

Energy Storage for Social Equity

ROUNDTABLE

June 28 - 29, 2021

10 am - 1 pm PST



Utility Business Practices Panel Bios

This panel will explore practical considerations of planning and implementing a more equitable grid, discuss best practices, and present novel approaches.

Moderator: **Robert “Bobby” Jeffers**, Senior Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Laboratories

Participants:

- **Uzma Siddiqi**, Senior Manager of Grid Modernization, Seattle City Light
- **Jessica Lin**, Principal Product Manager for Opower’s Data Engineering Platform team, Oracle Utilities
- **Tina Jayaweera**, Power Planning Resources Manager, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
- **Heather Moline**, Policy Associate, NW Energy Coalition

Uzma Siddiqi is the Senior Manager of Grid Modernization at Seattle City Light working to provide customers with choices, including equitable access to key tools of decarbonization like electrification and distributed generation. Prior to this role, she held diverse positions from utility system planning, project management, customer service, industrial plant design, to power marketing. She is passionate about integrating these traditionally siloed disciplines to achieve the goals of decarbonization, reliability, resiliency, and equity of access, all at a fair price. Uzma Siddiqi received her master's and bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering from North Carolina State University.

Jessica Lin is a Principal Product Manager for Oracle Utilities Opower’s Data Engineering Platform team. Prior to her current role, she served as a Senior Fellow to the U.S. Department of Energy in the Office of Policy to support Mission Innovation. Formerly, she led international clean energy deployment efforts with the World Bank Group, primarily focused on what role the Bank could play to commercialize clean energy technologies. She started her career in the private sector, working in finance and strategic management consulting, before leading a wireless mesh technology social enterprise startup. She received her Master’s in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School and her Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from MIT.

Dr. Tina Jayaweera is a Power Planning Resources Manager at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. She joined the Council in 2014 and works on energy efficiency and demand response topics as part of the development and implementation of the Council's regional power plan. Her work includes being a co-chair of both the Council's Demand Response Advisory Committee and the Conservation Resources Advisory Committee. Prior to joining the Council, she was a principal in the energy services division and head of the planning and assessment team for The Cadmus Group, a consulting firm. Dr. Jayaweera received her doctorate in mechanical engineering from Cornell University and holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Oberlin College.

Heather Moline is Policy Associate at NW Energy Coalition. She focuses particularly on training, partnership-building, and policy implementation to further environmental justice within the utility sector. She has a master's degree in policy analysis and previously worked in services for houseless and underemployed communities domestically and internationally. She helped start the Portland, Oregon chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice, which organizes white people for racial and economic justice and allyship, and is now especially interested in quantitative and qualitative metrics for energy equity

Dr. Robert "Bobby" Jeffers has helped to build a growing body of energy resilience research at Sandia since 2013. Bobby applies techniques such as system dynamics, power systems modeling, interactive visualization, agent-based modeling, and spatial network modeling to diverse problems concerning the intersection between human, natural, and engineered systems – particularly energy systems. He currently works directly with programs in DOE-OE, DOE-EERE, and DoD energy offices, and has strategically led several successful projects in the energy resilience and equity space. Bobby's passion for improving real-world sustainability, equity, and resilience has been demonstrated by his ability to form large teams working collaboratively with external partners and stakeholders such as city governments, electric utilities, non-profit organizations, and national laboratories. Bobby began his career as a research scientist at Idaho National Laboratory, where he served as Principal Investigator on three diverse projects simulating the energy-water nexus, critical material supply chain economics, and novel concepts for integration of renewable energy on the power grid.