

**Center on the American Governor
Governor James J. Florio Archive
Forum on Environment and Energy
June 3, 2016
Panelist Profiles**

Todd B. Bates, a finalist for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Public Service, is a science communicator at Rutgers. Before joining the Rutgers News and Media Relations staff in January 2016, Bates was a freelance environmental, health and science writer and investigative reporter. Previously, he was a newspaper reporter for nearly 35 years in New Jersey. Bates began his career at *The Home News* in New Brunswick in 1980, covering East Brunswick and then becoming the medical/general assignment reporter. He joined the *Asbury Park Press* on Earth Day in 1985 and became an environmental writer that year. His most recent assignment was covering the environment and severe weather as a member of the paper's Investigations Team. Bates has written or coauthored thousands of news, investigative and feature stories. He holds a master of science in journalism degree from Northwestern University and a bachelor of arts degree from Connecticut College, where he majored in English. He was enrolled in New Jersey's Graduate Program in Public Health from 1986 to 1989. Bates has won or shared more than 70 journalism and other honors, including the 2016 Environmental Stewardship Award from EarthShare New Jersey; a 2015 Award of Appreciation for Outstanding Achievement from the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club; and the 2011 Knight Award for Public Service from the Online Journalism Association.

John O. Bennett, III served in the state legislature from 1979-2004, including 10 years in the Assembly, where he chaired the Environment Committee. He was elected to the Senate in 1989 and became the majority leader of the Senate in 1993. Bennett was elected president of the Senate in 2001 and became acting governor in 2002. Since leaving the legislature, he has been a state committeeman for the Republican Party and served 2 years as Monmouth county chairman. In his private life, Bennett was a partner in Dilworth Paxson LLP law firm. He was the municipal attorney for many municipalities and continues as the attorney for Colts Neck Township and Keansburg Borough. He was also an adjunct professor at Montclair University, where he taught state and local government for seven years. Bennett is currently the Lavallette Borough administrator.

Dan Dalton represented New Jersey's fourth legislative district in both the Assembly (1980-82) and the Senate (1982-92). While in the Senate, he chaired the Energy and Environment Committee and was elected majority leader (1990-92). In 1992, Governor Florio appointed Dalton secretary of state. Dalton was a sales executive for Brown & Brown of New Jersey, a full-service insurance broker, until 2013. He is currently employed as an adjunct professor in the Department of Economics and Politics at Rowan University. He serves on the boards of directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Gloucester County, Kennedy University Hospital, and Parke Bank Corporation.

Steve DeMicco is chairman of Message & Media, Inc., a strategic communications company founded in 1992 and based in New Brunswick, New Jersey, with offices in Washington, D.C. and Boston, Massachusetts. He currently manages an ongoing campaign for We Work for Health New Jersey, a coalition of patient advocate organizations, local officials and pharmaceutical companies promoting the economic and social benefits of the state's life sciences sector. He served as campaign director for two New Jersey Governors and three U.S. Senators and has been tapped by national organizations and the

U.S. State Department to consult with political parties in Ireland and emerging democracies in Hungary and Yemen. Prior to forming Message & Media, DeMicco served under Governor Jim Florio as executive director of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee after serving for five years as research director for the New Jersey Senate Democrats. He holds a B.A. from Rutgers and currently resides in New Brunswick with his wife, Jeanne M. Fox.

Joe Donohue joined the NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission in 2009 as deputy director after serving a year as assistant state treasurer. He previously worked 34 years as a journalist for the *Star-Ledger*, the *Los Angeles Daily News* and the *Atlantic City Press*. During his reporting career, he wrote about science, environment, energy, auto insurance, and state politics and government, including the budget. Either as part of a team or individually, he won 4 national and 9 state journalism awards, including a Pulitzer Prize. He earned a BS degree in environmental science from Stockton State College in 1975.

Joe Doria has been a major force in New Jersey politics and governance since 1979, when he was elected to the General Assembly. His 25 years in the Assembly included election by his colleagues as speaker for the 1990-1991 legislative session and as minority leader from 1992 to 2002. He was the longest-serving member of the Assembly and also the longest-serving Democratic leader of the Assembly in recent history. Doria was also elected mayor of the City of Bayonne, serving from 1998 through 2007. He served in the New Jersey State Senate from 2004 to 2007. Subsequently, he was in the executive branch as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs from 2007 to 2009. Doria attended Marist High School in Bayonne. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Saint Peter's College with majors in history, English and French. He holds a master's degree in American Studies from Boston College. Doria attended New York University and Fordham Law School and received his doctorate in organizational leadership and education administration from Teachers College, Columbia University in May of 2000. Doria has received over 200 awards and citations from both public and private groups. Since 2003, Doria has been an adjunct faculty member at Eagleton, where he co-teaches the Graduate Seminar in American Politics for Fellows with Pete McDonough. He is currently dean of the School of Education at Saint Peter's University.

