



The Environmental Research Program  
**Environmental Research Forum**  
Members  
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**Wisconsin Department of Administration**

**Forum Chairman**

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Kimberly R. Walker has served as head of the Division of Energy in the Department of Administration since June 2005. The Division is responsible for traditional state energy programs, Focus on Energy, and low-income energy programs. Prior to joining the Division of Energy, Kimberly served for two years as Administrator of the Division of Safety and Buildings in the state Department of Commerce, which oversees residential and commercial building construction standards. Before joining state government, Kimberly worked as a lawyer. She has litigated insurance, workers compensation and similar cases with a Brookfield law firm. Her law degree is from Marquette Law School (1998).

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Julie Keal is a Policy analyst with the Department of Commerce, specializing in community development, taxation, and energy issues affecting Wisconsin businesses and communities. From 1992 to 1996 she was Executive Budget and Policy Analyst with the State Budget Office in the Department of Administration, working on corporate taxation and energy and telecommunications policy. She earned her J.D. from UW in 1987, and her M.A. in Public Policy from UW in 1991.

## **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

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David Webb is Section Chief of Environmental Science Services with the Department of Natural Resources. This section contains laboratory and operator certification, laboratory services, quality assurance, and a research component focused mostly on mercury. Mr. Webb started with the Department in 1992 and was an environmental toxicologist prior to becoming a section chief. Mr. Webb has an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Indiana University and a masters in environmental science also from Indiana University.

## **University of Wisconsin**

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Douglas Reinemann is professor of Biological Systems Engineering in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also a member of the graduate faculty of the UW Institute for Environmental Studies where he has chaired the Energy Analysis and Policy Program ([www.gaia1.ies.wisc.edu/eapsince](http://www.gaia1.ies.wisc.edu/eapsince)) 1998. He is the recipient of the 2001 ASAE National Food and Energy Award, has also served on the Energy Center of Wisconsin's Research Advisory Board since 1994.

## **Wisconsin Environmental Community**

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Katie Nekola is the Energy Program Director for Clean Wisconsin, a statewide environmental advocacy group. She is an attorney who has worked for the Focus on Energy Renewable Energy Program, and as a public interest energy consultant. Katie is also a member of RENEW Wisconsin's Board of Directors. She is a native of northwestern Wisconsin.

### **Wisconsin Investor-Owned Utilities (2 representatives)**

1. **Alliant Energy**  
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Michele A. Pluta, P.E. is a Senior Environmental Engineer at Alliant Energy located in Madison, Wisconsin. She holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering and M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Marquette University. She will complete a Masters in Business Administration from University of Wisconsin - Whitewater in Fall 2006. Ms. Pluta specializes in environmental policy regulatory development and strategic planning at Alliant Engineering, with emphasis on air emissions and multi-media compliance.

2. **We Energies**  
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David Michaud is currently employed by We Energies, which is headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He has worked for the company for more than 25 years. During this time, he has been involved with many environmental issues of interest to the electric power industry, not the least of which included power plant siting, hydroelectric plant relicensing, fish protection research, acid rain impacts on sensitive Wisconsin lakes, mercury in the environment, and zebra mussel impacts on power plants and Great Lakes ecology. David currently chairs the advisory committee for EPRI's Air Quality Research Business Area, which is a subunit of EPRI's Environmental Research Program. He received his BS and MS degrees in biology from Marquette University. His graduate research was devoted to understanding the physiological response of fish to mercury.

### **Wisconsin Public Service Commission**

**Kenneth C. Rineer**, Senior Environmental Analyst, Electric Division  
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Ken Rineer has been employed as an environmental analyst with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin since 1992. He was one of the authors of the environmental impact statement, "Future of Wisconsin's Electric Power Industry," for the Commission's industry restructuring investigation. During the Commission's subsequent Public Benefits investigation, he served on the "renewable resources" and "low income issues" subgroups and chaired the "environmental research" subgroup. Before his work at the Commission, he directed the Sustainable Agriculture Program, a research and demonstration grant program at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. He has a B.S. in botany and an M.S. in Genetics from Penn State University and has done additional graduate study at the University of Wisconsin in a broad number of related topics.