



Executive Energy Leadership Academy Alumni

Since its inception in 2007, NREL's Executive Energy Leadership Academy has brought together the following decision-makers from across the country to participate in the program.

2025 Participants

- Alexandra Rozen – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Anas Sadkhi – Denver International Airport
- Brian Bartle – Danone North America
- Bryant Komo – Hawaiian Electric Co.
- Caitlin Casassa – Colorado Office of Sustainability
- Dana Hoffman – City of Denver, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Daniel Tkacik – Carnegie Mellon University Scott Institute for Energy Innovation
- Derrick Cheng – The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Dominic McGraw – City of Philadelphia, Office of Sustainability
- Elizabeth Lehman – Cuyahoga County
- Jo Anne Wessinger Hill – Public Service Commission of South Carolina
- John Parks – Colorado Energy Office
- Monique Lovato – Office of U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper
- Peter “Jake” Leech – Southeast Sustainability Directors Network
- Rajpreet Basi – POWDR
- Samantha Voncannon – Energy Industry Professional
- Stephanie Nowers – Alaska Center for Appropriate Technology/Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Tyler Hamman – Energy and Environmental Research Center

2024 Participants

- Adair Andre – Colorado Energy Office
- Casey Kelly – ClearPath
- David Carmena – Black Farmers' Collaborative Inc./Carmena Enterprises Inc.
- Elizabeth Tonelero – Department of Defense
- Forrest Decker – USDA Forest Service
- Grant Jones – Environmental Protection Agency

- Jason Sorter – Geothermal Rising
- Jennifer Taylor – Enel North America
- Jonathan Pierson – Appalachian State University
- Judy Brocato – Oracle
- Julia Masters – Colorado Resiliency Office, State of Colorado
- Kate Zettl – UPMC Center for Sustainability
- Michael Rovito – Alaska Power Association
- Mike Foote – Foote Environmental Law & Policy
- Monica Mota – HORNE
- Omar Muneeruddin – National Grid Ventures
- Sarah Talkington – City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department

2023 Participants

- Saurabh Chaugule – Chevron USA
- Sandor Duran – Nevada Army National Guard
- Claudia Garcia – Enel North America
- Nicholas Foss – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Heather Halkola – VA Palo Alto Health Care System
- Joseph Hallahan – Power Africa/USAID
- Joshua Hodge – MIT Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research
- Ida Mae Isaac – Colorado Energy Office
- John Liu – Huntington Industrial Partners
- Uduak-Joe Ntuk – South Coast Air Quality Management District
- Erica Pionke – Bureau of Land Management
- Ryan Pocius – Xcel Energy
- Camille Pollan – Accenture
- Heather Sherman – Battelle Education
- Ean Tafoya – GreenLatinos/State of Colorado
- Carlos Tamayo – City of Colorado Springs
- Craig Wright – IBIS
- Meghan Nutting – Sunnova

2022 Participants

- Alana Baldwin – Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- Lynne Barker – Blaine County, Idaho
- Claire Behar – Hy Stor Energy
- Monica Brummer – Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy
- Gregory Clough – Colorado School of Mines

- Paul Doucette – Battelle
- Amy Henry – Tennessee Valley Authority
- Shea Jameel – Estée Lauder Companies
- Nick Kapur – S&P Global Platts
- Justin LeVeque – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Samantha Lichtin – RMI
- Jolene Lyon – Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority
- Emily Marthaler – U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Jeff Morehouse – ClearPath
- Mindy O'Neill – Cold Climate Housing Research Center
- Mike Petersen – Shell
- Gregg Swartz – Toyota Motor North America
- Curtis Thayer – Alaska Energy Authority
- Adam West – Denver Public Schools

2021 Participants

- Andy Berger – Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
- Paul Bostrom – San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit
- Rob Davis – Connexus Energy
- Sarah Dimson-Tararuj – Climate Pledge, Amazon
- Jocelyn Durkay – Colorado Energy Office
- Matt Gregori – Southern California Gas Company
- Mital Hall – ecoPreserve
- Dominique Jackson – Colorado House of Representatives
- Michael King – Colorado Department of Transportation
- Byron Kominek – Jack's Solar Garden
- Susan McFaddin – Seven Generations
- Hugh McKean – Colorado House of Representatives
- Hillary O'Brien – House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Lynn Padgett – Ouray County, Colorado, District 1
- Zach Pierce – Office of Governor Roy Cooper
- David Rodziewicz – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
- Amber Saxton – George Mason University
- Sam Whelan – Holy Cross Energy