Jeanne M. Fox, a commissioner of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUB), served as its president and a member of the Governor's cabinet from January 2002 to January 2010. Prior to her appointment to the Board, Fox served as a regional administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and as commissioner and deputy commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. Fox is active on many boards, including the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI) Public Advisory Council on Smart Grid; Harvard Electricity Policy Group; National Petroleum Council; National Council on Electricity Policy; and the board of the National Regulatory Research Institute Research Advisory Committee. Additionally, she served as president of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners and as a member of the National Academy of Science Panel on Public Participation in Environmental Assessment and Decision Making; National Leadership Group on Energy Efficiency; EPRI Advisory Council to the board of directors and executive committee; and the Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee. She has served as a visiting distinguished lecturer at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

Dennis Hart has worked with the Utility and Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey since 2013. In his role as director of utility operations, Hart focuses on regulatory and legislative issues affecting public utility construction. He became managing director of the Construction Industry Advancement Program of New Jersey in 2010. Prior to that appointment, Hart was executive director of the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust. Earlier, Hart spent 23 years in various staff and management positions within the NJDEP, including assistant commissioner for environmental regulation, administrator of the water supply program, state drought coordinator, and director of the Division of Water Quality. He has served on the board of directors of the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities and the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators. He has testified before Congress and the NJ Legislature and has appeared on numerous television and radio programs. He serves on education advisory boards at The College of New Jersey, The New Jersey Institute of Technology, Essex County College and Union County College. Hart has a BS in biology from Juniata College and an MA in administration from Rider University and is a 2002 graduate of the Leadership New Jersey Program.

Jeanne Herb is associate director of the Environmental Analysis and Communications Group at the Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Her work at the Bloustein School focuses on collaborative research and applied projects that advance sound environmental and sustainability policy and practices at the state, local and regional levels. Prior to joining the Bloustein School, Herb was assistant commissioner for policy, planning and science at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, where she led multidisciplinary and cross-program efforts related to climate change and energy, environmental justice, smart growth and sustainable development, environmental health and science policy and coastal management. Earlier in her career, Herb managed the Public Policy Program at the non-profit Tellus Institute, was the founding director of the New Jersey Pollution Prevention Program, and oversaw risk reduction and risk communication efforts at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. She has a master's degree in environmental journalism from The New York University and a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and education from Rutgers University.

Kristi Izzo has had a passion for helping others cut through bureaucracy and has been involved in government and non-profit organizations for her entire career. She has worked for members of both houses of Congress, and in New Jersey state government for the Department of Environmental Protection, the Board of Public Utilities, and a member of the state Senate. While serving at DEP during the Florio administration, Izzo worked on special projects such as Liberty State Park and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; she was also the ethics liaison officer. She later became the secretary of the Board of Public Utilities and held this position under administrations of both parties. She implemented numerous systems that created greater efficiencies and provided for increased transparency. She recently retired from state service and has been active in her community through various volunteer opportunities.

Greta Kiernan worked in government for 40 years, including one term in the Assembly from Bergen County. She was on the staff of three Assembly Members, three State Senators, one Congressman (Rush Holt) and three Governors. She also worked at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the Department of Environmental Protection. Now retired from government, she is a freelance creative consultant, writer and editor. Kiernan is vice chair of the Plainsboro Planning Board and serves as a trustee of the Plainsboro Public Library. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of Greener New

Jersey, a non-profit producing programs on New Jersey farms, farm markets, parks and other open spaces for television, web, radio and educational organizations.

Charles Licata has been a practicing environmental attorney, in both the public and private sectors, for over 30 years. He served as counsel to the Camden County Utility Authority during the construction and start-up of its regional sewer system. He served in the Florio administration as the first assistant environmental prosecutor and was responsible for many priority enforcement cases. Licata also served as executive director of the NJ Maritime Pilot Commission. In the private sector he has represented numerous major companies and developers.

Steven J. Madonna heads a boutique environmental counseling and litigation firm in Chatham, New Jersey. The firm has represented individuals, local, state and regional corporations, businesses and governmental entities with respect to an array of environmental issues. Madonna was an assistant attorney general and the former New Jersey State environmental prosecutor responsible for developing, coordinating, and prioritizing the civil, criminal and regulatory components of the State's environmental enforcement program. He was also a member of the Environmental Protection Agency Steering Committee on State/Federal Enforcement Relationship, the Advisory Council of the National Enforcement Training Institute, the Oversight Committee of the Federal/State Environmental Task Force in New Jersey, Special Counsel to the Hungarian Minister of the Environment, and Special Environmental Counsel to the Township of Harmony, N.J. Prior to this, he was an assistant prosecutor in Morris and Essex Counties. Madonna was also adjunct professor at the County College of Morris, Randolph, N.J. He is currently a visiting adjunct at New Jersey Institute of Technology and on the faculty of the New Jersey Judicial College, 2004. He received a bachelor's degree from La Salle University in 1964, a J.D. from Notre Dame University Law School in 1968, and a master of laws degree from New York University Law School in 1980.

