



09.17.19



# Illinois Energy Policy Summit

ACCENTURE • 161 N CLARK ST • CHICAGO, IL

## Empowering Digital Migration: From the Pipes & Wires to the Boardroom

Join key leaders from the state and across the country in a holistic and solution-driven program to advancing diversity and inclusion in today's innovative energy industry.



Equity in Energy is a trademark owned by the U.S. Department of Energy. Reference herein to or association of the DOE trademark with any other specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply an endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the U.S. Government.



## HIE Mission

Hispanics In Energy (HIE) is a community/industry-driven, non-profit organization designed to drive Hispanic inclusion in America's energy industry. It is a resource for leaders in the energy industry, utility companies, municipalities, elected and appointed officials with oversight responsibility of energy related policies and practices as they relate to:

- Public Policy (Legislative and Regulatory)
- Governance (Corporate Board and C-Suite)
- Employment (Jobs and Workforce Development)
- Procurement (Supplier Diversity for Hispanic Businesses)
- Philanthropy (Community Contributions)
- Spanish Language Access
- Environment

## Membership Benefits

- Enter a supportive network of energy-minded individuals and organizations including top policy makers, regulators, top executives, community and academic leaders.
- Engage in energy policy issues affecting Hispanic and other diverse communities.
- Discover opportunities in today's energy sector.
- Grow your professional and leadership capacities.
- Attend and participate in HIE meetings.
- And, much more ...

Become a Member on-line via  
[www.hispanicsinenergy.com](http://www.hispanicsinenergy.com)



## ILLINOIS ENERGY POLICY SUMMIT

*Empowering Digital Migration:  
From the Pipes & Wires to the Boardroom*

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019  
ACCENTURE | 161 N. CLARK ST. | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

8:30 AM	<b>Registration Opens</b>
9:30 AM	<b>Welcome Address</b> <b>José L. Pérez</b> , President & CEO, Hispanics In Energy <b>Eduardo Balbis</b> , Accenture <b>Gerardo Delgado</b> , Planning Committee Chair
9:45 AM	<b>State of Latinos in Energy</b> <b>Hon. James E. Campos</b> Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Dept. of Energy
10:00 AM	<b>Speakers – Sample of U.S. Department of Energy Programs</b>  This panel will feature discussion of the Equity in Energy initiative with representatives from program offices and national labs within the Department of Energy (DOE). Equity in Energy, led by the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity at the DOE, is designed to include and expand the participation of individuals in underserved communities and minorities within the energy sector. Representatives will provide an overview of their program office, workforce efforts, pending opportunities and initiatives.  <b>Kevin Jayne</b> , Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy <b>Kyle Wiley</b> , Senior Advisory, Office of Technology Transitions <b>DeWillican W. Middleton</b> , Small Business Program Manager Office of Science Integrated and Support Center (Argonne National Laboratory) <b>Aria Soha</b> , Engineering Physicist, Neutrino Division VetTech Program Technical Manager FERMI National Laboratory – Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
10:45 A.M.	Break



11:00 AM

## BOTTLE THE MODEL FOR SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

A round-table discussion between key thought leaders will highlight the critical components of the supplier diversity paradigm in Illinois to identify a replicable framework for other states to consider implementing. In four years, Illinois has increased utility contracting with diverse vendors from \$200 million to \$2 billion. How did Illinois do it? What would it take for other states to join and also improve the economic development potential for underserved communities?

Moderator: **Hon. Mara Candelaria Reardon**, Indiana State Representative

Panelists: **Hon. Sadzi Martha Oliva**, Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission  
**Hon. Martin A. Sandoval**, Illinois State Senator – 11<sup>th</sup> District  
**Lewis Binswanger**, Vice President, External Affairs, Nicor Gas  
**Martin Cabrera, Jr.**, Founder & CEO, Cabrera Capital

12:00 PM Lunch

12:45 PM **Award Presentations**

- **Energy Leaders**
- **Recognizing Youth Leadership and Innovation**

1:45 PM **The Future Energy Workforce**

This panel will explore the needs of the Future Energy Workforce as it relates to the increasing role technology is playing in the energy industry. Because of integration of innovation has extended beyond the generation, tech-forward consumers are asking for increased access to not only renewable energy but also the customer energy management tools and services such as mobile application between the Internet of Things and energy demands a new skills set from the workforce. Current and future energy workforce demands a higher knowledge of information systems from technician to executive levels. Implications of that change will impact opportunities for diverse populations, especially for Latino professionals.