2019 Participants

- Salem Afeworki – Value Sustainability
- Jessica Burley – Town of Breckenridge
- Marc Campbell – Salt River Project

- Kimberly Dickey – NextEra Energy Resources
- Steven Emmen – Office of U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner
- Daniel Garcia – Riverside Public Utilities
- Michelle Gransee – Minnesota Department of Commerce
- Griffin Hagle – Taġiugmiullu Nunamiullu Housing Authority
- Gerry Huitt – Xcel Energy
- John Jameson – ICF
- Craig Jones – Colorado Army National Guard
- Elizabeth Kócs – UIC Energy Initiative
- Alexander Kohnen – Arizona State University
- Tyler Kornelis – Kodiak Area Native Association
- Eric Montag – Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Taren Mulch – Colorado Tourism Office
- Andrés Pesca – ANDEG
- Cole Simons – ClearPath
- Christopher Smith – Colorado State Land Board
- Chrissy Sollenberger – Walton Personal Philanthropy Group

2018 Participants

- Cameran Bailey – Twin Cities Metropolitan Council
- Britta Beckstead – Western Governors' Association
- Susan Blythe – Brendle Group
- John Cattles – Gunnison County
- Zachary Friedman – Black Bear Energy
- John Gavan – Delta County Economic Development
- Kyle Gumto – Cardinal Health
- Mark Hartman – City of Phoenix
- Amanda La Brier – City of Chicago
- Julianne Laue – Mortenson
- Susan Lewis – Delaware Army National Guard
- Craig Mays – Johnson Controls
- Spencer Nelson – ClearPath Foundation
- Alex Polo – Costco Wholesale
- Thomas Quasius – APTIM
- Anna Siefken – The Wilton E. Scott Institute for Energy Innovation, Carnegie Mellon University
- Jared Soncrant – U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner
- Jeffrey Tu – RE2H2 Energy Development LLC
- John Widerman – Town of Minturn

2017 Participants

- Cullen Choi – Denver International Airport
- Derek DiGiacomo – SCTE
- Kirby Dipert – Lockheed Martin
- Rachael Drummond – University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
- Jennifer Hale – Denver Zoological Foundation
- Natalie Hanson – Nuvista Light & Electric Cooperative
- Brian Hill – Richard King Mellon Foundation
- Cody Hooven – City of San Diego
- Kevin Kenny – Sprint
- Kyle Lauter – EDF Renewable Energy
- Jessica Lin – U.S. Department of Energy
- Sonrisa Lucero – Denver Mayor's Office of Sustainability
- David Martinez – Pueblo of Laguna
- Matt Myers – EarthX
- Jim Obermaier – Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Marriott International
- Scott Rupp – Missouri Public Service Commission
- Meyer Seligman – U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
- Kathleen Staks – Colorado Energy Office
- Gary White – U.S. Air Force Office of Energy Assurance
- Rob Whittier – Vail Resorts
- Justin Wurth – Mortenson Construction
- Ellen Zuckerman – Southwest Energy Efficiency Project

2016 Participants

- Matthew Arms – Port of Long Beach
- Ron Arthur – Colorado Department of Labor & Employment
- Kathleen Baireuther – Austin Technology Incubator
- Cindy Beeler – EPA Region 8
- Matthew Berry – Mortenson Construction
- Joel Fetter – Booz Allen Hamilton
- Dave Hatchimonji – Boulder County EnergySmart
- William Hearn – CBRE
- Heather Johnson – Vestas
- Jessica Kelleher – Flatirons Field Services
- Gary Jones – EPA Office of Civil Enforcement
- James Lester – Colorado PUC
- Jennifer Loraine – U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner
- Maren Mahoney – Arizona State University, EPIC

- Eric Manuel – NREL
- Dan Powers – CO-LABS
- Casey Reeves – U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- Pat Spearman – Nevada State Legislature
- Joseph Thill – NREL
- Isaac Vanderburg – Alaska SBDC
- Hannah Vargason – Natural Capital Investment Fund
- Kyle Wheeler – Prologis

