



DuPage Environmental Summit 2023: Electrifying DuPage County

## About Our Speakers

### **Megha Lakhchaura - Illinois: 1 Million EVs by 2030**

**Megha Lakhchaura** is the first electric vehicle coordinator for the State of Illinois. She will lead the state's push to put 1 million EVs on the roads by 2030. She previously served as the director of policy in North America for EVBox, an electric vehicle supply equipment company based in Amsterdam. Prior to that she was the policy director for the rooftop solar and battery storage provider Sunrun Inc. as well as a public utilities regulatory analyst for the California Public Utilities Commission.

### **Ken Amin - ComEd's EV Toolkit**

**Ken Amin** leads the Strategic Programs team with ComEd. In this role, Ken leads the development of the company's customer facing EV strategy and is responsible for implementing educational tools and resources to help customers learn about electric vehicles and make better informed EV-related decisions. Ken has a BS in Electrical Engineering and an MBA in Finance. He has been with ComEd for over 34 years in a variety of different roles.

### **Brian Bennett - Implementing EVs in a Municipal Fleet**

**Brian Bennett** has been the Fleet Manager for the City of Des Moines since 2005. In this role, he is responsible for the overall administration of a 1600-unit municipal fleet with a staff of 36 employees. He centralized Fleet Services as a division of the City Manager's Office to more effectively serve all City departments. Functions include acquisition, repair and maintenance as well as fueling and disposal.

### **Marina Minic - Solar Power Programs and Incentives**

**Marina Minic** works as the solar programs administrator for Citizens Utility Board (CUB). She has her Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and environmental studies, and has experience in organizing around clean energy. In her role at CUB, Marina works to educate communities about solar, advocate for and implement clean energy policy, and engage in one-on-one consumer assistance.

### **Marla Westerhold - ComEd's Solar Calculator**

**Marla Westerhold** is the Manager of the Green Power Connection (GPC) team with ComEd. GPC helps customers manage their green power journey, when connecting solar or other renewables to the grid. In her role, Marla oversees a team that assists customers navigating the solar options available to them and helps shape the company's solar toolkit investments related to solar. Marla has been with ComEd for over 12 years, has an MS in Environmental Management and Sustainability, and is a certified arborist. Prior to ComEd, Marla worked with Chicago's bid for the 2016 Olympics on the Environment team.

### **Mark Frigo - The Role of Energy Storage in the New Energy World**

**Mark Frigo** leads the origination and development of energy storage projects for Nexamp, a leading solar and energy storage company. He cultivates Nexamp's storage strategy and leads the execution of corresponding development activities, including storage project development, analysis, and innovation.

### **David Beckwith and Lois Vitt Sale - EV and Solar Myths and Realities: Panel/Q&A**

**David Beckwith** is a retired software engineer/co-owner of a golf course reservation system. He is an advocate of the electrification movement and has installed many eco-friendly items on his home. He has acted on reducing his carbon footprint by installing a solar roof and capturing excess energy in batteries. He also owns Tesla electric vehicles, electric landscaping tools and runs his home heating and cooling on a geothermal assisted heat pump system. He is concerned that electrification myths are preventing others from transitioning to the electrified future he enjoys now.

**Lois Vitt Sale** brings her expertise in sustainable architecture to The Conservation Foundation's Board of Trustees. Lois is recently retired Chief Sustainability Officer at Wight & Company, and in her 25 years as an architect has completed more than 70 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) projects. Lois is a LEED Faculty member with the U.S. Green Building Council and teaches sustainable construction as an adjunct faculty member at Northwestern University.