

**John Petinos** is a Senior Project Manager on the Distributed Energy Resources team at NYSEDA. He manages the residential and commercial energy storage market acceleration incentive program towards achieving New York's target of 6 GW of energy storage by 2030.

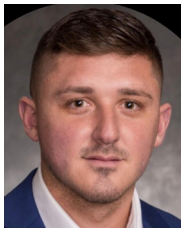
Previously, he was an Assistant Vice President of Climate Tech at the New York City Economic Development Corporation, where he managed a portfolio of climate innovation programs including deployment of New York City's first public e-bike charging solutions. John also worked as a research project manager at the C2SMART Center, a smart transportation center funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

John received a Master of Public Administration from New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service, where he focused on program design and evaluation, and a bachelor's degree in economics, also from NYU.



**Jacob Reinert** is an Energy Policy & Regulation Program Manager at Central Hudson, where he monitors and provides strategic input in various aspects of state and federal regulatory energy policy. Jake has previously worked in policy for an electric vehicle charging developer and a state utility commission, and as an engineer in the chemical industry.

Jake received a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Penn State University and master's degree in Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy from the University of Minnesota.



**Zachary Southworth** joined Central Hudson in October 2023 as a Project Manager for Distributed Energy Resources. He currently manages the construction and interconnection process for the Distributed Energy Resource projects across the territory that are greater than 500kW. Prior to joining Central Hudson, Zach managed large construction projects for Holt Construction with a focus on client relationships and project scheduling. Zach has a M.S. degree from SUNY Oneonta and is pursuing his Project Management Professional certification.



**Devin Van Zandt** is a Senior Technical Executive currently leading EPRI's efforts related to assessing the technical and economic grid impacts of Distribution Energy Resources. Prior to joining EPRI in June 2018, Devin spent 28 years in a variety of roles and, most recently, leading a team of power systems and software engineers developing commercial planning software tools – GE PSLF, GE MAPS, and GE MARS. Devin holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University, and an M.S. in Electric Power Engineering from RPI.

## AGENDA

*Doors open at 8:30 a.m.*

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8:30 - 9:30   | <b>Registration, Breakfast, Networking</b>  |
| 9:30 - 9:35   | <b>Welcome/Introduction</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Joe Jenkins</i>                          |
| 9:35 - 9:45   | <b>Energy Transformation</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Ryan Hawthorne</i>                      |
| 9:45 - 10:05  | <b>Regulatory Updates</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Jacob Reinert</i>                          |
| 10:05 - 10:20 | <b>VDER Compensation</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Julia Castellanos</i>                       |
| 10:20 - 10:35 | <b>UL 1741 CRD Multimode/New Inverter Settings</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Tony Anchante</i> |
| 10:35 - 10:45 | <b>BREAK</b>  |
| 10:45 - 11:25 | <b>Common File Format &amp; Validation Tool</b><br><i>EPRI – Devin Van Zandt</i>            |
| 11:25 - 11:40 | <b>Hosting Capacity</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Trina Cano</i>                               |
| 11:40 - 12:00 | <b>NY-Sun Program Updates</b><br><i>NYSEDA – Luke Forster</i>                               |
| 12:00 - 1:00  | <b>Lunch, Networking</b>  |
| 1:00 - 1:20   | <b>Residential &amp; Retail Incentive Program Updates</b><br><i>NYSEDA – John Petinos</i>   |
| 1:20 - 1:35   | <b>DER Construction Process</b><br><i>Central Hudson – Zachary Southworth</i>               |
| 1:35 - 2:05   | <b>Quality &amp; Market Standards</b><br><i>NYSEDA – Amy Kasson-Muzio &amp; David Houle</i> |
| 2:05 - 2:25   | <b>NY's 2025 Solar Market Outlook</b><br><i>NYSEIA – Noah Ginsburg</i>                      |
| 2:25 - 2:55   | <b>Interconnection Permitting</b><br><i>New Paltz Town Supervisor – Amanda Gotto</i>        |
| 2:55 - 3:00   | <b>Closing Remarks</b>  |



# SOLAR+ SUMMIT XV

FOR DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES  
PROFESSIONALS IN THE HUDSON VALLEY





**Tony Anchante** is an Engineering Technician who works with the distribution planning and interconnections team at Central Hudson. He has been with Central Hudson since 2015 and provides customers and developers with technical support.



**Julia Castellanos** is a DER program manager at Central Hudson. Dedicated to providing accuracy, her focus is based on constantly learning, building a strong foundation and providing a good customer experience. She has worked at Central Hudson for twelve years and previously worked as a project coordinator for a local publishing company. She currently lives in the Hudson Valley with her two teenage children and enjoys hiking and drawing.



