Georgia EPD since 2002 and is the Chief of the Air Protection Branch. He has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, M.S. in Chemical Engineering from Auburn University, and M.S. and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Georgia Tech. He served on the chartered Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) from 2017-2023 and was actively involved in the 2020 review of the PM and ozone NAAQS as well as the recent PM and ozone NAAQS reconsiderations. Currently, he serves as the vice president of the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA).

## North Carolina PFAS Updates

*Taylor Hartsfield, Deputy Director, Division of Air Quality, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality*

Taylor Hartsfield is currently serving as the Deputy Director for North Carolina's Division of Air Quality. She has been with DAQ since January 2013 and previously worked in the Raleigh and Winston-Salem Regional Offices in the roles of Regional Supervisor, Compliance Supervisor, and Environmental Engineer. She has previous experience with writing permits, investigating complaints, and conducting compliance inspections. Taylor is a past recipient of DAQ's Employee of the Year Award and DEQ's Distinguished Employee Award. She is a North Carolina Certified Public Manager and a graduate of Clemson University with a B.S. in Biosystems Engineering. Taylor can be reached at [taylor.hartsfield@deq.nc.gov](mailto:taylor.hartsfield@deq.nc.gov) or 919-707-8497.

## Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring

*Natalie Shepp, Climate and Community Engagement Manager, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality*

Natalie Shepp is the Climate and Community Engagement Manager at the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ), where she administers programs that support sustainable actions throughout Pima County, including the Regional Climate Plan *Pima CAN!*, as well as the Pima County Clean Air Program, and a new community air monitoring program at Pima County schools. Natalie works with community partners, local jurisdictions, schools, and the University of Arizona to develop strategies and messages to encourage



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environmental sustainability. She received a B.S. in Environmental Sciences and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Arizona.

## Multi-Jurisdictional Organization Clean Air Act Technical Updates

Mary Uhl, *Executive Director, Western States Air Resources Council (WESTAR)*

Mary Uhl is currently the Executive Director of the Western States Air Resources Council, where she works with western states, Tribes, local and federal agencies to collaboratively address air quality issues important to the west. Mary completed her B.S. (math major) and M.S. (atmospheric sciences) at Purdue University.

Greg DeAngelo, *Executive Director, Metro 4 / Southeastern States Air Resource Managers*

Greg DeAngelo is the Executive Director for Metro 4/SESARM, the multi-jurisdictional organization serving 17 local and 10 state air agencies in the southeast. Greg joined Metro 4/SESARM after working as an air quality contractor for EPA, and after serving in the state air programs for North Carolina and Florida in the fields of SIP planning, permitting, and compliance. He is a professional engineer, certified project management professional, and an environmental engineering graduate of the University of Florida.

Marc Allen Robert Cone P.E., *Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association, Inc.*

Marc started his air quality career at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection as a permit writer. He was given the reins of the permitting section after two years and soon after was involved in rule making and SIP development as well. He went on to become the Director of the Bureau of Air Quality which also included the Departments' IT and Financial Services sections. He has also had the opportunity to testify on air issues to Congress. Since he began his air quality career, he has taken a collaborative and innovative approach to solving air pollution challenges, sometimes having to convince EPA in the error of their ways. Six years ago, he was given the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director for MARAMA and team up with a great group of individuals. He earned his BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maine, has an MBA from Thomas College and is a registered professional engineer and was a New England all-star volleyball player. He is also a past President of AAPCA.

Friday, May 2

## Environmental and Economic Innovation in Phoenix

Kate Gallego, *Mayor of Phoenix*

Since her early days serving Phoenix on the City Council, Kate has been focused on creating the Phoenix of the future: a welcoming, thriving city with ample high-wage jobs and opportunities for all.

As mayor, Kate spends every day focused on getting things done for Phoenix families. The results speak for themselves: Kate brought a historic \$65 billion semiconductor manufacturing plant to Phoenix that's creating thousands of great-paying career paths; she built coalitions to deliver critical improvements to parks, public





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safety, and city infrastructure; and she is partnering with ASU to build a brand-new medical school in downtown Phoenix.

Kate is the second elected woman mayor in Phoenix history and one of the youngest big city mayors in the nation. She graduated from Harvard and holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business. Though serving Phoenicians keeps her days busy and her heart full, her favorite job is being Michael's mom.

## U.S. EPA Office of Air & Radiation Priorities

### Aaron Szabo, *Nominee for Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Air and Radiation*

Aaron Szabo has been nominated by President Trump to lead EPA's Office of Air and Radiation and is awaiting Senate confirmation. Since January 20, 2025, Mr. Szabo has been a Senior Advisor to Administrator Lee Zeldin. Prior to EPA, Szabo served for many years in the federal civil service, first at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, where he worked on nuclear power plant issues and regulations, and then with the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, where he worked on major climate and air regulations. He continued his career civil service as the Senior Counsel at the Council on Environmental Quality, where his role expanded to include the National Environmental Policy Act and federal sustainability issues. After more than 10 years of federal government service, Szabo joined a Republican government advocacy and consulting company where he provided strategic advice and advocacy to companies looking to engage with the federal government. In 2023, Szabo became a government and regulatory affairs attorney at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, focusing on environmental and energy issues.

## U.S. EPA NAAQS, SIP, and Permitting Updates

### Scott Mathias, *Director, Air Quality Policy Division, Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards, U.S. EPA Office of Air & Radiation*

Scott Mathias leads the administration of several Clean Air Act programs associated with implementing criteria air pollutant regulations. These programs include the state planning provisions for national ambient air quality standards, the national parks visibility protection program, the new source review preconstruction permitting program, and the title V operating permits program. Scott holds a master's degree in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## U.S. EPA Air Quality Monitoring, Modeling, and Other Technical Updates

### Karen Wesson, *Director, Air Quality Assessment Division, Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards, U.S. EPA Office of Air & Radiation*

Karen Wesson is the Director of the Air Quality Assessment Division (AQAD), taking on this role following Chet Wayland's retirement in December. Karen spent the first half of her EPA career as an air quality modeler in AQAD and the last 10 years leading EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards review program. She is excited to be here today in her new role as Director.