

IPPSR Public Policy Forum Series 2016

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

## **Renewable Energy Economy: Michigan's Mixed Energy Use Plan**

### **Speakers and Panelists**

**Soren Anderson, Associate Professor of Economics and Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University**



Professor Anderson studies a range of issues in energy and environmental economics, with a focus on markets for automobiles and the fuels they use. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in economics from Macalester College. His research has been published in the *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, and *Journal of Industrial Economics*. He is appointed as a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and he serves on the Editorial Board at the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. He previously served as a visiting researcher at the Energy Institute at Haas at UC Berkeley, as a staff economist with the White House Council of Economic Advisers, and as a research assistant at Resources for the Future.

**Ann Erhardt, Director of Sustainability, Michigan State University**



Ann Erhardt was appointed as Director of Sustainability at Michigan State University in 2015 after having served as assistant director since 2012. Formerly the Energy Programs Manager for the West Michigan Environmental Action Council, Erhardt received her sustainable business/environmental science degree and masters of management and organizational leadership from Aquinas College. She also achieved an advanced study certificate in design and innovation from Ferris State University.

At MSU, Erhardt has built collaborative relationships with key leaders in administrative and academic divisions as well as external organizations. Additionally, she has developed and implemented communications, outreach, and marketing strategies resulting in widespread campus participation in energy conservation and waste reduction initiatives.



**Robert Jackson, Director of the Regional and National Response Division, Michigan Agency for Energy**

The Michigan Agency for Energy is responsible for the Michigan Energy Office, Energy Markets, Education and Outreach for Low Income and Vulnerable Communities, and Strategic Technical Services for the agency. Mr. Jackson has responsibility for a \$50M dollar public and private sector energy financing program that provides direct loans and loan loss reserve support for clean energy manufacturing and energy efficiency retrofits in multifamily residential properties. Mr. Jackson has

served as Chief of Pollution Prevention (P2) Programs for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, is the Vice-chair of the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Advisory Board, and Vice-chair of the National Association of State Energy Officials. These organizations develop recommendations for the State and the Congress regarding initiation, design, implementation, and evaluation of federal energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.



**Donald Morelli, Professor and Interim Chairperson, College of Engineering**

Professor Morelli's research interest is focused on semiconductors for energy conversion, new thermoelectric materials, and thermal and electronic transport properties of solids. He is currently serving as interim chairperson of Michigan State University's College of Engineering's Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, and is well versed on, as well as engaged in, innovative technology that is directed toward energy efficiency. He has authored more than 135 journal articles and has completed major research projects for both public and private entities including General Motors Corporation and the U.S. Department of Energy.