Moderator: **Hon. Maria Bocanegra**, Commissioner, ICC

Panelist: **Lori Flores Rolfson**, VP of Operations, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
**Richard Negrin**, VP of Regulatory Policy & Strategy, ComEd  
**Jorge Pérez**, Executive Director, Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA)  
**Juan Salgado**, Chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago



2:45 PM Break

3:00 PM A Needed Surge for Minorities on Boards

Undeniably there is a need for more Latino directors on American corporate boards. Although there has been an increase of Hispanic appointments, the composition of these boards, particularly in the energy industry, are still unrepresentative of the communities they serve. To ensure that the perspectives of the various minority communities are accounted for in the design of the energy ecosystem, during and beyond the current digital revolution, Latino and other minority leaders must build a candidate pipeline and actively seek out opportunities to participate in the power sphere. Trailblazing Latino corporate board members will highlight their path to a board position and collectively strategize on how to develop future leaders and facilitate board appointment opportunities for minorities.

Moderator: **Hon. Sadzi Martha Oliva**, Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission

**Panelists:** **Hon. Omar Aquino**, Illinois State Senator- 2nd District  
**Gloria Castillo**, President & CEO, Chicago United  
**Sonia Del Real**, Executive Director, CCLC Foundation

4:00 PM **Accenture Presentation**

Accenture is a multinational professional services company that provides services in strategy, consulting, digital, technology, and operations.

Presenter: **Salomon Salinas**, Managing Director, Accenture

4:45 PM **Closing Remarks** – José L. Pérez, President & CEO, Hispanics In Energy

5:00 PM Reception Recognizing Latinas in Energy

- Hosted by Accenture and Osceola Consulting (Peter Wiersma)
- Brief Remarks
- Recognition

7:00 PM                      End



## SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 11-12, 2020



WINTER ENERGY POLICY SUMMIT ON THE HILL

- Workforce of the Future in Energy for Hispanics
- The Future Energy Supplier Landscape
- Climate Change Policy Impacts on Energy Industry
- Information Technology and Digital Analytics

API 200 Massachusetts Avenue NW Washington D.C. 20001-5571

# Speakers, Moderators and Panelists



## **José L. Pérez, President & CEO, Hispanics In Energy**

José is co-founder, chairman and CEO of Hispanics In Energy (HIE), the premier national organization driving Hispanic inclusion in America's two trillion dollar energy industry. Its focus includes policy, corporate governance and c-suite, supplier diversity, jobs, Spanish language access, and environment. HIE is convening energy policy forums in St. Paul, MN; Chicago, IL; Los Angeles, CA; and San Antonio, TX. José was recently assigned "Energy Ambassador" by the Dept. of Energy. He has a degree in government from California State University, Sacramento and a certificate on corporate governance from the Graduate School of Business at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.



## **Eduardo Balbis, Accenture, Managing Director, North American Utilities**

Eduardo is a Managing Director with Accenture, one of the worlds leading consulting firms with over 400,000 employees in 55 countries with expertise in 40 different industries. Eduardo helps utility clients to develop growth strategies, optimize capital and operational expenditures to create win-win scenarios for both shareholders and customers. Prior to joining Accenture, Eduardo was a Florida Public Service Commissioner where he was appointed to by Governor Crist and reappointing by Governor Scott. He was a NARUC member where he served on the Gas and Critical Infrastructure Committees



## **Gerardo Julian Delgado, Legal & Policy Advisor, Illinois Commerce Commission**

Gerardo is a regulatory attorney and serves as Legal & Policy Advisor to Commissioner Sadzi Oliva at the Illinois Commerce Commission. Gerardo provides counsel on various state and federal matters related to the regulation of electricity, water, and gas utilities and the telecommunication and transportation industries. He also collaborates and speaks at forums on critical topics, such as clean energy and diversity and inclusion; and builds relationships with public officials, industry leaders, and community advocates across the nation. Gerardo is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioner's staff committees on Critical Infrastructure, Water, and Supplier & Workforce Diversity. Gerardo was recognized for his leadership in the energy industry by Negocios Now's 40 Under 40 for *Championing Latinos In Energy*.