Lance Miller spent two years at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and completed his B.S. in environmental science at Rutgers University - Cook College. He joined the Department of Environmental Protection, starting in the Division of Water Resources and later moving to hazardous waste management. He revamped the Environmental Cleanup Responsibility Act (ECRA), receiving the Council of State Governments Innovations Award for his efforts. Miller became the first assistant commissioner for site remediation at the start of Governor Florio's administration. He negotiated the Industrial Site Recovery Act and was selected as the first State Superfund Manager of the Year by USEPA in April 1993 for "showing national leadership in bringing together state and federal hazardous waste cleanup officials." After serving on an Intergovernmental Personnel Act assignment to EPA, he returned to DEP, where he led the reorganization of the Division of Watershed Management. Miller joined the Board of Public Utilities as President Fox's chief of staff. After retiring from state government, he worked in private industry for several years before retiring to enjoy the beach, mountains and travel.

Edward M. Neafsey graduated from Assumption College in Worcester, MA and Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles, CA. He served as a U.S. Army Captain in the First Cavalry Division at Ft. Hood, Texas and in Germany. He was awarded an Army Commendation Medal for exceptionally meritorious service as a Judge Advocate General attorney. Neafsey spent the next thirty years working for the State of New Jersey. During his career, he was responsible for domestic security preparedness, NJ State Police reform, government integrity monitoring, clean water enforcement, coastal

water quality monitoring and beach wash-up response, prosecuting white collar and violent criminals, and representing death penalty defendants. In his last assignment, he presided over civil and criminal jury trials in Monmouth and Mercer Counties as a tenured New Jersey Superior Court Judge. He also served as New Jersey's first assistant attorney general, inspector general, acting state police affairs director, state insurance fraud prosecutor, acting Union County prosecutor, assistant commissioner for enforcement at the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, assistant counsel, and public defender in Essex County. In the wake of Superstorm Sandy, he joined the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and served as the lead legal advisor in FEMA's NJ Joint Field Office and NJ Sandy Recovery Field Office for three years. He received a DHS General Counsel's Award for Excellence for providing disaster assistance in response to Sandy and a FEMA Chief Counsel's Client Services Award for problem-solving work in the field. Neafsey chaired the NJ State Bar Association's Criminal Law Section and spent four years as chair of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and the Minority Defendant, NJ Supreme Court Committee on Minority Concerns. He has been an instructor at the state judiciary's Annual Judicial College and Judicial Orientation Program, where he taught criminal judges how to handle search warrant applications, testimonial motions and trial issues. He is also an adjunct professor at Rutgers Law School, where he teaches courses in Criminal Procedure and Military Justice.

William O'Sullivan has over 40 years' experience with the New Jersey air pollution control program in enforcement, permitting, rulemaking and administration, including service as director of the Division of Air Quality for 12 years. He currently manages the Air and Energy Advisor's Office for the Air Quality, Energy and Sustainability Program. O'Sullivan received his Bachelor and Masters of Engineering degrees from Stevens Institute of Technology, plus a Master of Government Administration from the University of Pennsylvania. He currently serves as the co-chair of the Air Toxics Committee for the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA).

Mary T. Sheil retired in July, 2002, after providing 25 years service to the State of New Jersey. She served as director of watershed management, director of legislative affairs, and deputy director of the Division of Solid Waste Management for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and as the State's first administrator of the New Jersey Office of Recycling in the Department of Energy and the Department of Environmental Protection. Working with an advisory committee, she developed the first State Recycling Plan and Act and subsequently developed the State Mandatory Recycling Act and Program. From 1977 to 1981, Mary was a supervisor and energy specialist with the New Jersey Department of Energy. Prior to 1981, she served as a land use planner with Rutgers University and an educator in New Jersey, New York and California school systems. She holds a B.A. from Queens College, and an M.C.R.P. and M.B.A. from Rutgers University.

