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Description automatically generated **ARIZONA ENERGY VIRTUAL FORUM**

**Attendees**

On behalf of Arizona Corporation Commission and the Hispanics in Energy national organization - we thank you for participating in our first Hispanics in Energy Arizona Forum on September 29th!  We are excited about our speaker line-up and presenting the content to businesses across the state.

**The key message** throughout this two-hour session is focused on enhancing the Arizona Hispanic community’s integration with the state’s energy sector. Today we focus on the economic impact on the Hispanic community and supplier diversity as it relates to Hispanic business contracting with energy companies.

**Purpose**

Hispanics are 31.7% of the 7,278,717 Arizonans or 2,380,140 people. Arizona has several energy providers including APS, Salt River Project, Tucson Electric Power and Co-ops. In today’s forum, supplier diversity and economic impact on Arizona’s Hispanic community will be discussed by energy thought leaders including policymakers, community and business leaders, regulators and industry leaders.

**Program**

**Program Hosts**: **José L. Pérez, HIE and Commissioner Lea Márquez Peterson, AZCC**

3:00 PM **Welcome** - **José L. Pérez,** President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy

3:05 PM **Commissioner Lea Márquez Peterson**, Arizona Corporation Commission

**The State of Energy and the Latino community in Arizona**

**Hon. James E. Campos**, Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, DOE

**Rep. Rosanna Gabaldón,** Arizona House of Representatives District 2

**Cathy Reheis-Boyd**, Western States Petroleum Association

3:30 PM       **Community Panel: Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Latino families**

* Data on the economic impact on Latino families and discussion on resources and programs available for Latino businesses and residents
* Panel:
  + **Cynthia Zwick** – WILDFIRE Arizona
  + **Rev Doug Bland** – Arizona Interfaith Power & Light
  + **David Adame** - Chicanos Por La Causa

4:00 PM       **National Trend of Supplier and Workforce Diversity – Utility Commissions**

**Commissioner Sadzi Oliva**, Illinois and Chair of the subcommittee

for supplier diversity at NARUC (Commissioner Oliva will set the stage for supplier diversity and discuss the NARUC perspective and Illinois programs and results)

4:10 PM       **Industry Panel: Supplier Diversity (Electric utilities)**

* Howto do business with Arizona electric utilities and existing programs focused on supplier diversity; please prepare PowerPoint slides of upcoming projects over the next 24 months
* Panel:
  + [**Julie West,**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/juli-west-58710115/) Vice President, Supply Chain, Arizona Public Service
  + [**Patti Pyle**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/patti-pyle-b92a3571/), Mgr. Supplier Diversity, Salt River Project
  + [**Cathy Ries**,](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cathy-ries-a6617746/) Vice President, Customer and Human Resources, Tucson Electric Power - UniSource Energy

4:45 PM       **Access to Capital and Business Financing**

**Dept. of Commerce David J. Byrd**, Director of Minority Business

Development Agency (Discussion on how national MBDA programs help businesses with the challenges discussed on the prior panels)

4:55 PM       **Closing Remarks**

**Commissioner Lea Márquez Peterson**, Arizona Corporation Commission

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

5:00 PM         **END**