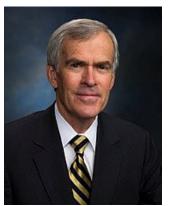
Tempe, Arizona June 23, 2016

# **Speakers and Panelists**

**Jeff Bingaman, Former Senator from New Mexico** 



Jeff Bingaman is a former United States Senator from New Mexico, serving from 1983 to 2013. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Outreach for the Senate Democratic Caucus. Bingaman held several committee assignments during his tenure in the U.S. Senate including: the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Committee on Finance, Joint Economic Committee, Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. During much of

his political career, Bingaman was involved in the immigration debate and has worked to protect wildlife and public lands. On the Senate Energy Committee, he has contributed to every major piece of energy policy legislation in the last two decades.

Prior to serving as a U.S. Senator, Bingaman worked as a private practice attorney. He served as counsel to the New Mexico Constitutional Convention of 1969. He was Attorney General of New Mexico from 1979 to 1983, a position in which he focused mainly on environmental and antitrust issues.

Senator Bingaman earned his BA from Harvard and his JD from Stanford University.



### **Speakers and Panelists**

**James Conca, Senior Scientist, UFA Ventures** 



Energy and Environmental scientist, speaker and author Dr. James Conca is Senior Scientist for UFA Ventures, Inc. in the Tri-Cities, Washington, a Trustee of the Herbert M. Parker Foundation, an Adjunct Professor at Washington State University in the School of the Environment, an Affiliate Scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and a Science Contributor to Forbes on energy and nuclear

issues. Conca obtained a Ph.D. in Geochemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 1985, a Master's in Planetary Science in 1981, and a Bachelor's in Geology and Biochemistry from Brown University in 1979. While at NASA, Los Alamos, Pacific Northwest National Lab, Livermore, New Mexico State and Washington State, Conca has worked on the Yucca Mountain project since 1985, on the WIPP repository since 1999, and on most high-level waste disposal programs in the world.



# **Speakers and Panelists**

George Gholson, Chairman, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe



George Gholson was born and raised in Grants New Mexico--the onetime uranium capital of the world. His father was a chemist for a uranium mining company and his brothers worked in the uranium mines in the area. Gholson graduated high school and attended New Mexico State University in the early 1980s at the end of the uranium mining era. He studied mechanical engineering and then worked in various copper mines in New Mexico up

until he joined the Navy in the latter part of 1983. George was stationed in the United Kingdom from 1984 to 1988 where he worked in communications for the Navy and the Royal Air Force. He was discharged from the Navy in 1988 and moved back to New Mexico where he went back to work in the mines for a contractor. After living in New Mexico for several years, Gholson moved to Phoenix, Arizona. While there he worked on freeway and residential construction projects. In 2003 Gholson got involved in Tribal affairs with the introduction of the possibility of the Tribe developing a casino. He is currently the Chairman for the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe in Death Valley, and has been in this position for the past five years. During this time as Chairman he has gained a deep understanding of how nuclear waste could have a profound impact on Tribal Nations.



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### **Speakers and Panelists**

Andrew Griffith, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fuel Cycle Technologies



Andrew Griffith was selected as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fuel Cycle Technologies for the Office of Nuclear Energy in July 2014. As the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fuel Cycle Technologies, Mr. Griffith leads the research and development activities supporting sustainable fuel cycle options for the United States. These technologies include advanced fuels, separations and waste forms, used nuclear fuel storage, transportation, and disposal,

and fuel cycle safeguards and security within the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Nuclear Energy.

Since 1990, Mr. Griffith has served in various leadership positions supporting the improvement of nuclear waste management operations and experimental capabilities in both the Office of Nuclear Energy and the DOE Office of Environmental Management. During his time with DOE, he has focused on advanced fuel cycle research, nuclear material stabilization, and used nuclear fuel and high-level waste management.

Before joining DOE, Mr. Griffith served in the U.S. nuclear submarine force and continued serving in the Naval Reserve after joining DOE. He retired from the Navy Reserve as a Captain in 2009.

Mr. Griffith holds a Bachelor of Science in Naval Architecture from the U.S. Naval Academy and a Master of Science in Technology Management from the University of Maryland University College.



# **Speakers and Panelists**

### John Kotek, Acting Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy



John Kotek currently serves as Acting Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Office is responsible for conducting research on current and future nuclear energy systems, maintaining the government's nuclear energy research infrastructure, establishing a path forward for the nation's spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive nuclear waste management program, and a host of other national priorities.

Prior to his appointment as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, John was the Managing Partner of the Boise office of Gallatin Public Affairs, a public affairs and strategic communications consulting company. John advised energy, natural resources and other clients facing complex communication and government relations challenges.

From 2010-2012, John served as Staff Director to the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, which recommended a new strategy for managing nuclear waste in the United States. John led the development of the Commission's final report to the Secretary of Energy, engaged in regular communications with Congressional and White House staff, and served as media spokesperson.

From 2003-2006, John was Deputy Manager of DOE's Idaho Operations Office. In that role he was responsible for development and management of the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) contract and interface with the INL cleanup effort. Before joining DOE in July 2003, John worked for Argonne National Laboratory as the Generation IV and Nuclear-Hydrogen Programs Manager. He directed Argonne's participation in the Generation IV technology roadmapping project, an international effort focused on evaluating and developing the next-generation of nuclear energy systems. In 2002, John was the American Nuclear Society's Glenn T. Seaborg Congressional Fellow. John served in the Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

John started his career with DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology. He held several positions during his nine years with DOE-NE, including Associate Director for Technology, Associate Director for Management and Administration, and Chief of Staff.

John holds a Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Illinois and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Maryland.



### **Speakers and Panelists**

Michael O'Hare, Professor of Public Policy, University of California Berkeley



Trained at Harvard as an architect and engineer,
Michael O'Hare came to Berkeley after teaching
positions at MIT and Harvard's Kennedy School,
and "real-world" employment at Arthur D. Little, Inc.,
Boston's Museum of Fine Arts, and the
Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental
Affairs. His research history has included periods of
attention to biofuels and global warming policy,
environmental policy generally including the "NIMBY
problem" and facility siting, arts and cultural policy,

public management, and higher education pedagogy. O'Hare was the principal investigator for Berkeley's contract research for the California Air Resources Board for implementation of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and published most recently on fuel policies for global warming reduction, especially biofuels, their "indirect land use change" and food price effects, and the importance of time and uncertainty in relating fuel carbon intensity to warming policy.

He has been editor of the Curriculum and Case Notes section of the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, is currently an associate editor of the Journal of Public Affairs Education, and has published frequently on quality assurance and best practices in professional teaching. Since coming to Cal he has done applied research for government and nonprofit clients on diverse topics including funding of the state Fish and Game Department, surface mining reclamation, nuclear waste disposal and high-speed rail siting, and revitalizing county fairs. He is a regular faculty member of the school's mid-career executive programs, and has had visiting positions at Università Bocconi, the National University of Singapore, and Université Paul Cézanne (Aix-Marseille).



# **Speakers and Panelists**

Dr. Jennifer Richter, Assistant Professor of Justice and Sociotechnical Change, Arizona State University



Dr. Richter has published articles on socio-energy design, renewable energy research, and small modular reactors and environmental ethics.

Presently, she is working on a book with several coauthors on technological solutionism (in preparation for Palgrave MacMillan), and urban energy infrastructure (under review at Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science). She currently teaches classes on environmental justice; science, technology, and inequality; comparative nuclear culture on a global scale; energy policies focused on

solar thermal, photovoltaics, and bioenergy; and science policy from the local to global scales of governance.



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