Jon Shure is director of state fiscal strategies at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, DC. He came to the Center in 2009 after 12 years as president of New Jersey Policy Perspective, a state research organization he founded in 1997. Under his direction, NJPP became a major voice on tax and budget policy in New Jersey. Shure began his career as a reporter for *The Record* newspaper of Bergen County, NJ, where his assignments included the paper's State House and Washington bureaus. Later, Shure served on the staff of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, Competitiveness, and Consumer Protection. He was communications director for New Jersey Governor Jim Florio from 1990-1993. Before establishing New Jersey Policy Perspective, Shure was a vice president at the Twentieth Century Fund (now The Century Foundation) in New York, a

nonprofit engaged in research on national policy issues. He is a visiting associate at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University and previously taught two courses in the political science department at Rutgers in New Brunswick: New Jersey Politics and Mass Media and US Democracy. Shure has a BS in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University and an MA in journalism from the University of Missouri.

Rick Sinding served as a policy advisor to the Governor and as assistant commissioner of environmental protection in the Florio administration. He recently retired after 42 years in and out of journalism, state government, public policy research and advocacy, nonprofit management and academia. He is now assisting the Center on the American Governor with development of the Florio Archive.

Gary Sondermeyer serves as vice president of operations for the Bayshore Recycling Corp. of Woodbridge Township, New Jersey. Bayshore is one of New Jersey's largest recyclers, managing seven separate, but related recycling operations on its 55 acre Eco-Complex and Energy Campus. Sondermeyer joined Bayshore following retirement after 30 years of service at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. He served as the agency's chief of staff for 10 years under five different DEP Commissioners and six New Jersey Governors with a staff of 3,500 employees. Prior to this, he served as assistant commissioner for the Department's core permitting programs for three years and spent 17 years within the Solid Waste and Recycling Program, where he also served as director.

Frank Sweeney is currently leading the insurtech startup, OnRisk, which develops CAD-style visualization tools for structuring and placing complex, high-value risks in the global property and casualty insurance market. Sweeney was formerly a co-founder, COO and director of CATEX International, a reinsurance services company with offices in Princeton and London. Prior to his tenure with CATEX, he worked as an assistant counsel to the Governor of New Jersey; legislative counsel to the Energy and Commerce Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives; and policy analyst and project manager with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). He is an attorney, and he holds a J.D. from the Stanford Law School and an M.S. from the Stanford Engineering School. He is a graduate of Princeton University.

Scott Weiner is the deputy for markets and innovation at the New York State Department of Public Service. In this role, He is responsible for leading the Department's staff activities in support of New York's *Reforming the Energy Vision* (REV) initiative. Weiner joined the Department after a distinguished career as an executive, educator and public official. He served as a senior executive in a number of private and public corporations including as president of Ballard Generation Systems, senior vice president and general counsel of Petra Solar, senior vice president for market structure and regulatory affairs at Sithe Energies, and vice president for corporate development at General Public Utilities. Weiner has previously served on the boards of many industry associations and non-governmental organizations. He has served in a number of senior positions in New Jersey government, including appointments as the executive director of the N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission, president of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy, chief counsel to New Jersey Governor Jim Florio and as a special assistant attorney general and special counsel to New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine. He also served as a borough councilman and as president of the Borough Council in Fort Lee, NJ. Weiner is the founding director of the Center for Energy, Economic and

Environmental Policy at Rutgers University and has served as a senior policy fellow and faculty fellow at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy.

John Weingart is associate director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics. He also chaired New Jersey's Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council from its establishment in 2004 through 2009. Before coming to Eagleton, Weingart worked in New Jersey state government, focusing on environmental and land use issues, during the administrations of Governors Byrne, Kean, Florio and Whitman. His posts included director of the Division of Coastal Resources and assistant commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection; and executive director of the state's Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility Siting Board. He chaired the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission from 2002-2004.

Sam Wolfe is senior counsel at PSEG Services Corporation. In the Florio administration, he managed all administrative rulemakings for the Department of Environmental Protection. He also served as an assistant commissioner of the NJDEP from 2002 to 2006, and as chief counsel of the Board of Public Utilities from 2006 to 2010. As Viridity Energy's vice president for law and public policy, Wolfe advocated policies to advance the use of distributed energy resources, and negotiated contracts for innovative energy projects such as the use of energy storage on the SEPTA subway system.

Cindy Zipf leads Clean Ocean Action (COA), the only full-time ocean advocacy organization dedicated exclusively to the NY and NJ region. She reviews and evaluates regional, state, and federal policies for impacts to marine water quality and, through science and research, works toward solutions for issues of concern. In 1984, the *COAlition* was formed, consisting of a handful of dedicated organizations. Today, the coalition includes approximately 130 organizations, a professional staff of eight full-time employees, and an office located at Gateway National Park, Sandy Hook. Zipf serves on several boards including the American Littoral Society, Environmental Endowment of New Jersey, and Blue Frontier Campaign. She has received numerous awards on behalf of Clean Ocean Action from national, regional, and local government and non-governmental organizations, foundations, and news media.