2015 Participants

- Samuel Anderson – Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Robert Anselmi – Department of Veterans Affairs
- Michael Buckner – Creative Sensor Inc.
- Lilly Ellen Edwards – University of Colorado
- Robert Edwards Jr. – Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP
- Maria Eisemann – Northern Colorado Clean Cities
- Julia Ferguson – Adams County Government
- Joel Hendrickson – Colorado Public Utility Commission
- Shari Kelley – New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources
- Jeffrey King – Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- Robert Kirkpatrick – U.S. General Services Administration, Public Building Service
- Ann Livingston – Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
- Pedram Mohseni – Duke Energy Corp
- Bill Peck – Cummins Rocky Mountain
- Richard Pinkham – Booz Allen Hamilton
- Eileen Prado – Solar Rating & Certification Corporation
- Stan Rosinski – Electric Power Research Institute
- Alyssa Schear – Saunders Construction
- James Stevens – Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas & Co.
- LeeAnn Westfall – Douglas County School District

2014 Participants

- Gary Bernfeld – City of Austin Electric Utility Commission
- Drew Bolin – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Meredith Brooks – FirmGreen Inc.
- John David Canney – Associated Landscape Contractors of Colorado
- Sean Conboy – Vail Resorts

- Elyse Hottel – City of Boulder
- Nellis Kennedy-Howard – Sierra Club
- Adam Knoff – Unico Properties LLC
- Ward Lenz – Advanced Energy
- Zuhair Mased – University of California, Merced
- Anthony Molinaro Jr. – Allen & Shariff Engineering LLC
- Michael O'Malley – Xcel Energy
- Deborah Ortega – Denver City Council
- Laura Richardson – The Jordan Institute
- Penny Whitney – Rocky Mountain Technology Alliance
- Christopher Worley – Colorado Energy Office

2013 Participants

- Korin Crawford – Ekology Infrastructure
- Thom Johnson – Eaton Energy Solutions Inc.
- Lee Ledesma – City of Aspen Utilities and Environmental Initiatives
- Jennifer Miller – Sierra Club
- Rick Moats – Adolfson & Peterson
- Paul Morgan – Colorado Geological Survey
- Randy Muller – Bank of America
- Lizette Peña – CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
- George Pond – Denver Zoo
- Brandon Rattiner – U.S. Sen. Mark Udall
- Charles Rienhardt – GSA
- Meghan Riesterer – Medical Center Company
- David Roberts – National Park Service, Denver Service Center
- Christine Shapard – Colorado Cleantech Industry Association
- Paul Sweat – National Instruments
- Sara Telano – Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Energy Office
- Rodney Vanderwall – DPA, Office of the State Architects

2012 Participants

- Charles H. Allison Jr. – The Milano School of International Affairs
- Marcia Black-Watson – Workforce Development Agency, State of Michigan
- Clay Butler – Butler Firm PLLC
- Martha Butwin – U.S. Department of Commerce
- Carol Dollard – Colorado State University
- Mark Dow – Lockheed Martin, Information Systems and Global Solutions
- Jennifer Gardner – Western Interstate Energy Board
- Patrick Hamel – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

- Karen Hancock – City of Aurora
- Keith Hay – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Richard Hemmingsen – Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment
– University of Minnesota
- Brett Jackson – Colorado Army National Guard
- Linda Kogan – University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
- Tim Martinez – Office of Economic Development, City & County of Denver
- Manisha Patel – White House Council on Environmental Quality
- Jan Peterson – Poudre Valley REA
- Raimone Roberts – Empire Construction Services
- Nicholas Schiavo – City of Santa Fe
- Kyle Zeringue – Louisiana Economic Development

2011 Participants

- Carrie Atiyeh – ZeaChem Inc.
- Clay Benson – Mortenson Construction
- Page Bolin – Colorado State Land Board
- Mathew Buchwald – Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Bill Dalton – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Pat Duran – Yuma County Economic Development
- Darren T. Engle – Acudyn Incorporated
- Liz Gilchrist – Clean Economy Network
- Art Hale – Colorado State Government
- Isaac Kos-Read – Port of Oakland
- Eric Lane – Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Mark Mathews – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP
- Kylah McNabb – Oklahoma Department of Commerce
- Sarah Mitchell – Colorado Department of Transportation
- Zack Shariff – Allen & Shariff Corporation
- Steve Skarda – Procter & Gamble
- Jill Terry – CSU College of Business
- Christopher Votoupal – U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter
- Cary Weiner – Colorado State University Extension
- Ranjini Zucker – Southern California Association of Governments

2010 Participants

- Cori Andreatta – 4Core
- Thomas Binet – Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade
- Li Han Chan – Nevada Institute for Renewable Energy Commercialization
- Dave Clute – Cisco Systems Inc.

