February 26, 2023

Dear Lisa,

Kit Kennedy, Senior Director, Climate & Clean Energy Program NRDC, Rory Christian, CEO NY Public Service Commission and I would like to invite you to be a featured speaker at the award winning Nineteenth Annual Symposium on Energy in the 21st Century in Syracuse, NY. It will be held at the Gateway Building of SUNY ESF on April 21st. This year we will again be hybrid, with a maximum of 200 attendees in-person and equal number online. The topic of the Symposium is: *RESILIENCE AND MITIGATION; PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY.*

Anne Reynolds, President ACE NY and I would also like you to be our guest for a reception on April 20th, 6pm, at the Craftsman Inn, Fayetteville, followed at 7pm by a small dinner with the speakers and selected dignitaries. (see attached picture of last year's dinner) This is a very special event, coveted by the speakers, and we will also be presenting an award to National Grid.

This award winning Symposium, in its nineteenth year, is unique and known for its outstanding speakers and cutting edge information and policy discussions. We work closely with NREL, NRDC and NYSERDA. The event brings together attendees not only from all across New York State but also from several other states, and include not only environmental, labor and business leaders, but municipal mayors and sustainability managers, contractors, tradesmen, interested citizens, professors and students from a dozen colleges, state employees, as well as several members from NYS Assembly and Senate. At least one college course includes the Symposium in their curriculum. We also award a prize to each of the 14 High School STEM Science Fairs in the state for the best project dealing with renewable energy.

The Symposium this year will include cutting edge speakers on these topics:
*Bridging Climate Change Resilience and Mitigation
*Grid Preparation for Vulnerability, Resiliency with Renewable Energy
*The Importance and Future of Energy Storage
*Energy Justice – Impacts & Resiliency in the Minority Community
*Jobs for the New Market in Resiliency
*NYS Plans: CLCPA & IRA

Among our six speakers this year will be ELIZA HOTCHKISS, Senior manager and analyst of the Energy Security and Resilience Center at NREL; NATASHA DESCHENE, National Grid Vice President Electric Asset Management for New York; DAVE WASIURA, Assistant to Director, United Steelworkers (USW) Region4; DAVID SANDBANK, Vice President Distributed Energy &Clean Transportation NYSERDA, DOREEN HARRIS, President/CEO NYSERDA, and BASIL SEGGOS, Commissioner DEC.

The speakers are asked to speak no more than 15 minutes, followed the 1½ hour panel discussion moderated superbly by Kit Kennedy.There are no breakout sessions or tabling, just the excellent speakers. The dinner the evening before is always a highlight for speakers where we can all talk in a relaxed atmosphere around the table with other speakers and dignitaries. (see picture)

I hope you will be able to join us on April 20th evening and 21st for the Symposium. At the Symposium, which begins precisely at 8am, there are no breakout sessions or tabling, just the six speakers' presentations followed by the panel discussion which ends at noon. We conclude with a luncheon speaker and end the day at 2pm. For those interested, there are interesting tours following, (Solar farm, wind farm, etc.) with transportation provided in new electric school buses!

Please let me know as soon as possible if we can include you on our program as I am sending out an announcement shortly. Although in the past I have asked all former speakers to include Environmental Justice issues in their presentations, this year we would like you to stress in your presentation a short history and the need to address the vulnerability of disadvantaged communities in our resiliency and mitigation plans. Your overall environmental knowledge as well as expertise in this issue will truly add to the conversation. Thank you very much for consideration.

I am including several attachments for your information. I would very much like to speak with you if possible very soon, and hopefully will meet you in person in April. ***Rhea***

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