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Dentons Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank

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Supreme Court Overturns Chevron Doctrine: Implications for Energy and Climate Policy and Beyond

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

11:30am-1:00pm ET



Moderator: Clint Vince, Chair of the US Energy practice, Co-chair of the Global Transportation & Infrastructure sector for the US Region, and Co-chair of the Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank, Dentons



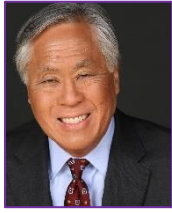
Opening Remarks: Linda Willard, Counsel, Energy practice, Dentons



Ben Grumbles
Executive Director,
The Environmental
Council of the States
(ECOS)

Panelist

Ben Grumbles has been ECOS Executive Director since June 2022 but served as an officer and active member of the association for almost a decade. From 2015 to May 2022, he was Secretary of the Environment for Maryland, serving as Chair of the Governor's Chesapeake Bay Cabinet and the Maryland Climate Change Commission and Executive Committee Member of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Ben has also served as President of the US Water Alliance, Director of Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, US EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, and Senior Staff and Counsel for the Transportation and Infrastructure and Science Committees in the US Congress. He is an appointed advisor to the Division of Earth and Life Studies within the National Academies (Sciences, Engineering, Medicine) and a graduate of Wake Forest University, Emory University Law School (JD), and The George Washington University Law School (LLM).



Robert W. Gee
President, Gee Strategies
Group LLC

Panelist

Robert W. Gee is a leading consultant on energy and power markets, with over 40 years of experience in law, public policy, technology, and finance. He is the founder and President of Gee Strategies Group LLC, a Washington, DC consulting firm that excels in policy analysis, advocacy, and litigation support for diverse clients in the energy and utilities sectors.

A native Texan, his public sector energy experience began in Washington as a Trial Attorney at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which was followed years later as Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. While a Commissioner, he served as Chairman of the Electricity Committee at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). His public service continued when he returned to Washington as Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs and for Fossil Energy at the US Department of Energy.

He served as Vice President for Development and Partner Relations for the Electricity Innovation Institute (E2I), an affiliate of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). He was also Of Counsel to the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld.

Mr. Gee currently serves on the boards of various institutions, including the United States Energy Association (Treasurer), North American Energy Standards Board Advisory Council, and Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment, and Commerce (President).

His past affiliations included serving as a Trustee for St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and as a member of the Dallas Regional Panel of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships.

He is a recipient of various honors and awards, including the distinction of having a hearing room named for him by his colleagues at the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree with Honors and a Law Degree from the University of Texas at Austin.



Sam Olens
Partner, Dentons,
Former Attorney General
of Georgia

Panelist

Sam is a partner in Dentons' Public Policy practice and is a member of the firm's State Attorneys General group, based in the Atlanta office. His practice focuses on state attorneys general and local government affairs matters.

Sam was twice elected attorney general of Georgia, in 2010 and 2014. In that role he worked to strengthen the penalties for and protect the victims of sex trafficking, guided a comprehensive revision of Georgia's sunshine laws and led the effort to stem the epidemic of prescription drug abuse. Olens also served as vice president of the National Association of Attorneys General in 2016, having previously served as chair of the 13-state Southern Region both in 2013 and 2015.

Prior to being elected attorney general, Olens was chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, serving from August 2002 through March 2010. He previously served as a county commissioner from 1999 through June 2002.

Sam was chair of the Atlanta Regional Commission board as well as a member of the Board of the Department of Community Affairs. Sam has a history of taking a regional approach to problem solving. During his time at the Atlanta Regional Commission, Sam Olens was awarded the Tom Bradley Leadership Award by the National Association of Regional Councils. The award recognizes leadership excellence an elected or appointed official has made in advocating regional concepts, approaches, and programs at any level of government.

	<p>Sam also served as Vice-Chair of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, a 16-county planning entity dedicated to developing comprehensive regional and watershed-specific plans for the district and as a board member of the National Association of Counties Transportation Steering Committee.</p> <p>Sam is a registered mediator/arbitrator with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. He has been admitted to practice law in Georgia and the District of Columbia.</p>
<div><p>Simon Steel Partner, Dentons</p><p><i>Panelist</i></p></div>	<p>Simon is a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Energy, and Federal Regulatory and Compliance practices. A former US Supreme Court clerk, Simon primarily focuses his practice on federal appellate matters but has extensive experience representing corporate, government and foreign sovereign clients in constitutional, regulatory, environmental, intellectual property and commercial litigation before federal courts and agencies. He also has broad experience litigating antitrust and consumer protection cases, having served for three years as Special Counsel for Global Competition at the Federal Trade Commission. Simon also devotes substantial time to pro bono matters, including appellate, immigration and election law matters and was named to the DC Courts Capital Pro Bono High Honor Roll in 2022 and 2023.</p>