## **Nancy Zarenda, Vice President & Treasurer, Hispanics In Energy**

Nancy is co-founder of Hispanics in Energy and leads HIE's language access pillar to better serve multilingual energy consumers and ratepayers. She is an accomplished specialist in language policy and Spanish language services providing language access solutions to public officials and agencies, utility and energy companies, and private entities. Executive level experience in government spheres gives her the edge in Spanish language services. Nancy was recently recognized as one of America's Top Latinas in Energy by Latino Leaders Magazine.



## **Hon. James E. Campos, Director, Office of Economic Impact & Diversity, Dept. of Energy**

James is responsible for the supplier and workforce diversity initiatives of the Department of Energy in Washington D.C. that includes all the internal programs and the 17 national laboratories. He holds a position mandated by law, the only one of its kind in the federal government. James has held extensive positions in the private and public sector in multiple states. In Nevada, his prior home State, he served as a regulator and was very active in the business community. He served as an adjunct professor of business. He has moved quickly to create an impressive network of diverse stakeholders to promote diversity and inclusion in each energy sector.



**Kevin Jayne, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, DOE**

Kevin has nearly 10 years of experience in the energy industry with a focus on natural gas delivery. He worked on the upgrades and protection of about 4,300 miles of natural gas infrastructure in Chicago. Using his command of pipeline technologies, he concentrated on the integrity of critical facilities. In his current role, Kevin provides support and counsel to the Assistant Secretary on energy efficiency and renewable energy matters at DOE.



**Kyle Wiley, Senior Advisor, Office of Technology Transitions, DOE**

Kyle helps to oversee the Department of Energy's technology transfer in the federal government. In fact DOE is the leader in invention disclosures, patent applications, patents, licenses, invention licenses and income bearing licenses. It is responsible for 90% of the total number of active licenses and has supported the most start-ups of any agency. Kyle is a key link to over 28,000 patents available for transfer to start-up businesses. He earned his education at the University of Georgia and Avila University in Kansas City.



**DeWillican W. Middleton, Small Business Program Manager, Office of Sciences – Integrated Support Center, DOE – Housed at Argonne National Laboratory**

DeWillican is responsible for the implementation and administration small business programs, which includes ten DOE National Laboratories. She started her career as a contract specialist intern with the U.S. AMCOM Rock Island Illinois. She has been recognized with numerous performance awards and special recognition throughout her career and is now a warranted contracting, administrative and grants contracting officer.



**Aria Soha, Engineering Physicist, Neutrino Division VetTech Program, Technical Manager and President, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Professional Chapter at Fermilab**

Aria grew up in New York City, the granddaughter of Mexican and German immigrants. She attended Carnegie Mellon University, in Pittsburgh, PA after which she came to work at Fermilab where she spent almost 8 years in the Accelerator Main Control Room, then transferred to the Particle Physics Division where she too over coordination of experiment facilities. Aria has been recognized by Congress for her work in revitalizing the retiring technical workforce by recruiting veterans into the work force. Aria organized a successful SHPE Professional Chapter at Fermilab.



**Hon. Mara Candelaria Reardon, Indiana State Representative**

Mara was the first Latina elected to the Indiana House of Representatives District 12. She now serves as the chair of the Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs, a national non-partisan organization comprised of the elected Latino officials serving in various state leadership positions. In the legislature, Mara is a member of the Utilities, Energy and Telecommunication Committee and the Roads and Transportation Committee. Born in East Chicago, she comes from a family of community activists and public servants. She entered public service by working for U.S. Congressman Pete Visclosky.



**Martin Cabrera, Chief Executive Officer, Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC & Cabrera Capital Partners, LLC**

Martin is the CEO and Founder of Cabrera Capital Markets (CCM) that provides global investment banking and full service global institutional brokerage services to a substantial and diversified client base that includes financial institutions, unions, governments, corporations, hedge funds, foundations and endowments. CCM has issued over \$330 billion in debt for municipalities and over \$400 billion in debt and equities for corporations through the country and internationally. It is based in Chicago and is one of few Latino owned companies that provide such critical financial services.



### **Commissioner Sadzi Martha Oliva, Illinois Commerce Commission**

Sadzi Martha was appointed to the Illinois Commerce Commission in January 2017 and is the first Latina to serve as Commissioner in the State of Illinois. She once served as General Counsel, Ethics Officer, Administrative Law Judge and Assistant Attorney General. Ms. Oliva is a member of the Cuban American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois. Recently named Chair of the Supplier and Workforce Diversity Subcommittee of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC). She is also the first Latina to serve on the NARUC Board of Directors and is highly influential in the national scene.



