



DATA CENTER SERIES FORUM #2: WATER AND DATA CENTERS

SPEAKER BIOS

Facilitators

Willem Brakel

Commission Chair, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB)

Willem Brakel serves as Commission Chair of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. He is an environmental scientist, senior diplomat and teacher with broad experience conducting research on marine and freshwater ecosystems, managing people and programs, and advocating and negotiating regional and international environmental policy solutions.

Julie Minton

Senior Account Manager and Strategic Engagement Lead, Water Research Foundation

Julie Minton works at the Water Research Foundation supporting nearly 60 utilities across the Mid-Atlantic and Florida. She helps translate utility and operational challenges into actionable research, facilitates knowledge transfer, and leads engagement strategies that drive impact across the water sector. Throughout her time at WRF, she has held several roles, including Research Director, Director of Strategic Initiatives, and Project Manager.

Steven Bieber

Water Resources Program Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG)

Steven Bieber manages COG's water resources programs including the regional Anacostia Restoration Partnership, the Blue Plains Intermunicipal Agreement, water quality programs, water security programs, drought management, long-term infrastructure planning, and other environmental programs for local governments and utilities in the Washington, DC area. He has more than 30 years of experience working in the water sector and has been with COG since 2003.

Session 1 Panelists: Data Center Primer – Water Use and Impacts

Andres Luna

Vice President, AECOM

Andres Luna is a Vice President at AECOM with experience in water resources and infrastructure planning. His work includes engineering perspectives on data center cooling technologies, water demand drivers, and infrastructure integration. AECOM is a global infrastructure consulting firm that provides planning, engineering, design, and construction management services across sectors including water, transportation, buildings, energy, and the environment.

Darrin Geldert

Planning Manager, Loudoun Water

Darrin Geldert has spent the last 12 years at Loudoun Water and serves as Planning Manager. He is a civil engineer focused on Master Planning, CIP development, and hydraulic modeling. Loudoun County is one of the nation's leading data center markets, giving him direct experience with data center-related water and wastewater planning challenges.

Peter Grevatt

Chief Executive Officer, Water Research Foundation

Peter serves as CEO of The Water Research Foundation (WRF). With over 1,000 subscribers, the Foundation has over \$70 million of contracted research activities currently underway. Peter previously served as Director of the USEPA's national drinking water program where he was responsible for ensuring the safety of the nation's drinking water supply.

Session 2 Panelists: Looking to the Future – Water Supply, Infrastructure and Sustainability

Michael Nardolilli

Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB)

Michael Nardolilli is Executive Director of ICPRB, where he oversees regional collaboration on water supply planning, drought preparedness, and watershed management for the Potomac River basin. The ICPRB is an interstate compact commission established by Congress in 1940. Its mission is to protect and enhance the waters and related resources of the Potomac River basin through science, regional cooperation, and education.

Rabia M. Chaudhry

Director, Water Supply Resilience, DC Water

Dr. Rabia Chaudhry serves as Director of Water Supply Resilience at DC Water. In this role, she provides leadership, strategy, and coordination for establishing a new functional area of the Authority related to water supply resilience, and establishing a secondary source of drinking water for the Washington region. Dr. Chaudhry came to DC Water from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she served for four years, including tenure as the National Water Reuse Expert, for the EPA's Water Reuse program.

Session 2 Panelists (continued)

Mark Schweitzer

Division Director, Frederick County, Maryland

Mark Schweitzer serves as a Division Director for Frederick County, Maryland, bringing a local government perspective on land use planning, water resource protection, and infrastructure decision-making. Mr. Schweitzer has been Director of the Division of Utilities and Solid Waste Management since 2020. He began his career with Frederick County Government in 1991 as a senior laboratory technician. He advanced within the division, serving as laboratory supervisor and department head of Regulatory Compliance, before being named deputy director in 2016.