- Jason Coccia – Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.
- Yugoslav Cuculiza – Edicosa SA
- Brian Good – Denver Water
- Dave Hornbacher – City of Aspen
- Nancy Hovde – Delta Montrose Electric Association
- David Johnston – Dairy Farmers of America Inc.
- Zane Kessler – Office of U.S. Senator Michael Bennet
- iLona Major – City of Lone Tree
- Scott Miller – Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership
- Christine Murphy – San Diego County Regional Airport Authority
- John Osborne – CB Richard Ellis
- Don Scarsella – Owens Corning
- Sanjeeva Senanayake – HSH Nordbank
- Bill Skowronski – Renewable World Foundation
- Brian Stevens – Texas Army National Guard

2009 Participants

- Tom Acre – City of Commerce City
- Matthew Appelbaum – City of Boulder
- Sharon Barrett – Cushman & Wakefield
- Karen Benker – City of Longmont
- Jim Benson – City of Commerce City
- Bruce Biggi – City of Greeley
- James Bosch – NREL
- Steve Catanach – City of Fort Collins
- Bob Churchwell – City of Burlington
- Peter Dawson – Baca County
- Frances Draper – Boulder Economic Council
- Keith Fife – Mesa County
- Robert FitzGerald – City of Aurora
- John Hall – City of Westminster
- Stephen Hall – Western TechSet
- Anne Hayes – Westfield Company
- Michael Kirk – Larimer County
- Irene Law – American Solar Energy Society
- Michael Masciola – Northern Colorado Economic Development Corporation
- Lisa Nolder – Southeast Colorado Business, Retention, Expansion & Attraction
- David November – Vail Resorts
- Susan Osborne – City of Boulder
- Frank Phillips – City of Lafayette
- Scott Prestidge – Colorado Senator Mark Udall
- Scott Randall – Town of Superior

- Kathleen Seelye – Ricca Newmark Design
- Greg Severance – Pueblo County
- Matthew Singleton – Prologis
- Christopher Smith – Denver Office of Economic Development
- Virgil Turner – City of Montrose
- Debra Wilcox – Bye Energy Inc.

2008 Participants

- Tamra Allen – Town of Pagosa Springs
- Thomas Baker – Town of Carbondale
- Mark Buschenfeldt – Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- Jack Crawford – Denver Finance Lab
- Darryl Edwards – Mountain View Electric Association
- Angie Fyfe – Governor's Energy Office
- Hans Kallam – Colorado Division of Emergency Management
- Julie Klein – Vail Resorts
- Patricia Kurgan – Astro Logistics Inc.
- Jason McEldowney – Commerce City
- Jocelyn Mills – Town of Frisco
- Inta Morris – Colorado Dept. of Higher Education
- Scott Morrissey – Denver Mayor's Office
- Eling Myklebust – Colorado State Parks
- Geniphr Ponce-Pore – Larimer County Workforce Center
- Katherine Portner – City of Grand Junction
- Lynn Sargent – Denver Office of Economic Development
- James Stavast – City of Grand Junction
- Patricia Vice – Lincoln County Economic Development Corp

2007 Participants

- Jeanette Alberg – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard
- Charles J. Baroch – City of Golden
- Chris Berry – Mayor – City of Lafayette
- Luis A. Colón – Colón-Collawn LLC
- Don Feldhaus – City of Greeley
- Don Fitzmartin – CB Richard Ellis
- Dan Igoe – PURE Brand Communications
- Mary W. Jeffreys – Metro Denver WIRED Initiative
- Dave Noel – Denver Museum of Nature and Science
- James Schrack – City of Aurora

