



EBC Rhode Island Leadership Webinar: Rhode Island Environmental and Climate Leadership

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

In Partnership with:

American Council of Engineering Companies of Rhode Island
Rhode Island Society of Environmental Professionals



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AGENDA

9:00 a.m. **Welcome:** Rick Mandile, Chair, EBC Rhode Island Chapter
Partner, Sage Environmental

Program Introduction and Overview – What You Will Learn

- Alan Shoer, Program Chair & Moderator
Vice Chair, EBC Rhode Island Chapter
Partner, Adler Pollock & Sheehan P.C.

9:15 a.m. **Update from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management**



Janet Coit, Director
Department of Environmental Management
State of Rhode Island



Terrence Gray, Deputy Director for Environmental Protection
Department of Environmental Management
State of Rhode Island

9:50 a.m. **Networking Opportunity**

10:10 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. **Rhode Island's Adaptation and Resiliency Programs**



Jeffrey Diehl, Executive Director and CEO
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank



Shaun O'Rourke, Chief Resiliency Officer, State of Rhode Island
Managing Director of Program and Business Development
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank

11:00 a.m. **Moderated Discussion**

Moderator: Alan Shoer, Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.

Panel Members:

- Janet Coit, Department of Environmental Management
- Terry Gray, Department of Environmental Management
- Jeffrey Diehl, Infrastructure Bank
- Shaun O'Rourke, State of Rhode Island and Infrastructure Bank

12:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

PROGRAM CHAIR & MODERATOR

Alan Shoer, Partner

Adler Pollock & Sheehan PC
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Alan's practice encompasses all aspects of energy, environmental, and public utility law. His clients include some of the largest national and regional energy, renewable energy, cable, telecommunications and water and transportation companies. Alan has advised these clients through all stages of project development, financing, mergers and acquisitions, and in regulatory proceedings and litigation, and government affairs. With proven experience representing clients in wind, solar, hydro and other renewable energy matters, Alan has represented developers, investors, contractors, utilities, state agencies and municipalities in several successful and innovative sustainable energy projects. In the communications sector, Alan's clients include national cable companies and regional telecommunications and internet provider businesses. In the water sector, his clients include municipal and regional water utilities. In the transportation sector, Alan's clients include ferry businesses and motor vehicle companies, as well as transportation network providers.

Prior to joining Adler Pollock & Sheehan, Alan served in several capacities in industry and government. He served as an Assistant General Counsel and Director of Regulatory Affairs for utility companies, as General Counsel for the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and as a Special Assistant Attorney General.

SPEAKERS

Janet Coit, Director

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
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Janet Coit is Director of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), a position she has held since 2011. Coit serves as chair of the State's Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council and the Rhode Island Seafood Marketing Collaborative. Prior to coming to RIDEM, she worked for ten years at The Nature Conservancy as Director of the Rhode Island Chapter. Before that, Coit served as counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works. Coit's background also includes working for three New England Senators and stints at the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice. Coit is dedicated to protecting the quality of the environment and the natural systems critical to the health, safety and well-being of Rhode Islanders as she leads the RIDEM. She serves on the board of the Boy Scouts of America's Narragansett Council. A graduate of Dartmouth College, Coit holds a J.D. from Stanford Law School, where she was president of the Environmental Law Society. She is married with two children.

Jeffrey R. Diehl, Executive Director and CEO

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Jeffrey R. Diehl is the Executive Director and CEO of Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. Jeff has over 35 years of experience in public finance and prior to this role was the Managing Partner of Strategic Sovereign Advisors LLC, a consulting firm advising governments and financial institutions. Previously, he held various senior positions at HSBC, a global financial institution, including Vice

Chairman–US Public Sector and Global Head of Public Sector Banking. He holds BA and MBA degrees from the University of Michigan.

Terrence (Terry) Gray, Deputy Director for Environmental Protection
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Terrence Gray is the Deputy Director for Environmental Protection at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. He oversees all the major environmental regulatory programs in DEM and directs the implementation of the compliance, technical assistance, permitting, remediation, and enforcement programs.

In 2019, Terry was the primary point person on the Rhode Island inter-agency team for the Transportation and Climate Initiative. He has also led several permitting and enforcement program initiatives and reforms at DEM and has been directly involved in the highly successful Brownfields program in RI since its inception. He participated in the Leadership Rhode Island program and is a proud member of the Phi class of 2001. In 2016, Terry participated in the Harvard JFK School of Government Executive Education program on Strategic Management of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies.

Terry has been with DEM for over thirty-four years. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University, a Master of Science degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Northeastern University, and Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Rhode Island. Mr. Gray is a registered professional engineer in Rhode Island.

Shaun O'Rourke, Managing Director of Program and Business Development
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Chief Resilience Officer, State of Rhode Island
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Shaun O'Rourke is Managing Director of Program and Business Development at Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank and Chief Resilience Officer for the State of Rhode Island. Prior to joining RIIB, Shaun served as the National Green Infrastructure Director at The Trust for Public Land and was Director of Sustainable Design at the Boston Architectural College, where he continues to serve as a member of the faculty. He has also worked at AECOM in New York City on public sector infrastructure projects. Shaun holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and a B.S from University of Vermont.

UPCOMING EBC PROGRAMS

APRIL 2021

April 6: Rhode Island Leadership Webinar – Congressional Briefing – U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
April 7: Water Resources Webinar – Into the Mystic – Regional Stormwater Management Challenges
April 9: Eighth Annual New England “Talking Trash” Conference
April 15: Climate Change Webinar – Laws of the Land – Local Bylaws, Ordinances, and Regulations
April 22: Connecticut Leadership Webinar – Briefing from the Leadership of Connecticut DEEP
April 29: Rhode Island Leadership Webinar – Coastal Resources Management Council Briefing