Kishia L. Powell

General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, WSSC Water

Kishia L. Powell is General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of WSSC Water, where she oversees operations for Maryland's largest water utility, serving approximately 1.9 million customers. She brings more than 25 years of experience in the water sector, with leadership roles spanning public and private organizations in the United States and London, England. Prior to joining WSSC Water, Ms. Powell served as Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President at DC Water and previously held senior leadership roles with the City of Atlanta, the City of Jackson, Mississippi, and the City of Baltimore.

Jamie Bain Hedges

General Manager, Fairfax Water

Jamie Bain Hedges is General Manager of Fairfax Water, where she oversees operations and long-term planning for one of the largest drinking water utilities in Virginia, with a focus on reliability and system resilience. Ms. Hedges has been with Fairfax Water for more than 30 years and previously served as Deputy General Manager, Director of the Planning and Engineering Division, and Manager of Planning.

Session 3 Panelists: Policy, Innovation and Collaboration

Bruno Pigott

Executive Director, WaterReuse Association

Bruno Pigott is Executive Director of the WaterReuse Association, where he works on advancing policies, funding, and public acceptance for water reuse at the local, state, and national levels. Pigott brings over three decades of leadership in environmental policy and infrastructure investment at the local, state, and federal levels. Most recently, he served as the Acting Assistant Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water, where he oversaw all safe drinking water, wastewater, and surface water programs, as well as the National Water Reuse Action Plan.

Carolyn Berndt

Legislative Director for Sustainability, National League of Cities

Carolyn Berndt serves as Legislative Director for Sustainability at the National League of Cities. As a member of the federal advocacy team, Carolyn leads NLC's advocacy, regulatory and policy efforts on energy and environmental issues, including water infrastructure and financing, water and air quality, climate change, energy efficiency, brownfields, solid and hazardous waste, and more.

Session 3 Panelists (continued)

Joshua Mahan

Senior Director, Government and Industry Relations, Xylem

Joshua Mahan is Senior Director of Government and Industry Relations at Xylem, where he leads the global government affairs portfolio for Xylem. Josh manages strategic engagement with the U.S. government and overseas Xylem's engagement with trade associations. In addition, Josh oversees the Reservoir Center for Water Solutions, a center for thought leadership in Washington, DC created to advance the collective interests of the water sector and to take action to address global water challenges.

Calvin Farr

General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, Prince William Water

Calvin D. Farr, Jr. was appointed as Prince William Water's General Manager/CEO in 2021. Prince William Water is the largest combined water and wastewater authority in the Commonwealth of Virginia and serves more than 380,000 people in Prince William County, one of the fastest-growing and most diverse communities in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area. Mr. Farr has extensive leadership experience in the water and wastewater industry and serves on several national industry boards, focused on legislative and regulatory policy advocacy and One Water strategies.

Opening Speaker

Kishia L. Powell

General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, WSSC Water

Kishia L. Powell is General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of WSSC Water, where she oversees operations for Maryland's largest water utility, serving approximately 1.9 million customers. She brings more than 25 years of experience in the water sector, with leadership roles spanning public and private organizations in the United States and London, England. Prior to joining WSSC Water, Ms. Powell served as Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President at DC Water and previously held senior leadership roles with the City of Atlanta, the City of Jackson, Mississippi, and the City of Baltimore.

Keynote Speaker

Howard Neukrug

Executive Director, The Water Center, University of Pennsylvania

Howard Neukrug is the former Commissioner and CEO of Philadelphia Water, where he was responsible for all aspects of utility operations, environmental compliance, engineering, financing, budgeting, capital and strategic planning, customer service, human resources, and legal and policy decisions for its drinking water/wastewater/stormwater system serving 2.3 million people. At the University of Pennsylvania, he is the director of the Water Center and teaching courses on the water industry and the role of water in urban sustainability and resiliency.

Closing Speaker

Jenni Pompei

Greenbelt, MD Councilmember and CBPC Chair

Jenni Pompei is a Councilmember for the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, and serves as Chair of the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee. In her role on the City Council, she participates in local legislative and policy decision-making affecting Greenbelt residents, and through CBPC she supports regional dialogue on water, wastewater, stormwater, and Chesapeake Bay-related issues.