

# Dentons Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank and Keystone Policy Center

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## Streamlining Energy Permitting: Collaborative Solutions for Sustainable Progress

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

11:30am-1:00pm ET



**Welcome: Christine Scanlan**, President and CEO, Keystone Policy Center



**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



**Chase Weir**  
CEO and Executive Vice  
Chairman,  
Distributed Sun &  
truCurrent

*Panelist*

**Chase Weir** has launched market-leading enterprises in audience management, collaborative learning, applied entertainment science, new media, distributed energy development and infrastructure finance. He has led US\$2B of capital formation, raising over US\$600 million in executive leadership and governance roles for companies he has founded.

Chase established Distributed Sun in 2009, formed truSolar in 2012, launched truCurrent in 2024, and trutility in 2025. The solar+ firms are recognized, award-winning leaders in industrial, commercial and community distributed generation, delivering promised yields from 12 new energy investment companies over 15 years producing clean power in 17 US states. truSolar was co-founded with DuPont and S&P to standardize development + finance underwriting practices within the commercial and industrial solar asset class. Today, DSUN deploys large scale power plants and large, long-duration battery storage assets. It's wholly-owned subsidiary, truCurrent, redefines distributed energy resource aggregation and monetization, rate optimization, transactive energy and next-generation power plants at the grid-edge – helping large operators and prosumers electrify smarter and scale new loads faster with cost + carbon advantage, load flexibility and energy choice.

Chase has been a retained advisor to global funds, F100 companies and US presidential campaigns. He founded Earthshot Foundation in 2008 to convene energy and environment thought-leaders and expert practitioners in dialogues-to-action. The Terranaut Programs support how-to-odysseys for a safe, sustainable return to our natural planet – funding

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	<p>motives and missions dedicated to the pursuit of sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy for all.</p> <p>Chase earned a BSc in Management from UNC and Interdisciplinary Honors at the University of Memphis. He is a multiple-time grant, scholarship and award recipient and serial expedition leader and adventurer.</p>
 <p><b>Tom Hassenboehler</b> Co-Founder and Managing Partner, CO2EFFICIENT</p> <p><i>Panelist</i></p>	<p><b>Tom Hassenboehler</b> is a Co-Founder and Managing Partner at CO2EFFICIENT. Tom brings over twenty years of experience executing successful legislative, business, and communications strategies in senior House, Senate and private sector positions. His career has centered around many of the major energy and environmental laws and debates of the last decade. Tom's proven ability to lead through effective coalition building, bipartisan negotiating, and creative thinking on a range of complex and diverse issues broadly affecting energy and environmental policy helps to provide CO2EFFICIENT's clients with meaningful and measurable outcomes.</p> <p>Before launching CO2EFFICIENT, he served as the Chief Counsel for the House Energy and Commerce Committee under Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR). 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 successfully oversaw bipartisan Committee passage of reauthorizations of several energy and environmental laws, and the launching of the Powering America hearing series, a comprehensive review of emerging issues affecting the nation's electricity markets.</p> <p>Previously, he served as Chief Counsel for Energy under Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) where he helped to shepherd through enactment of several legislative initiatives, including oil export reform and critical electric infrastructure protections in the FAST Act. He also often represented the Committee in international bilateral and multi-lateral meetings and conferences, including multiple delegations related to energy trade, exports and international climate policy.</p> <p>Prior to his roles in the US House of Representatives, he worked in the private sector as the Vice President of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs for America's Natural Gas Alliance, a trade association representing 30 of the nation's largest independent oil and gas producers. While at ANGA, he helped to lead a multi-million-dollar coalition of member company operatives and consultants to advance the market development and use of natural gas as a transportation fuel, while also providing broader natural gas related policy and lobbying efforts on behalf of the member companies.</p> <p>Tom's earlier experience was in the Senate as Counsel for the Environment and Public Works Committee under Ranking Member Jim Inhofe (R-OK). He focused on the Clean Air Act and climate and fuels-related issues while conducting bipartisan oversight and overseeing the confirmation process of several Obama appointees to the EPA. 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-LA) and Joe Barton (R-TX).</p> <p>Tom received his Bachelor of Arts in mass communication and his Juris Doctorate from Louisiana State University.</p>



**Eric Vandenberg**  
Senior Director,  
Transmission Policy,  
Invenergy

*Panelist*

**Eric Vandenberg** is the Senior Director of Transmission Policy at Invenergy, where he leads the company's transmission policy development and advocacy across state and federal jurisdictions. He serves as Invenergy's voice in regulatory and legislative arenas, working to shape policies that enable a modern, reliable, and affordable grid.

Prior to joining Invenergy, Eric spent 15 years at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), where he held senior leadership roles including Deputy Director of the Office of Electric Reliability and Deputy Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Innovation. In these roles, he oversaw the development and implementation of reliability standards, RTO/ISO market design, and grid modernization initiatives. As Technical Advisor to Chairman Neil Chatterjee, Eric played a key role in shaping Commission strategy on transmission planning, grid resilience, and emerging technologies.

Eric earned a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Ohio University.



**Jon Rund**  
Deputy General Counsel,  
Nuclear Energy Institute

*Panelist*

**Jon Rund** is Deputy General Counsel at the Nuclear Energy Institute, where he coordinates and represents the nuclear industry in litigation matters. He also advises NEI members on a wide range of corporate, regulatory, policy, and legislative issues.

Jon has worked in the nuclear industry for more than 20 years. Before joining NEI in 2013, he practiced in the Energy Practice Group at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP in Washington, DC, counseling nuclear clients on regulatory, policy, and litigation matters before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, other federal agencies, and the courts.

Earlier in his career, Jon served as an attorney in the NRC's Office of General Counsel, where he provided legal advice on new reactor licensing and represented NRC staff in administrative proceedings. He began his legal career as a law clerk to the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.



**Rudy Beese**  
Partner,  
Dentons

*Panelist*

**Rudolf (Rudy) Beese** is a partner in Dentons' global Real Estate group, practicing in the areas of corporate, energy, real estate and construction law. With more than 30 years of extensive experience, Rudy advises clients on a broad spectrum of complex domestic and international projects, financings and related corporate initiatives. Rudy's practice involves all aspects of real estate transactions, drawing on extensive experience with the siting, development, construction and financing of a broad portfolio of industrial, commercial, office, retail, hospitality, entertainment, and mixed-use developments; the formation and negotiation of complex joint ventures for purposes of project development; and related M&A transactions.

Specific to Energy projects and Energy intensive uses, Rudy has represented owners as well as utilities in the development, construction and operation of portfolios of wind, solar and BESS energy projects; utility scale transmission, substation and infrastructure projects serving hyperscale Data Center and Advanced Biomanufacturing developments; related systems enhancements; entitlements, incentives, contributions in aid of construction and where appropriate, negotiation of rates and rate design for large load customers; the allocation of renewable energy attributes; and challenges associated with current gaps in the capacity of the Grid to accommodate interconnection, as well as anticipated increases in load demand over time. In addition he has worked directly with his clients seeking a wide array of project incentives and entitlements in negotiations with various local governments in the course of site selection and the development of new or expanded facilities.