



2024 Energy Legislative Summit

“Equity for Hispanics in America’s Energy Transition”

Dates: Wednesday, February 28 - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Thursday, February 29 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Location: **U.S. Department of Energy**
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

PROGRAM AGENDA

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 28

12:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS**

1:00 PM **WELCOME REMARKS**

[Fred Pfaeffle](#)

Senior Legal Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Dept. of Energy

STATE OF HISPANICS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

[José L. Pérez](#)

President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy (HIE)

1:15 PM **OPENING REMARKS**

[Joseph Dominguez](#)

President & CEO, Constellation Energy
Chairman, Hispanics in Energy

1:30 PM **KEYNOTE**

[U.S. Senator Alex Padilla](#) (D-CA)

1:45 PM **SESSION 1 - EXECUTIVE FIRESIDE CHAT**

Moderator: [José L. Pérez](#), President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy

Panelists:

- [Joseph Dominguez](#), President & CEO, Constellation Energy; Chairman, HIE
- [Nicolas Medina](#), Public & Government Affairs Executive, ExxonMobil
- [Rudy Garza](#), President & CEO, CPS Energy



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2:30 PM **REMARKS:** [Ali Zaidi](#), Assistant to the President and National Climate Advisor, *The White House*

SESSION 2 - MULTI-AGENCY ENERGY-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

FUNDING/DEVELOPMENT

Moderator: [Maria Pia Tamburri](#), Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs, Dominion Energy & Board Member, HIE

Panelists:

- [Zealan T. Hoover](#), Sr. Advisor to the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Environmental Protection Agency
- [Gene Rodrigues](#), Assistant Secretary for Electricity, U.S. Dept. of Energy

3:30 PM **KEYNOTE**
[Janie Martinez Gonzalez](#)
Chair, Board of Trustees, CPS Energy

3:45 PM **REMARKS**
[Silvia Aldana](#)
Manager of Political and Federal Affairs, PG&E

KEYNOTE

[U.S. Senator Ben Ray Luján](#) (D-NM)

4:00 PM **SESSION 3 - STATE OF HISPANICS PARTICIPATING IN HYDROGEN HUBS**
Moderator: [Melissa Klembara](#), Director of Portfolio Strategy, Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED), U.S. Dept. of Energy

Panelists:

- [Angelina Galiteva](#), CEO, Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems
- [Kristine Wiley](#), Vice President, Low Carbon Energy Solutions, GTI Energy
- [Neil Banwart](#), Chief Integration Officer, Midwest Alliance for Clean Energy

5:00 PM **REMARKS AND KEY TAKEAWAYS**
[Olman Valverde](#), Law Office of Olman Valverde, HIE Board Member

5:30 PM **ENERGY LEADERS’ RECEPTION**
Location: Hilton Washington D.C. Mall at the Wharf – 480 L’Enfant Plaza SW
Hosts: American Gas Association & Edison Electric Institute
Entertainment by: Nico Avila, Classical Guitarist



Hispanics In Energy

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Thursday - February 29

8:00 AM REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING

9:00 AM FIRESIDE CHAT

[Judge Nelson Díaz](#), Vice Chairman East, Hispanics in Energy

[Robert Gee](#), President, Asians in Energy, Environment, and Commerce

[José L. Pérez](#), President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy

9:30 AM SESSION 4 – FIRESIDE CHAT

Introduction: [Rosalva Robles](#), NiSource

[Catherine J.K. Sandoval](#), Board Member, U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

[Commissioner Lea Marquez Peterson](#), AZ Corporation Commission

10:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSION 5 - PUERTO RICO ENERGY RESILIENCE

Moderator: [Fred Pfaeffle](#), Senior Legal Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Dept. of Energy

Panelists:

- [Jennifer A. DeCesaro](#), Director for Recovery and Mitigation at National Security Council, *The White House*
- [Marisol Bonnet](#), Secretary’s Advisor on Puerto Rico, U.S. Dept. of Energy
- [Charlotte Gossett Navarro](#), Puerto Rico Chief Director, Hispanic Federation
- [Augustine F. Carbo-Lugo](#), Director, Puerto Rico Grid Modernization and Recovery Team, U.S. Dept. of Energy
- [Francisco Berrios](#), Deputy Chief of Staff on Energy, Office of the Governor, La Fortaleza, Puerto Rico, and Chair of the Board of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA)

10:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSION 6 - BENEFITS OF EFFECTIVE HISPANIC EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS

Moderator: [Zack Valdez](#), Ph.D., U.S. Dept. of Energy

Panelists:

- [Gabriel Chavez](#), Constellation Energy
- [Joanne Durkel](#), NiSource
- [Carlos Nouel](#), National Grid, Hispanic ERG
- [Gregorio Salinas](#), Burns McDonnell



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- 11:30 AM** **Fireside Chat**
Perspectives on Justice40 and IRS Section 45V
[Fred Pfaeffle](#), Senior Legal Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Dept. of Energy
[Martín Montes](#)
Partner
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- 11:50 AM** **LUNCH**
- KEYNOTE**
[The Honorable Shalanda Baker](#)
Director, Office of Energy Justice and Equity
U.S. Dept. of Energy
- RECOGNITION:** Virginia Chapter and ERG Leaders
- 12:45 PM** **KEYNOTE**
[U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto](#) (D-Nevada)
- 1:00 PM** **REMARKS**
[José L. Pérez](#)
President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy (HIE)
- KEYNOTE**
[The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm](#)
Secretary of Energy, U.S. Dept. of Energy
- 1:30 PM** **SESSION 7 - STATE OF HISPANIC BUSINESS CONTRACTING IN ENERGY SECTOR**
Moderator: [Ron Pierce](#), Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Dept. of Energy
- [Julian Cañete](#), President and CEO, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
 - [Marco V. Ávila](#), Chairman & President, Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 - [Jaime di Paulo Zozaya](#), President & CEO, Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 - [Theresa \(Alfaro\) Daytner](#), Daytner Construction Group



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- 2:30 PM** **CONCURRENT SESSION 8 - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ENERGY SECTOR: RECRUITING, RETAINING, AND PROMOTING TALENT IN THE INDUSTRY**
Moderator: [Maria Pia Tamburri](#), Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs, Dominion Energy & Board Member, HIE
Panelists:
- [Nelson Pérez](#), Vice President, Government Relations, Centrus Energy
 - [Carlos Ayala](#), Vice President & Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, NiSource
 - [Diana Vasquez](#), Executive Director, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) National Internship Program
- 2:30 PM** **CONCURRENT SESSION 9 - GETTING TO KNOW HISPANIC-OWNED ENERGY COMPANIES**
Moderator: [José Niño](#), Chairman, Biofriendly & Board Member, HIE
Panelists:
- [Illary Archilla](#), Founder & CEO, Terravanta
 - [Sam Sanchez](#), President and Co-Founder, Great Lakes Solex
 - [Michael De La Cruz](#), Senior Vice President, GroupO
- 3:30 PM** **SESSION 10 - ENERGY TRADE EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE - TOP ISSUES FACING THE INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS**
Moderator: [William Mojica](#), Senior Vice President Technical Services & Asset Risk Management, NiSource
Panelists:
- [Amanda Eversole](#), Executive VP and Chief Advocacy Officer, American Petroleum Institute
 - [Karen A. Harbert](#), President & CEO, American Gas Association
 - [Sheri Givens](#), President & CEO, Smart Electric Power Alliance
- 4:30 PM** **CLOSING REMARKS**
[Olman Valverde](#), Esquire & Board Member, HIE
- 5:00 PM** **PROGRAM ENDS**