### **State Senator Martin Sandoval, Illinois State Senator – 11<sup>th</sup> District**

Senator Sandoval is a long-time advocate for education, public safety and the Hispanic community. He was born and raised in the Back of the Yards, a neighborhood on Chicago's Southwest Side. He earned his degree at Loyola University, Chicago and began his public service with several agencies of the federal government including EPA. Martin is the Chairman of the State Senate Special Committee on Supplier Diversity. His varied and numerous public experience and knowledge has helped Martin become an effective champion of under-represented and immigrant populations. He was the kickoff speaker at the recent ICC hearing on supplier diversity progress by regulated utilities.



### **Lewis Binswanger, Vice President, External Affairs, Nicor Gas**

Lewis is a seasoned energy executive who is a professional engineer educated in El Paso, Texas. He has held several senior officer positions in several energy companies throughout his career. Now he leads the external affairs for Nicor Gas and prior to that the regulatory affairs. He serves on the Board of Directors for Hispanics In Energy and has been an active member. In his current role, Lewis leads, develops and directs the company's regulatory policy, strategy and planning and is responsible for the regulatory activities before the Illinois Commerce Commission.



### **Commissioner María S. Bocanegra, Illinois Commerce Commission**

Maria was appointed to the Illinois Commerce Commission by Governor JB Pritzker this year to a four-year term. She is an accomplished, well-respected attorney with prior public service in both Democratic and Republican administrations. She recently held positions as an Arbitrator at the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission and she held a Public Seat on the Labor Advisory Board for the Illinois Department of Labor. She earned a law degree from DePaul University and B.A. degree from Quincy University. She is fluent in Spanish and is the first in her family to earn a college degree.



### **Lori Flores Rolfsen, Vice President, Operations, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas**

Lori is a seasoned executive and has over 28 years of experience in the utility business. She is now responsible for strategically directing and leading as operations and maintenance functions, as well as customer service in field operations. She ensures compliance with safe and reliable delivery of natural gas to customers, as well as compliance with state and federal obligations. She is active in the community including serving as Secretary and Strategy Chair for the National Latino Education Institute board in Chicago. Her strong human resources management makes her an excellent mentor.



### **Rich Negrin, Vice President, Regulatory Policy and Strategy, ComEd**

Rich leads the development of ComEd's regulatory policies and strategies and is responsible for policy outcomes, regulatory tariffs, processing of customer complaints, engagement with the Illinois Commerce Commission, regulatory compliance and alignment with other Exelon energy delivery companies. Rich has an impressive legal training and career and once was the City Manager and Deputy Mayor for the City of Philadelphia. He has been recognized by many groups including the National Latino Lawyer of the Year Award by the Hispanic National Bar Association. Nice going, Rich!



### **Jorge Pérez, Executive Director, Hispanic American of Construction Industry Association (HACIA)**

Jorge was born into business with his family. Right before going to college, he sold the family business and began a journey with the public sector in local government including the airports. His business acumen made him successful with local leaders. He now runs HACIA with a mission to ensure the equitable participation of its members in the construction industry. HACIA has a membership of over 300 businesses in the design and construction industry. It is a highly respected trade association with a strong legacy of advocacy and service to its members.



### **Juan Salgado, Chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago**

Chancellor Salgado oversees Chicago's community college system, serving more than 77,000 students across seven colleges. Until recently, he served as CEO of Instituto del Progreso Latino, where he worked to empower residents of Chicago's Southwest Side through education, citizenship, and skill building programs that led to sustainable employment and economic activity. The Chancellor is a community college graduate himself and going on to get a bachelors then a masters degree on Urban Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



### **State Senator Omar Aquino, Illinois State Senate – 2<sup>nd</sup> District**

Senator Aquino was born and raised in the Northwest Side of Chicago. He has been in the State Senate since July 2016 and is the youngest-ever Latino member of the Illinois State Senate and one of the youngest to serve in Illinois history. He comes from a family of public servants including his mother who worked in the Chicago Public Schools and his father for the Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation. He has degrees in Criminal Justice and in Sociology from Loyola University Chicago.



### **Gloria Castillo, President & CEO, Chicago United**

Gloria serves as President & CEO for Chicago United, a corporate membership organization that promotes multiracial leadership in business to advance parity in economic opportunity. Because of her leadership, Chicago United launched nationally recognized programs including the annual Chicago United Conference, Bridge Awards Dinner, the Business Leaders of Color publications, and The Five Forward Initiative. She has been active in the community and served on a joint committee to enhance city county cooperation and operational efficiencies.