**Triana Cano** is an Assistant Engineer in the Electric Planning and Interconnections department. She has worked at Central Hudson for 9 months, assisting in hosting capacity updates and technical reviews for interconnection applications. Triana graduated from Binghamton University with a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering.



**Luke Forster** is a Senior Business Analyst on NYSERDA's Distributed Energy Resources team. He is based in Albany, and provides NYSERDA's NY-Sun and Energy Storage teams with policy, data, and analytic support.



**Noah Ginsburg** is Executive Director of New York Solar Energy Industries Association (NY-SEIA). In this role, he is charged with advancing the distributed solar + storage industry in New York through policy/advocacy, public education, research, and member capacity-building. Prior to NYSEIA, Noah spent seven

## Noah Ginsburg (continued)

years as program director at Solar One, a nonprofit organization that expands access to the benefits of clean energy to all New Yorkers through education, solar technical assistance, and workforce development. While at Solar One, Noah built a robust program that developed more than 800 solar projects, primarily on affordable housing. From 2021-2022, he also served on the board of NYSEIA and chaired the NYC Policy Committee. Prior to joining Solar One, Noah had diverse roles in the solar industry at the City University of New York, Sungevity, Sunrun and OnGrid. Noah holds a bachelor's degree in Renewable Energy from the CUNY Baccalaureate Program/Hunter College.



**Amanda Gotto**, Town of New Paltz Supervisor, is an actively involved supporter of clean green energy in New Paltz and Ulster County. Amanda first became engaged in local climate and energy actions when she joined the New Paltz Town and Village Climate Smart Community (CSC) task force. As the Project Manager she oversaw DEC grants for CSC projects, participated in the Hudson Valley Resource Council pilot Climate Action Planning Institute, created the first Town and Village local government greenhouse gas inventories (GHGI), drafted a Town climate action plan to reduce greenhouse emissions, worked closely with ICEI on a New Paltz climate vulnerability study, supported the Woodwell Climate Research Center study of current and future flood risk under climate change, participated in the first Solar Site Mapping training session and collaborated on an implementation plan. Since becoming Town Supervisor, Amanda has continued to keep clean green energy a priority, embracing solar energy projects such as a rooftop solar array at the Justice Court/Police Building and a solar initiative at the Recycle Center to power an aerator that will enhance composting efficiency. Additionally, the Town has identified prime locations for solar installations near Route 87 as part of a New Paltz Solar Corridor and a potential "Energy Park."



**Ryan G. Hawthorne** is Vice President of Electric Engineering and Operations at Central Hudson, overseeing electric engineering functions and field operations for the utility's electric system as well as the Company's system operations and emergency management functions.

Hawthorne joined Central Hudson as an Electric Operations Engineer in 2008. His tenure has spanned working within Engineering, Transmission and Distribution Operations, and Distribution System Operations in roles of increasing responsibility. He was appointed to his current

## Ryan G. Hawthorne (continued)

position in January 2021. He earned a Bachelor's of Science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Electrical Engineering and Computer & Systems Engineering in 2008, and a Master of Science degree in Electric Power Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2016.



**David Houle** is the Quality and Market Standards Senior Project Manager at NYSERDA, overseeing the NY-Sun Large Commercial and Industrial Program, EmPower+ Program, Comfort Home Pilot, and Appliance Upgrade Program. A licensed Professional Engineer in New York State and an AEE Certified Energy Manager, David brings a strong technical foundation to his role.

Since joining NYSERDA in 2017, he has worked closely with Quality Service Providers to ensure consistent inspection results and identify installation trends that fall short of program requirements. With over 15 years of engineering consulting experience, David has provided energy auditing, commissioning, and design services for multifamily, commercial, healthcare, and industrial facilities, driving energy efficiency and quality standards across the industry.



**Amy Kasson-Muzio** provides a high level of quality and compliance oversight for the New York Solar Programs.

Amy joined NYSERDA in April 2017 and brings over 20 years of quality experience with Fortune 500 organizations, including General Electric and Regeneron Pharmaceutical, focused on managing quality performance through establishing and promoted Quality KPIs across the organization, crafted and implemented testing standards and policies, and ensured process improvement by implementing quality projects found by analyzing customer issues/corrective action requests (CARs) and equipment/process capabilities.

Amy also developed, maintained and led improvements to the Quality Management System (QMS) to better serve customers and stakeholders. Amy has been instrumental in delivering quality management solutions for business operations and has supported the development of energy efficiency workforce development programs. Amy has a B.S. from New York State University at Albany in Environmental Studies.