



Let's Talk About Energy: Affordability, Clean Energy, and Data Centers

Panelist Bios



Maria Fernanda Chavez is a Senior Analyst for the [Union of Concerned Scientists' Climate and Energy program](#). In this role, she focuses on the capabilities of renewable energy technologies and the importance of equitable and justice-centered policies for a clean energy transition. She has been featured on [Wisconsin Public Radio](#), [27 WKOW](#) and the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) for her original analysis on the economic, health and climate impacts of data center load growth in Wisconsin. She has also written for [Utility Dive](#) and been quoted in The Bay State Banner on equitable battery storage implementation.

Before joining UCS, Maria worked as a market research analyst, writing in-depth reports on clean energy technologies and forecasting market growth in this sector. She also has a passion for conservation and spent time conducting field work in places like the Peruvian Amazon, the Point Reyes National Seashore in California, and the White Mountains region of New Hampshire.

Ms. Chavez holds a Bachelor of Science degree in genetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, as well as a Master of Public Administration degree in environmental science and policy from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



Jamie Dickerson serves at [Acadia Center](#) as Senior Director, Climate and Clean Energy Programs. In this leadership role, he helps the organization develop and maintain a strong understanding of the climate and clean energy policy environment in the region and drives efforts to build relationships of trust with policymakers, partners, and stakeholders. In helping manage and oversee the Acadia Center team and its programs, Jamie is constantly working to identify and shape policies, programs, and initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote economic prosperity, and advance environmental justice across the region, and to shape legislative and regulatory advocacy strategies accordingly.

Jamie also contributes to the organization's fundraising activities and implementation of special projects and initiatives.

Jamie has extensive clean energy policy, strategy, and management experience in the region as well as strong stakeholder relationships from a career with leading clean energy organizations in New England and New York. Most recently, he served as Chief of Staff at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), after previously holding positions as Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Assistant to the President and CEO. During his tenure at NYSERDA, which coincided with the state's implementation of the landmark 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), Jamie spearheaded a wide variety of projects related to climate and clean energy policy and was responsible for coordinating agency and interagency activity on strategic program initiatives, including many of the recent, nationally significant climate policies emerging from New York State. He worked extensively on the just transition elements of the state's climate activities and also contributed directly to DEIJ planning and implementation while at NYSERDA. Prior to NYSERDA, Jamie was Senior Policy Manager and Policy Analyst at the Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC) where he helped lead legislative and regulatory activity on behalf of clean energy companies (and often interacted with Acadia Center staff on a host of mutual policy priorities). He was also previously a Project Analyst at Mintz Levin focusing on clean energy matters from a legal and government affairs perspective. Jamie holds an A.B. in Government, *cum laude* from Harvard College.



Ian Moise brings more than twenty-five years of leadership in sustainability, energy management, and operational innovation to his role at Catholic Climate Covenant. As Director of [Catholic Energies](#), Ian supports Catholic institutions nationwide in advancing renewable energy, storage, and efficiency projects, helping them reduce costs and environmental impacts so they can better serve their mission.

His career spans international development, public education, nonprofit advocacy, and facilities management, with expertise in operations, building decarbonization, and energy benchmarking. Ian is committed to values that echo Catholic social teaching—particularly care for creation, equity, and serving vulnerable communities. He holds a master's degree in environmental studies, Science, and Policy, along with LEED and Certified Energy Manager credentials.

Ian is dedicated to collaborative solutions that drive positive, lasting change for people and the planet.