



America's Energy Infrastructure: Where Do We Go from Here?

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OPENING REMARKS BY

Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR)

[@RepSchrader](#)

Congressman Kurt Schrader is currently serving his sixth term in the United States House of Representatives. He represents Oregon's 5th Congressional District, which includes all of Marion, Polk, Lincoln and Tillamook Counties as well as the bulk of Clackamas and small portions of Multnomah and Benton Counties. Before being elected to Congress, Schrader, a farmer and veterinarian for more than thirty years, established and managed the Clackamas County Veterinary Clinic in Oregon City and operated his farm where he grew and sold organic fruit and vegetables.

In 1996, Congressman Schrader was elected to the Oregon State House of Representatives. There he served as a member of the Joint Ways & Means Committee. Schrader was one of five legislators asked by their peers to guide Oregon through the budget crisis of 2001-2002. Schrader was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 2003 and was immediately appointed to chair the Joint Ways & Means Committee. He continued to serve in that capacity until he was elected to U.S. Congress in 2008.

Congressman Schrader attended Cornell University where he received his BA in Government in 1973. He received his veterinary degree from the University of Illinois in 1977.

Congressman Schrader currently serves as a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (E&C), which oversees a wide portfolio of issues ranging from health care to the environment. Prior to joining E&C, Congressman Schrader served on the House Committee on Agriculture, where he served on the Farm Bill Conference Committee that successfully passed a five year farm bill, the House Committee on Small Business and House Budget Committee. In the 116th Congress, Congressman Schrader will serve on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, the Subcommittee on Energy, and the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Schrader is a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, New Democrat Coalition, for which he serves as a co-chair of the Affordable and Accessible Healthcare Task Force, and the only bipartisan working group in the House, the Problem Solvers Caucus.

MODERATOR



Amy Harder

National Energy and Climate Reporter, Axios

[@AmyAHarder](#)



Amy Harder is one of the top national energy and climate change reporters in the country, considered to be a uniquely balanced and influential journalist with respect across the spectrum. She covers these issues in a regular column at Axios, called Harder Line.

In her column and elsewhere on Axios.com, Harder reports on trends and exclusive scoops, while also distilling into understandable formats complex energy and climate issues relevant to people outside the industry. Harder interviews some of the biggest CEOs in the energy industry, and at the same time bridges the gap between what CEOs say and what everyday people care about.

Previously, she covered the same issues for The Wall Street Journal, based out of its Washington, DC, bureau, and before that at National Journal, also in Washington DC.

She has appeared on PBS' NewsHour, CSPAN, Fox News, MSNBC, CBS, and NPR, among many other media outlets. She is regularly sought out to speak and participate in events, including moderating and participating in panel discussions and giving speeches in Washington, DC, and throughout the country.

Amy is originally from Washington State and received a BA in journalism with honors from Western Washington University.

PANELISTS



Alan S. Armstrong

CEO, Williams Companies

[@WilliamsUpdates](#)

Alan Armstrong became president and chief executive officer of Williams in January 2011. During his tenure, Williams has expanded its reach, currently touching about 30 percent of all U.S. natural gas volumes, through gathering, processing, transportation and storage services.

Prior to being named CEO, Armstrong led the Company's North American midstream and olefins businesses through a period of growth and expansion as Senior Vice President – Midstream. Previously, Mr. Armstrong served as Vice President of Gathering and Processing from 1999 to 2002; Vice President of Commercial Development from 1998 to 1999; Vice President of Retail Energy Services from 1997 to 1998 and Director of Commercial Operations for the company's midstream business in the Gulf Coast region from 1995 to 1997. He joined Williams in 1986 as an engineer.

Armstrong graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He serves on the board of directors of the American Petroleum Institute, is a member of the National Petroleum Council and is a former board member of Access Midstream Partners, GP, LLC. He is currently chair of the National Petroleum Council's Energy Infrastructure Study. Armstrong is a 2018 recipient of the GPA Midstream Association's Hanlon Award and is a member of the board of directors of BOK Financial Corporation. Additionally, he serves on the boards of several education-focused organizations including as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Oklahoma Foundation and Junior Achievement, USA. Armstrong is also a member of the boards of The Williams Foundation and Gilcrease Museum. He is a member of the Distinguished Graduates Society of the Gallogly College of Engineering, University of Oklahoma.





Marty Durbin

President, Global Energy Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

[@martyjdurbin](#)

Martin (Marty) Durbin is president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Energy Institute (GEI). Durbin leads GEI's efforts to build support for meaningful energy action through policy development, education, and advocacy, making it a go-to voice for commonsense energy solutions.

Previously, Durbin was the executive vice president and chief strategy officer at the American Petroleum Institute (API), where he integrated API's broad advocacy capabilities in pursuit of the organization's and the industry's public policy priorities. He returned to API after serving for nearly three years as president and CEO of America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), representing North America's leading independent natural gas exploration and production companies. There he oversaw ANGA's market expansion efforts with industry, government, and consumer stakeholders. At the end of 2015, he guided ANGA's ultimate combination into API to better achieve the mission of both organizations.

Before joining ANGA, Durbin served as executive vice president of Government Affairs at API. Subsequently, Durbin served as vice president of Federal Relations at the American Chemistry Council (ACC). Prior to the merger of the ACC and the American Plastics Council (APC) in 2002, Durbin directed Federal and International Affairs for APC, serving as a liaison to sister organizations in Canada, Europe, Japan, Mexico, and South America. Earlier in his career he served as a legislative assistant for Sen. Alan J. Dixon (D-IL) and for Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA).

Durbin serves as chairman of the Board for A Wider Circle, a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to ending poverty for one individual and one family after another. He received a B.A. in government and politics from the University of Maryland, College Park. He is married and has three children.



Jason Grumet

President, Bipartisan Policy Center

[@JasonGrumet](#)

Jason Grumet, founder and president of the Bipartisan Policy Center is respected on both sides of the aisle for his innovative approach to improving government effectiveness and impacting public policy.

Over the last decade, BPC has combined the best ideas from both parties to promote health, security, and opportunity for all Americans. Under Grumet's leadership, BPC has harnessed the power of collaboration to advocate for principled and politically viable policy solutions to major policy challenges facing our country. In 2019, BPC played a significant role in successful legislative efforts to strengthen key early childhood programs, accelerate the development of low-carbon energy technologies, expand access to retirement security for millions of Americans, and improve the nation's response to the migration crisis at the southern border.

In 2001, Grumet founded and directed the National Commission on Energy Policy, which produced a comprehensive set of policy recommendations many of which were incorporated into the 2005 Energy Policy Act. Previously, Grumet led the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management, where he

expanded the organization's technical and advocacy capabilities and increased its presence in national policy discussions.

Grumet regularly authors commentaries and editorials in national publications and participates in broadcast interviews on major cable news networks. He is frequently called upon to testify before Congressional committees on a range of topics, speak at national forums, and supply guidance to policymakers and business leaders.

Grumet is the author of *City of Rivals: Restoring the Glorious Mess of American Democracy*, released in September 2014.

Grumet received a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University and J.D. from Harvard University. He lives in Bethesda, Maryland with his wife and three children.