- Andrew R. Torbin – ProLogis
- Constance Volz – Premier Parking LLC

Energy Execs Institute

2015 Participants

- Pat Aloise-Young – Colorado State University
- Michael Baker – RES Americas Inc.
- Lina Barrera – Conservation International
- Tim Beal – Boulder Housing Partners
- Jonathan Bortles – University of Colorado Boulder
- Amy Bourne – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Craig Burton – PositivEnergy Practice LLC
- Peter Uel – Castro Coastal Renewable Energy Technology Center
- Molly Cripps – TN Department of Environment & Conservation, Office of Energy Programs
- Wayne Dupuis – Fond du lac Reservation
- Jeremy Epstein – Harcourt Brown & Carey
- David Gabrielson – PACENow
- Eric Griesenbrock – Air Force Research Laboratories
- Christopher Halpin – Celtic Energy Inc.
- Katie Hantson – U.S. Marine Corps Expeditionary Energy Office
- Anna Henderson – Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
- Devon Leahy – Etsy
- Annie Levenson-Falk – Minnesota Legislative Energy Commission
- Sarah Mullkoff – Michigan Environmental Council
- Jeff O'Neil – U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter
- Susie Strife – City of Boulder
- Lindsay Weber – Denver Water
- Anna Zawisza – Alliance for Sustainable Colorado

2014 Participants

- John Bleem – Platte River Power Authority
- Leisa Brug – Arizona Governor's Office of Energy Policy
- Drew Carney – Prologis
- David Carr – Frank Phillips College
- Jennifer Clanahan – U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette
- Todd Colpron – Indy Power Systems
- Colette Crouse – Local Environmental Action Division, City of Boulder
- Dan Fatton – Electrochemical Society
- Ellie Friedman – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Ken Joseph – Highlands Ranch Community Association Inc.

- John King – Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Julie Lawhorn – Appalachian Regional Commission
- Rebecca Lim – Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- Diana McKeown – Great Plains Institute
- James Mietz – Sustainable Environmental Economic Development Park, International
- Rachel Posner – Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy
- Patrick Schwinghammer – Telecommunications Consultant
- Tim Slentz – United States Navy
- Heather Stapel – Allen & Shariff Engineering LLC
- Natalia Swalnick – BCS Inc.

2013 Participants

- Tim Bennett – Flood and Peterson
- R. Sonny Betancourt – Department of Interior, ONRR
- Katy Bigner – City of Fort Collins
- Aaron Briggs – HB&A
- Tina Chase – San Diego Gas & Electric Company
- Jorge Diaz Pardo – Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- Jerry Flannery – Highlands Ranch Community Association
- Yael Gichon – City of Boulder
- Aaron Harper – Duke Energy Corporation
- Charles Howland – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
- Michael Lowell – U.S. General Services Administration
- Lorrie McAllister – Colorado Renewable Energy Society
- Tonie Miyamoto – Colorado State University, Housing & Dining Services
- Justin Price – Evergreen Engineering Inc.
- Wasiu Adedeji Tijani – Transmission Company of Nigeria
- Drew Warshaw – NRG Energy Inc.
- Jason Willett – Metropolitan Council of Minnesota
- Kevin Yoshida – The Abo Group

2012 Participants

- Steve Barwick – City of Aspen
- David Beins – Australian Solar Institute
- Abbie Brewer – FORE Alliance
- Patricia Carberry – Renewable Energy Focus Grants
- Macon Cowles – City of Boulder

- Erin Duckett – State of Michigan
- Julia Fitzpatrick – City and County of Denver
- Kala Fleming – The FHWGroup
- Milton Geiger – University of Wyoming
- Bill Gratopp – St. Clair County Board of Commissioners, Michigan
- Robert Harberg – City of Boulder
- Suzanne Jones – Boulder City Council
- Bill Kauffman – St. Clair County, Michigan
- Shawna McWaters-Khalousi, Oklahoma Department of Commerce
- Ashish Saxena – Infosys Limited
- Edward Sears – Vestas
- Danielle Vaughan – Recharge Colorado

2011 Participants

- Stacey Baumgarn – Larimer County
- Joe Castro – City of Boulder
- David Crandall – Eagle:xm
- Tim Edgar – Colorado State University Extension Service
- Stephanie Garnica – Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade
- Chet Kolodziej – Freedom Field Renewable Energy
- Jorge Madrid – Center for American Progress
- Keith Meyer – Environmental Law Institute
- Tom Morgan – Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
- Jeffrey Nathanson – National Jewish Health
- Tom Ochterski – City of Westminster
- Phillip Saieg – Alliance for Sustainable Colorado
- Stacy Smith – Denver Water
- Spenser Villwock – Independent Electrical Contractors, Rocky Mountain
- Robert Young – Boulder Valley School District
- Andris Zobs – Office for Resource Efficiency, Gunnison