

Member Biographies as of March 18, 2015

Don Archibald

Don Archibald is presently the Chief of Engineering, Maintenance, and Support Services for the National Institute for Science and Technology's Boulder campus. In this position, he provides facility engineering and logistical support to cutting edge research designed to enhance American commerce and competitiveness. Mr. Archibald possesses a multi-faceted environmental and engineering background as a result of his 27 years on active duty for the Department of the Army. One of his last assignments was as the Director of the Fort Detrick Environment, Safety, and Integrated Planning Office where he led a dynamic group of employees as they facilitate the construction and operation of the National Interagency Biodefense Campus, the largest concentration of high containment biomedical research laboratories in the US. After retiring from the service, he served as the Program Manager for the Fort Detrick Central Utility Plant from January 2010 to October 2013. The plant was a public/private venture that provides utilities to four federal agencies on the Biodefense Campus.

Robert Clarke

Shortly after graduating from the Stanford Business School in 1972, I co-founded an energy company in Palo Alto dedicated to very high-performance architectural glass which goes forward today as Southwall Technologies, a division of \$9B/NYSE Eastman. Moving here to Colorado in 1976, I organized Solar Pathways, later Ensar, Inc. that merged into Amory Lovins' Rocky Mountain Institute and goes forward as RMI's consulting arm here in Boulder. In 1981, I founded Alpen dedicated to window and glass technology leading to such projects as the recent on-site remanufacture of all (6,514) windows in the Empire State Building. Alpen is profitable and growing in the wake of two-plus decades here in Boulder - operating in Denver but possibly heading back to Boulder County next year. (I carefully tracked the rate structure of Alpen's Xcel bill, noting at one point the 83% of our monthly charge was tied to peak demand charges.) The Empire State Building pays \$35 per peak kW during peak summer 30-minute periods.

At the core of my career and curiosity are the economic and behavioral factors underlying our worldwide generation and consumption of energy. I now operate as an independent energy consultant within Robert Clarke Associates and would be honored to join this Working Group.

Paul Culnan

I am a Colorado native, CU graduate, and spent my entire career in the Denver/Boulder region. I retired from HP in 2011 and have been an ardent supporter of municipalization ever since. I volunteer at the EFAA food bank weekly. I am a volunteer raptor monitor for the city OSMP department Feb - June. I volunteer with VITA preparing income tax returns for low income individuals and families Jan - Apr. I am treasurer of the Union Sailing Club. I enjoy hiking, biking, sailing and skiing. I know how to navigate the PUC web site to find filings for the various proceedings.

Eric Elliott

I have a bachelor's degree in Economics, and spent a year working with the City of San Antonio to create an alternative downtown parking system (of which effective pricing policy, including varied rates and tiered pricing systems, played a crucial part) and compile a report on municipal water pricing strategies in order to effectively reduce the City's water use. I am young (25) and new to Boulder (resident for 1 year and 3 months). I have very little money and a basic understanding of finances, which I hope would give a much-needed perspective when discussing pricing and energy rates.

Angelique Espinoza

Angelique Espinoza is the Public Affairs Manager for the Boulder Chamber, a post she has held since May 2011. She has lived in Boulder since 1991 and completed an M.A. at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her husband also attended graduate school at CU in the early nineties and works in downtown Boulder. Their son, who currently attends his neighborhood BVSD middle school, was born at Boulder Community Hospital, just a few blocks from their present home in a North Boulder cohousing community. Angelique has worked in Boulder for over twenty years, at both non-profit and for-profit organizations and startups. She served on the Boulder City Council from 2007 to 2009 and has volunteered for several local organizations.

Karl Gerken

Karl Gerken is the Manager of Facilities Engineering at Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. He has held this position since 2005. Karl's responsibilities include planning and execution of capital facilities improvements as well as strategic facilities planning. Karl holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technologies and has been involved in facilities design, construction, and management since 1986. Karl is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Association of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers, and the International Facilities Management Association. Karl has been a Certified Facilities Manager for over 14 years.

Matt Lehrman

After completing my bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I served for three years as Program Director for a non-profit leadership and social justice organization in Lawrence, KS. This included work on environmental sustainability issues at the University of Kansas (KU). This led to a decision to pursue a master of business administration degree at KU, focused on sustainability and information technology.

During graduate school, I worked as a consulting to several local companies, which include a smart grid customer benefits evaluation for the local utility company. The results of this project turned into a job with the utility, first on smart grid deployment then in distributed generation and electric transportation product development and management. Specifically, I developed business cases for the addition of more than three dozen plug-in electric vehicles and more than fifty public charging stations through the utility service territory and the construction of 1 MW of distributed solar PV. I also managed the implementation of the company's net energy metering tariff, which included the interconnection of small wind and solar customers as well as the design of alternative tariff options to net energy metering.

