

Dentons Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank

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“Smart Technologies and Innovative Policies to Address Wastewater and Improve Drinking Water”

November 10, 2022

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST



Moderator: **Linda Willard**, Counsel in the Energy practice at Dentons



Wayne Griffith
Chief Strategy and
Performance Officer
and Executive Vice
President at DC Water

Panelist

Wayne Griffith serves DC Water as Chief Strategy and Performance Officer and Executive Vice President, Strategy and Performance. Wayne is a utility management professional with over 30 years' experience in the water infrastructure market. He promotes and delivers programs to optimize assets, improve revenues, and enhance resources, achieving improved levels of performance and service. Wayne has a unique blend of industry leading private sector operations management, niche utility business development and consulting experience.

In his most recent role at WSP Opus, he led the development and execution of the water asset management consulting services for clients throughout New Zealand.

Prior to joining WSP Opus in New Zealand, he implemented a new client development strategy for Veolia North America and was responsible for creating utility performance improvement opportunities with major metropolitan municipal utilities in the Western U.S.

Wayne held consulting leadership positions with public sector utility management, financial planning, technology and engineering/architectural consulting firms developing strategic, competitiveness, work force development, technology and asset management consulting projects.

He also held corporate market development and regional technical leadership positions with private utility management companies. Wayne's roots were established in water and wastewater engineering design and operations for municipal utilities in the U.S.

Wayne has a BS in Environmental Engineering from Temple University and MS in Environmental Engineering from Michigan State University.



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

Panelist

Ben Grumbles is the Executive Director at ECOS. Before holding this position, he was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan and confirmed by the State Senate as Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment in 2015. His duties included 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. Grumbles has 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 U.S. Congress. He is a graduate of Wake Forest University, Emory University Law School (JD), and The George Washington University Law School (LLM.).



Christine Boyle
Vice President, Product
Development at Xylem

Panelist

Dr. Christine Boyle is the Vice President of Digital Product Development at Xylem, Inc. She works with technologists and innovators to bring the next generation of water technologies to market. She received a doctorate in water resource planning in 2011 and “spun” a water analytics company, Valor Water, out of her thesis work at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Boyle is also Chair of the Cal-Nevada American Water Works Association and a trustee of the American Water Works Association Management and Leadership Division.

Dr. Boyle is dedicated to mentoring women in data and healthcare technology industries. She was named one of “Mazars Top 10 Most Influential Women in Water.” She is also an active member of ACEEE (Association of Women in Water, Environment, and Energy) and a volunteer judge for the annual Imagine H2O Water Technology Prize.



David McGimpsey
Partner, Energy
practice at Dentons

Panelist

Dave McGimpsey co-leads the Dentons US Region Energy practice, where he counsels clients on regulatory and transactional matters involving utilities, water and energy. Dave advises clients on a broad range of issues including business and regulatory strategy, formation, mergers, project certification, rate cases, financing cases, wholesale contracts, extension contracts, service territory, land use and more. He has handled major rate cases and significant utility acquisitions.

Dave provided lead counsel on state regulatory strategy and a regulatory proceeding for the acquirer in a \$6 billion public utility holding company acquisition, advising on a broad range of issues affecting regulatory strategy and post-acquisition regulatory treatment. In the renewables space, Dave has guided clients through the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission approval process for projects totaling over 5 gigawatts of electric nameplate capacity. He has represented solar developers in transmission interconnection matters and represented a pioneering developer in the community solar segment in regulatory litigation before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission that threatened the continued viability of the community solar business model.

In the water and utility spaces, Dave works with clients to identify creative ways to replace aging infrastructure at reasonable costs, as well as how to capture and use data to make systems more efficient and cost-effective. He works with his clients on compliance issues in the face of ever-evolving regulations.

Dave also hosts **The Water Values Podcast**, which is released twice per month, where he interviews prominent and interesting figures in the water industry.

