EBC Climate Change Program Series, Part Three

Insurance Industry Perspective on Risk Related to Climate Change for Coastal New England

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Nixon Peabody LLP | Boston

AGENDA

8:00 a.m.  Welcome: Ruth Silman, Chair, EBC Climate and Air Committee
          Managing Partner, Nixon Peabody, LLP

          Introduction: Kelly Knee, Program Chair & Moderator
          Director of Coastal Hazard Services, RPS ASA

8:15 a.m.  Catastrophe Modeling for the Insurance Industry: Accounting for Climate Change
          • Peter Sousounis, Ph.D., Director of Meteorology, AIR Worldwide

9:00 a.m.  Commercial Insurance: Understanding and Managing Climate Change Uncertainty
          • Louis A. Gritzo, Ph.D., Vice President of Research, FM Global
          • Stuart Keller, Engineering Manager – Operations Vice President, FM Global

9:45 a.m.  Networking Break

10:15 a.m. Industry Reaction to Climate Change Uncertainty: Underwriting and Investment
          • Max Messervy, Manager, Insurance Program, Ceres

11:00 a.m. Panel Discussion/Q&A

          Panel Moderator: Kelly Knee, RPS ASA

          Panel Members:
          • Dr. Peter Sousounis, AIR Worldwide
          • Dr. Louis Gritzo, FM Global
          • Max Messervy, Ceres

12:00 p.m. Adjourn – Closing Remarks – Ruth Silman
Kelly Knee, Director of Coastal Hazard Services
RPS ASA
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Ms. Knee is a water resources engineer and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialist with RPS ASA. Since joining RPS ASA in 2004, she has conducted sea level rise and storm surge impact assessments for many locations around the world to support both education initiatives and engineering analyses. Her interactive, 3-D simulations of sea level rise are currently on display at the Wood’s Hole Oceanographic Institute, SciWorks North Carolina, and the See Science Center in New Hampshire. Her 3D visualization of inundation at critical facilities in Hull, MA helped gain support for an increase in freeboard requirements. Ms. Knee has performed a series of coastal risk assessments for coastal industrial facilities and is currently in the process of evaluating the potential benefits of using natural systems to mitigate storm surge impacts. Prior to joining RPS ASA in 2004, she conducted an economic assessment of the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding in metro Boston and used a Fulbright Fellowship to study the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding in the country of Mauritius.

SPEAKERS

Louis A. Gritzo, Ph.D., Vice President, Research
FM Global
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Dr. Louis Gritzo is vice president and manager of research with FM Global, one of the world's largest commercial property insurers. He oversees FM Global's team of scientists, with expertise in fire, explosions, natural hazards (windstorms, flood, and earthquakes) and risk and reliability, who seek to understand property hazards and identify solutions to prevent loss at client facilities. Gritzo also oversees activities at FM Global's US$125-million, 1,600-acre, Research Campus in West Glocester, R.I., USA, the world's largest center for property loss prevention research.

Prior to joining FM Global in 2006, Gritzo was manager of fire science and technology at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA, and was a member of its Advanced Concepts Group think tank.

He currently serves on the governing board of the Global Earthquake Model, on the board of directors of the Industrial Research Institute, and on advisory committees for several universities. Gritzo has served as chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Heat Transfer Division Executive Committee and on the Research Advisory Committee for the National Fire Protection Association. In 2015, he served as an invited panelist in two sessions at the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Management in Sendai, Japan.

Gritzo has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, with a minor in applied mathematics, from Texas Tech University, USA.

Stuart Keller, Engineering Manager – Operations Vice President
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As part of the Boston Operations Management Team, Keller is responsible for setting departmental policy and objectives to align with our client’s and company goals. Keller leads the field and account engineering
teams to ensure they identify, quantify and provide cost effective and practicable solutions to ensure ongoing resiliency for our clients.

Keller joined FM Global in 2001 as a field engineer in Australian Operations and has since been a Group Manager, Field Engineering in Australia, Manager for Construction and Natural Hazards in Engineering Standards, Norwood, MA and a Senior Account Manager for Chemical Operations in Norwood, MA. Prior to working for FM Global, Keller worked for AXA Global Risks and Arup Fire. He has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Degree conferred by University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

**Max Messervy**, Manager, Insurance Program
Ceres
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Max is a Manager for the Insurance Program at Ceres, where he led the development of the 2014 Insurer Climate Risk Disclosure Survey report, and engages with insurance regulators, companies and other key stakeholders around improving the industry's climate risk management strategies.

Prior to Ceres, Max worked as an independent policy and research consultant with clients including Ceres, the Natural Resources Defense Council's transportation program, and the Canadian Consulate in San Francisco. Max also spent eight years in California working with the County of Los Angeles Elections Division, Los Angeles-based clean technology consultancy Eos Consulting, and the Canadian federal and provincial governments, among other organizations.

Originally hailing from Boston, Max received a Master of Public Policy from UCLA and a B.A. in Religious Studies from McGill University in Montreal.

**Peter Sousounis, Ph.D.**, Assistant Vice President, Director of Meteorology
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Dr. Sousounis is the Director of Meteorology and Assistant Vice President in the Research and Modeling group at AIR. He is currently responsible for overseeing all global atmospheric model development including tropical cyclones, extratropical cyclones, and severe thunderstorms. He is also responsible for building expertise in Numerical Weather Prediction for use in Catastrophe Modeling as well as providing leadership for issues relating to climate change. Earlier in his career at AIR, Dr. Sousounis was responsible for updating the Northwest Pacific Basinwide Typhoon model and many other projects involving inland flooding and storm surge as well as the hazard component of tsunami models for various regions. Prior to joining AIR, he was a professor of Meteorology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Sousounis has graduate degrees in Meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Penn State University. Dr. Sousounis has nearly 100 publications on various topics of weather, climate, climate change, and catastrophe modeling.

**Upcoming Summer Events**
- EBC Annual Summer Garden Party – August 11 – Boston
- EBC Annual Softball Game – August 16 – Somerville, MA
- EBC Rhode Island Summer Garden Party – August 18 – Pawtucket

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