



Critical Minerals are Key in the Energy Transition

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OPENING REMARKS BY



Lisa Murkowski

United States Senator (R-AK)

[@lisamurkowski](#)

Lisa Murkowski, Alaska's senior U.S. Senator, is a third generation Alaskan proudly serving as the first Alaskan born senator. Since joining the Senate in 2002, Senator Murkowski has worked tirelessly for Alaskans and earned a reputation in the Senate for her ability to work collaboratively and across the aisle to reach common sense solutions.

A leader on energy and public lands issues, Senator Murkowski recognizes that sound national policy will promote not only job creation and economic growth, but also higher standards of living and greater global stability. She supports the safe and efficient production and use of all forms of domestic energy, as well as research to help develop emerging technologies. Senator Murkowski continues to pursue policies to advance renewable energy, increase energy efficiency, and make America's energy cleaner, more affordable, and more reliable.



David Turk

Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

[@turkdm](#)

Prior to his nomination as Deputy Secretary, Turk was the Deputy Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), where he focused on helping countries around the world tackle their clean energy transitions. He also directed reports on the digitalization of energy systems, the future of clean hydrogen, and a project tracking progress on a wide range of clean energy technologies.

During the Obama-Biden Administration, Turk coordinated international technology and clean energy efforts at DOE. During this time, he helped spearhead the launch of Mission Innovation—a global effort to enhance clean energy innovation. Turk also served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director at the U.S. National Security Council, where he coordinated interagency legislative affairs efforts by the full range of national security agencies and provided legislative advice to National Security Council decision-making.

PANELISTS



Michael Maten

Senior Strategist of EV and Energy Policy, General Motors

A veteran of the automotive industry, Michael is the Senior Strategist – EV and Energy Policy for GM’s Public Policy Team. He has worked in the Electric Propulsion space for over 10 years as part of GM’s Product Planning and Strategy group. He led the advanced planning effort for GM’s next generation of battery electric vehicles, debuting soon in the form of the Cadillac Lyriq and Hummer EV.

Michael has worked all over the globe for GM on electrification and strategy projects. He leads GM Policy work on EV and battery supply chain topics. He is a member of the Massachusetts Zero Emission Vehicle Commission, and also sits on the advisory panel for Drive Change, Drive Electric, a public/private partnership between automakers and Northeast states to promote electric vehicles. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan, and an MBA from University of Chicago Booth School of Business.



Paramita Das

General Manager, Global Marketing and Development, Rio Tinto

Paramita Das is a global executive with extensive experience in the commodities segment (metal and oil and gas). She leads the development of the market development footprint for aluminium globally and the establishment a more customer centric approach in the Americas. Prior to moving back to Chicago to lead the marketing and development space, Paramita was the Group Business Executive (Chief of Staff) to the CEO of Rio Tinto and Chief Transformation Officer for the Atlantic Operations for Aluminium segment with Rio Tinto. Paramita joined Rio Tinto in 2015, prior to which, she was with companies like Sumitomo Corporation and BP.

Paramita lives in Chicago with her son and is an active member with several organizations dealing with diversity, sustainability and children education issues.



Marcelle Shoop

Saline Lakes Program Director, National Audubon Society

Marcelle Shoop is the director of the Saline Lakes Program for the National Audubon Society. The Saline Lakes program is part of Audubon’s Western Water initiative focused on advancing balanced solutions to water use in the arid West to ensure birds, ecosystems, people, and economies thrive. She has an extensive background navigating challenging policy and legal issues surrounding environmental conservation and sustainability.

Her current role with Audubon builds on her previous legal and managerial roles at Rio Tinto where she focused on international socially and

environmentally responsible business practices for supply chains. Her experience also includes supply chain tracing and product lifecycle assessments, as well as managing climate and energy policy issues. While at Rio Tinto she also worked with conservation partners, including BirdLife International, in connection with corporate biodiversity efforts, leading to an increased appreciation for the importance of community connections with birds and the environment.

MODERATORS



Julie Anderson

Senior Advisor, Bipartisan Policy Center

Julie Anderson is a Senior Advisor at BPC. She has been a guiding force in the growth of BPC's policy projects since its inception. She provides strategic oversight and counsel across policy recommendations, and is also instrumental in managing BPC's staff and day-to-day operations.

Prior to joining BPC, Anderson was manager of the Climate Change Campaign for the Union of Concerned Scientists. She previously served in the White House as a special assistant for legislative affairs, handling energy and environment issues for President Clinton. Anderson worked in several roles at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, including as acting associate administrator for congressional and legislative affairs. In this capacity, she worked on reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act and promulgation of 1997 smog and soot rules.



Sasha Mackler

Executive Director of the Energy Project, Bipartisan Policy Center

Sasha Mackler directs the Energy Project at the Bipartisan Policy Center. He has worked for more than two decades at the intersection of energy policy and commercial markets. Prior to leading the Energy Project, he spent nearly 10 years in the private sector, first as vice president of Summit Power Group's carbon capture business and then overseeing market development activities for Enviva, the largest biomass fuel supplier to the global utility industry. His professional work has focused on the innovations necessary to scale emerging energy technologies along with developing the business models and policy frameworks that support the deployment of low carbon energy systems.

Earlier in his career, Mackler played a key role in BPC's first project as the Research Director at the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP), which produced a comprehensive set of policy recommendations many of which were incorporated into the 2005 Energy Policy Act. He subsequently launched BPC's energy innovation portfolio, including the formation of the American Energy Innovation Council. Mackler has managed a number of energy policy projects on topics such as tax incentives, federal RD&D, finance, workforce transition, carbon capture and storage, low carbon fuels, cap and trade, climate impacts and adaptation, and geoengineering research. Prior to his work with NCEP, he was an analyst in the Clean Air Markets Division at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mackler holds both a Master of Science in Earth Resources Engineering and Master of Public Administration from Columbia University. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Geomechanical Engineering from the University of Rochester.