

Growing Jobs and Rural Economies: The Farm Bill's Energy Title

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 | 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM | Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 106

Speaker Bios

John Sagrati, Biomaterials Business Development Manager, DuPont Industrial Biosciences



Mr. Sagrati leads new biomaterial offering development in addition to managing the carpet and industrial segments of Sorona® biopolymer. He has been with DuPont 33 years with a track record of growth and new business development. Mr. Sagrati has led the development and launch of several significant new products including DuPont® quartz surfacing. Prior to his role with Industrial Biosciences, he was a business manager with DuPont Photovoltaic Solutions and with DuPont Fuel Cells. Mr. Sagrati has also held various leadership roles in R&D, Technical Service, and engineering in DuPont Building Innovations and Central Research & Development. Mr. Sagrati earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Villanova University and a MBA from State University of New York at Buffalo.

John Shaw, President, Itaconix Corporation



Mr. Shaw has led successful technology product and company launches for over 25 years. He co-founded Itaconix Corporation with Dr. Yvon Durant in 2008 and directed its corporate and commercial development efforts as CEO until its acquisition by Revolmer plc (now Itaconix plc) in June 2016. He continues as President of Itaconix US and directs worldwide homecare and industrial efforts. Prior to Itaconix, Mr. Shaw has led successful technology product and company launches for over 20 years. He worked previously for McKinsey & Co., Corning, Glaxo SmithKline, Westaim Biomedical, and Mitek Systems. Mr. Shaw holds a BA from Pomona College and an MBA from Harvard University.

Sarah Boggess, Director of Communications and Governmental Affairs, ReEnergy Holdings LLC



Ms. Boggess manages stakeholder engagement efforts in ReEnergy's communities, coordinating relationships with the community, media, and elected officials. ReEnergy owns and operates facilities that use forest-derived woody biomass and other wood waste residues to produce homegrown, renewable energy. Before joining ReEnergy, Sarah worked as a newspaper reporter for nine years, as a press officer for the New York State Senate, as the Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, NY, and most recently as a vice president at the Glens Falls, NY-based public affairs firm of Behan Communications, Inc. Sarah holds a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College and an MBA from Union Graduate College.

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Scott Coye-Huhn, Co-founder and Senior Vice President, Aloterra



Mr. Coye-Huhn is a co-founder of Aloterra and leads Aloterra's teams for legal, government relations, and new business development to achieve the company's goals of producing next-generation, renewable raw material supply chains to create a portfolio of specialty fiber products developed from sustainable perennial crops. Formed in 2010, Aloterra farms over 4,600 acres of Miscanthus and is currently operating two manufacturing facilities making pulp, biodegradable packaging, and absorbents. These entities currently have 70 FT employees. In this calendar year Aloterra

expects to announce a massive packaging expansion and the commercialization of Aloterra's new patent to produce cellulosic nanocrystals from Miscanthus, which will add at least 250 more jobs. All of this was built on an investment of about \$5 million in USDA BCAP funds that triggered an additional \$25 million in private market investments.

Graham Christensen, Nebraska farmer; President of GC Resolve



Mr. Christensen is the President of GC Resolve, an environmental consulting business, and GC ReVolt, a solar and alternative energy development. GC ReVolt specializes in farm and ranch, commercial, community, and residential solar development and has worked with many farmers and rural businesses to utilize the USDA REAP program. Christensen is also President of Burt County Wind, LLC, an effort to bring community scale wind energy to Burt County, Nebraska. The feasibility study for the project was funded by a USDA REAP grant. Christensen is

actively engaged on his family farm near Oakland, Nebraska. Alternative energy is a big part of the farm operation with 25 kw's of solar energizing the day to day operations.

James Duffy, Partner, Nixon Peabody on behalf of the Distributed Wind Energy Assoc.



Mr. Duffy is a partner in the Boston office of the national law firm, Nixon Peabody LLP. He heads up the firm's Renewable Energy Tax Credit Team and concentrates his practice on structuring and closing renewable energy transactions. He has represented numerous developers, investors, syndicators and lenders in structuring transactions and is a frequent speaker at renewable energy industry conferences and seminars. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of each of the Distributed Wind Energy Association and Windustry. He is a graduate of the University

of Rhode Island and The Harvard Law School.