After nearly four years with the utility, I accepted a position in the electricity practice at Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI). My work at RMI focuses on rate design, utility business model development and distributed energy resource deployment.

Dan Powers

Dan Powers is the Executive Director of Boulder Tomorrow, a non-profit business advocacy organization with a mission to nurture the economic vitality and resiliency of the Boulder Valley through research and insight from best business practices. Dan is a CU Boulder grad in Environmental Conservation and has worked for local, county and state government and as the Community Affairs Manager for the Boulder Chamber of Commerce. He has been involved with the creation of Boulder's Carbon Tax, Climate Action Plan, business energy efficiency programs and analyzing Boulder's municipalization efforts for ten years.

Thom Race

Thom Race has 25+ years of finance and accounting experience including considerable experience in telecommunications and software companies. Currently I am Chief Financial Officer of Insequent, Inc. a Bay-area based Software-as-a-Service start-up. Prior to Insequent, I held senior finance and strategy positions including Chief Financial Officer of Cloud Computing infrastructure provider the financial industry and Corporate Development and Strategy positions in the telecommunications industry in Europe and Asia.

I live in the unincorporated portion of Gunbarrel with my wife, 4 children and 3 rescue dogs. I hold an MBA in Finance and Economics from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Oakland University.

P.B. Schechter

As an undergraduate, I worked in history of religion and psychology (separately). After college, I worked in a neuroscience lab, and then went to graduate school in neuroscience. As a post-doc, I worked in a department that was an early adopter of computers for presentation of (auditory) stimuli, and for analysis of neuronal responses. I became intrigued by computers, and went back to school in computer science. I taught computer science for about 10 years, and then went back to school in telecommunication. I was fascinated by the technical aspects of telecom (it is, essentially, a kind of applied computer science), but I was more intrigued by the policy issues—I was in school at the time that both Colorado and the U.S. were deregulating local telephone service.

At the Office of Consumer Counsel, everyone wanted to work on telecom, so—as the new person on the block—I was assigned the electric industry (the OCC worked only with gas, electric and telephone utilities). During my years at the OCC, I developed an interest in—and obtained substantial experience with—electric supply, cost of service, and rate design, for electric utilities.

I have “always” found “everything” interesting. More specifically, I still find the technical aspects of utility operation fascinating, and I am still at least as intrigued by the policy issues as I am by the technical aspects.

Jessica Sharkey

I have over ten years of municipal utility experience in budget and project management. I also have over twelve years strategizing and developing innovative business solutions and streamlining processes to increase efficiencies. I am familiar with municipal budgeting, financial management, FERC guidelines, and rate issues. I can bring real-world experience and provide feedback on benefits and pitfalls of various modeling techniques and software. I have worked with gas and electric supply; transmission and distribution; and asset and fuels management. I have worked at a municipal utility and a joint-action supply agency. I have experience with and an understanding of FERC accounting, smart-grid technology, independent system operators, renewable energy, project management, time of use rates, electric and gas cost rates, and analyzing operational and financial data and metrics. I am also familiar with many other important and applicable general and energy-specific business and communication skills and concepts.

Susan Simpson

Throughout my professional career I have been involved in finance and specifically, rate setting, in various areas. I began my career working with the Psychiatric Hospitals of America corporate headquarters in Washington, DC. From there I came to work at Boulder Community Hospital under the

direction of Joe McDonald. I was the sole budget/finance/rate analyst for the hospital. With Joe, we set the rates for various procedures based on costs and governmental/insurance restrictions. It was, and I guess still is, a complicated process taking into accounts many factors.

I left the hospital to earn my Masters in Economics from CU Boulder. Upon graduation I went to work for the City of Boulder as the Utility Analyst under the direction of Ned Williams. I was responsible for all financial aspects of the utility division of the department of Public Works. I worked closely with the consultants hired to manage our rate setting and during my tenure, implemented the 3-block system for water rates to help manage water use during drought years. This basic system is still in use today, expanded and more sophisticated.

I moved from full time to part time employment at the City in 1994, when the office of Facilities & Asset Management was instituted. Working with Bill Boyes, we grew the division and I managed all the financial aspects of the operation, primarily the Intergovernmental Service fund that distributed costs to various City entities based on factors that were appropriate for those entities.