### **Sonia Del Real, Executive Director, CCLC Foundation**

Sonia spearheads the Foundation's key strategic imperatives to achieve Latino parity in areas of education, upward career mobility, and leadership development. She also supports the Chicago City Council Latino Caucus, a legislative body. To further execute its vision to improve the quality of life for Latinx communities through their education, housing and immigration committees. She has broad experience in real estate and has been involved with several community organizations include Prospanica Chicago (formerly NSH MBA). Her role in Latino community development on behalf of city leaders is impressive.



### **Al Zapanta, Chief Executive Officer of Paz Resources and USMCC**

Al, a highly decorated military veteran, worked for Atlantic Richfield Company and retired as Director of Government Affairs for ARCO where he was responsible for negotiations with U.S. and Mexican (PEMEX) governments on oil and gas meters and worked to deregulate natural gas. He has received numerous responsible positions in government by various presidents. As a former General, Al took on some serious responsibilities internationally. Al also served on the Tyson Foods Board of Directors and currently is a member of the Board of Trustees, President Gerald R. Ford Foundation and Museum.



### **Sol Salinas, Managing Director, Accenture Digital – Mobility, Global Lead, Accenture Smart Cities**

Sol is the Global Leader of Accenture's Smart Cities practice and a North America Sustainability Practice Leader. He is responsible for the development and maintenance of global Smart Cities offering alliances with global Internet of Things (IoT) providers. He often oversees the work of multi-disciplinary teams supporting Accenture's digital work in cities across North America. He led Accenture's work for the City of Chicago representing the company in a unique Public Private Partnership with the city and various other public private entities that intend to rapidly advance smart city development.



### **Peter Wiersma, Vice President, Business Development, Osceola Consulting**

Peter oversees the Osceola Consulting, the nation's leading diverse management and technology consulting firm providing specialized management consulting and technology services focused on developing, implementing, and managing strategic business and technology programs to address complex industry and business transformation challenges programs to address complex industry and business transformation challenges as well as regulatory, and public affairs matters. Peter is a corporate supplier diversity and public affairs practitioner with three decades of experience.

## **This Event Made Possible With the Support From**



## **Acknowledgement of our Planning Team**

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Eduardo Balbis  
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# Equity In Energy™

The Equity in Energy initiative is designed to expand the inclusion and participation of individuals in underserved communities, which encompasses minorities, Native Americans, women, veterans, and formerly incarcerated persons, in all the programs of the Department of Energy and in the private energy sector. Equity in Energy is working to secure America's national security and energy dominance through maximizing and engaging all human capital to ensure America's independence for generations to come.

**The initiative's central theme focuses on the importance increasing the interest and the access to the energy economy for individuals in underserved communities.**



Additionally, the initiative's interest and access goals will be enhanced through:

- ⇒ **Technology & Artificial Intelligence**
- ⇒ **Entrepreneurship**
- ⇒ **Workforce Readiness for Formerly Incarcerated Persons**
- ⇒ **Opportunity Zones**



## Mission

Hispanics In Energy (HIE) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization designed to drive Hispanic inclusion in America's energy industry. It is a problem solving and best practice resource for utility companies, municipalities, elected or appointed officials with oversight responsibility of energy related law, regulations, policies and practices on comprehensive energy matters pertaining to:

- Public Policy (Legislative and Regulatory)
- Governance (Corporate Board and Officers)
  - Employment (Jobs and Workforce)
  - Procurement (Supplier Diversity)
  - Environment (Responsible & Healthy Energy)
- Philanthropy (Charitable Contributions to Community)
- Customer Service and Marketing (Language Access)

## Membership Benefits

### Individual Benefits:

- Network with energy-focused individuals and organizations from top executives to community advocates to academia
- Become involved in energy policy issues affecting the Hispanic and other diverse communities.
- Increase your energy literacy and engagements
- Discover opportunities in today's energy sector
- Grow your professional and leadership capacities.

### Corporate Benefits:

- Eligible to attend and participate in HIE meetings
- Company logo and link to HIE website
- VIP access to all HIE events and activities
- Eligible for appointment to participate in committees or ad hoc projects
- Access to information concerning HIE issues, services and projects
- Listed in the annual HIE membership directory
- Discounts for HIE Events

Become a Member on-line via  
[www.hispanicsinenergy.com](http://www.hispanicsinenergy.com)