



## **EBC Young Professional Development Program:**

*Hello from The Other Side: Advice from Environmental Professionals Who've "Made It"*

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

Foley Hoag LLP | Boston, MA

### **AGENDA**

- 6:00 p.m.     **Welcome: Natalie Johnson**, Senior Scientist, Exponent Inc.
- 6:05 p.m.     **Introductions from the "Pros"**
- **Catherine A. Finneran**, Director, Environmental Affairs, Eversource Energy
  - **Seth D. Jaffe**, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP
- 6:25 p.m.     **Open Discussion**
- 7:00 p.m.     **Networking**
- 7:30 p.m.     **Adjourn**

### **SPEAKERS**

**Catherine A. Finneran**, Director, Environmental Affairs  
Eversource Energy  
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Catherine is Director of Environmental Affairs at Eversource Energy, New England's largest energy delivery company serving 3.6 million electric and natural gas customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She manages 45 scientists, engineers and specialists focused on environmental protection, permitting for electric and gas transmission and distribution project siting, and regulatory compliance. She also serves as clean energy and environmental outreach lead for the Northern Pass Transmission Project.

Ms. Finneran comes to Eversource Energy with more than 20 years of experience focused on clean energy, environmental protection and economic development. Before joining Eversource Energy, she served as Senior Director of the Renewable Energy Generation Division at the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

(MassCEC), where she oversaw the design and implementation of rebate and grant programs targeted at growing the Massachusetts clean energy market to increase deployment of wind, solar photovoltaic, hydropower, and anaerobic digestion projects. Ms. Finneran also was responsible for the clean heating and cooling rebate programs (energy efficient heat pumps, cleaner biomass, solar hot water), as well overseeing the group responsible for developing and managing the software platform used to track and report energy production under the Massachusetts Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) Program.

She previously served as the Director of Clean Energy for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). In this role she worked across water, air, solid waste, and waste site cleanup programs to advance permitting and siting of clean energy projects at state regulated sites. Ms. Finneran also served as the Brownfield Director for MassDEP, serving as the central point of contact at the state level for the cleanup and reuse of contaminated sites. Previously, she served as a municipal development manager, an acting director of a non-profit corporation, and in project management for a real estate development consulting firm.

Ms. Finneran serves on the Board of Directors for the Environmental Business Council (EBC) and the New England Women in Energy and the Environment (NEWIEE) Advisory Committee. She previously served as Advisor to the Bunker Hill Community College Energy Sustainability Management Program and to the JFY Networks Environmental Job Training Program. She received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst in Environmental Design.

**Seth D. Jaffe**, Partner

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Seth Jaffe is recognized by Chambers USA, The Best Lawyers in America and Massachusetts Super Lawyers as a leading practitioner in environmental compliance and related litigation. He is one of the authors of the Law and the Environment Blog, which provides real-world perspectives on current developments in environmental law and regulation. Seth recently served as the President of the American College of Environmental Lawyers.

Seth works on a wide range of environmental law issues, representing clients in the permitting/licensing of new facilities and offering ongoing guidance on permitting and enforcement related matters under federal and state Clean Air Acts, Clean Water Acts, RCRA, and TSCA. He also advises on wetlands and waterways regulation. Seth's clients include electric and telecommunications utilities, companies in the printing and chemical industries, and education and health care institutions.

Seth has extensive experience in hazardous waste matters under federal and state Superfund laws. He has defended multiple clients in administrative or litigation proceedings brought by the government and/or private parties. He has also counseled plaintiffs seeking recovery from private parties of response costs incurred at Superfund sites.

Seth also helps clients permit large development projects, including assistance with environmental reviews under NEPA and related state laws such as the Massachusetts MEPA requirements.

Seth has served as a mediator with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Wetlands Program. Before joining Foley Hoag, LLP he clerked for United States District Judge Walter Jay Skinner.

## PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

**Natalie C. Johnson, Ph.D.**, Senior Scientist

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Natalie is a Senior Scientist in Exponent's Environmental and Earth Sciences practice with 8 years of experience in environmental chemistry. While at Exponent, she has provided technical support on contaminated (including CERCLA) sites, including former refineries, manufactured gas plants, and other industrial sites. She has experience working with a variety of environmental contaminants, such as hydrocarbons (e.g., PAHs), PCBs, and heavy metals/metalloids. In addition, Natalie has provided chemical expertise to a human health risk assessment for a mining operation and performed ship-based field work (water collection and processing) as part of an environmental monitoring program for oil exploration in the arctic.

Natalie recently graduated from Stanford University with a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Her graduate research focused on subsurface carbon storage in mafic and ultramafic rocks. She has experience with a variety of analytical techniques, including gas chromatography (GC-MS), scanning and transmission electron microscopy (SEM, TEM), isotopic measurement (ICP-MS), and high resolution ion microprobe analysis (SHRIMP-RG). Other projects that she was involved with include an investigation of redox changes induced by CO<sub>2</sub> injection to the subsurface, sample preparation for TEM analysis of thin film alloys, experimental investigations of basalt as a potential alkalinity source for mineral carbonation, and production of experimental samples used to calibrate a clumped isotope thermometer for magnesite.

**P. Ariette Schierz, Ph.D.**, Senior Scientist

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Ariette is a Senior Scientist at the Ecological and Biological Science Practice at Exponent. She has more than 12 years of technical experience in evaluating fate, transformation, detection, and bioavailability of contaminants in the aquatic environment, including organic contaminants, heavy metals and metalloids, radionuclides, and engineered nanomaterials. Ariette has broad experience in aquatic geochemistry, analytical chemistry, environmental remediation, nanotechnology, and risk assessment, and she has both field and laboratory experience.

Ariette's recent research focused on remedial strategies such as capping and in-situ amendments for risk mitigation of contaminated sediment sites. She evaluated the effect of in-situ treatments on sediment biogeochemistry, and implications for contaminant behavior. She has expertise in environmental sampling and monitoring and has tested the performance of passive samplers to assess the bioavailability of sediment contaminants and evaluate remedy performance. She also has experience with various in-situ groundwater treatments.

Ariette has evaluated various environmental implications of nanotechnology, including detection in highly complex environmental media, toxicity and bioaccumulation in an estuarine benthic food chain, and long-term behavior and transformation in the aquatic environment.

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