I took a break from working in an office in 2002 and taught economics at Frontrange Community College. In 2004, I received a request from the University to work very part time managing the utility billing process on the Boulder campus. This position has grown from 10 hours/week with a very manual process, to 26 hours/week and a very automated process. I manage the billing for all the non-cogen utilities on campus. Water (COB, raw water), sewer (COB, Cooling Towers), flood, electric (Xcel Energy, Renewable Energy), gas (Xcel Energy, 3rd party purchases), and trash removal. I manage the budget and set the rates for raw water use and trash removal.

My knowledge of utility use and financial process in the city of Boulder is unmatched. I have a great working relationship with the City of Boulder Utility Billing office and the local Xcel Energy office. Like I said earlier, I am both a city resident and a “business” with a unique and in-depth understanding of utility rate setting and billing.

Rick Tazelaar

Rick Tazelaar has a record of achievements in the development and analysis of business strategies. At BMO Harris Bank he guided the bank’s Customer Analytics team in its delivery of data-driven approaches to marketing challenges. He helped define and create the bank’s tools for managing and leveraging customer data to more closely align the bank’s products and services with customer needs. As Director of Research and Analysis at a direct marketing firm, he developed modeling tools that increased the marketing effectiveness of the company’s credit card clients. As Product Manager for a software development company, he oversaw the company’s redesign of its flagship financial modeling tools. Rick has always had a deep interest in the economic and social issues of energy, which led him to spend 5 years as District Sales Manager in the 80s for the then-world leader in photovoltaics.

Rick has a Bachelor of Engineering (electrical engineering) degree from Vanderbilt University and a Master’s of Business Administration (marketing and finance) degree from The University of Chicago. He has served on the board of directors for a photovoltaic distribution company, as a member of the Local School Council for his daughter’s neighborhood school, as the chairperson of committees at his church, as a member of the City of Boulder’s Clean Energy Tech Team, and as a volunteer citizen activist for clean renewable energy in Boulder.

Nils Tellier

Mr. Tellier is a licensed professional engineer with 10 years of experience in wholesale power trading and electric utilities operations. He is the Principal and Founder of EPSIM, Corp. Mr. Tellier has participated in the planning and start-up of a Joint Power Authority in 2004. He has led the day-to-day operations for the new JPA as well as a pre-existing one, representing a total annual operating budget of \$60 million. In 2009, Mr. Tellier led the development of a wholesale electric market for which he still directs operations.

Prior to founding EPSIM, Corp., Mr. Tellier was a Principal at Robertson-Bryan, Inc. following a career in cryogenic fluid processes. He has authored two US Patents in the field of industrial gases. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado – Boulder, and a bachelor degree in math and physics from the University of Caen –France, where he pursued a master in pure math before serving in the French Navy as a reserve officer and platoon leader.

Andy Vissers

I've worked at Covidien for the past 6 years in increasing roles of responsibility from facilities engineering to becoming the onsite certified energy manager. In the 6 years that I've been with Covidien, I've worked with Xcel account reps to try to restructure Covidien's rates, shave peak demand energy and replace old and inefficient electrical and mechanical equipment. Since Covidien is a large commercial/industrial employer in the city of Boulder, I feel that it would benefit both Covidien and the city to be able to share each others' points of interests and concerns in the matter of utility rates and structures that are being developed for the Boulder Energy Future project. I also take part in both the CIEC (Colorado Industrial Energy Challenge) workshop and the CIEE (Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency) work group.

Phil Wardwell

As noted, I am an environmental and energy attorney by specialty. I passed the Pennsylvania Bar in 1968, and worked for 4 1/2 years as a military lawyer in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. I then passed the New York State bar, and worked for 23 years with the State, primarily with the NY Department of Environment Conservation.

I then took the New Mexico Bar, and worked for the New Mexico Environment Department, and then for 11 years for Los Alamos National Laboratory. I worked primarily on air and water compliance issues. After retirement, my wife and I moved to Colorado. I have enjoyed working with City Staff members and other volunteers from many different backgrounds on the Solar Working Group. I am very interested and concerned about climate change/global warming, and how to shift our energy economy away from fossil fuels to clean energy sources.

Warren Wendling

Warren Wendling is the founder of Wendling Consulting LLC, where he provides engineering consulting services. From 1995-2005, he served as Chief Engineer of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, where he managed the work product of the electric, gas, and communications disciplines. Since beginning work at the Colorado Public Utilities Commission in 1981, he performed analyses, investigations, and audits related to utility operations, safety, quality of service, system planning, cost of service studies, and rate design. From 1974-1981, he was a senior engineer for Public Service Company of Colorado. He has a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering, and an MBA, all from the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Colorado and helped author the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Electric Utility Cost Allocation Manual.