



Columbia Energy Journalism Initiative

June 20-23, 2017 | New York, NY

Working Agenda

Day 1

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

7:00 – 9:30 p.m. Dinner - The challenge of and need for systems-based reporting on the energy sector

Day 2: Energy Fundamentals and Markets (This session would be designed to go over the basics of the current global and domestic energy mix, the various forecasts for how it would look under a few scenarios going forward, how energy markets function and are interrelated, and the critical technologies and technological questions impacting the energy system).

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast

9:00 – 10:15 a.m. *Energy Fundamentals and Outlook*

- What is the current mix of energy supplies in the US and the world including oil, gas, coal, renewables, nuclear, etc.?
- How is energy use dispersed across sectors including transportation, residential, commercial, industrial, etc.?
- How have centers of energy demand and supply developed and how are they expected to evolve over the next 25 years?
- How are energy generation and end-use projected to change and what are the key variables that could alter the mix?

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. *Financial Flows of Oil, Natural Gas Markets*

- How is oil/natural gas traded in futures, physical markets?

11:45 a.m. – 12 noon Break

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12 noon – 1:15 p.m.

Changing Structure of U.S. Power Markets

- How is electricity priced and sold, and what is the impact of low-cost natural gas and renewable energy on grid economics?

1:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Lunch – Discussion Topic: China’s Energy and Climate Future

2:45 – 5:15 p.m.

Climate Change

- What is the scientific consensus on climate change?
- How quickly will changes occur, and where will they occur?
- What are the biggest contributors to greenhouse-gas emissions?
- How are the costs of climate change evaluated?
- What are the impacts of environmental policy on energy?

5:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Wrap up

Day 3 Policy, Geopolitics and Energy (This session would discuss the major policy challenges facing the public sector, including climate change, how they can influence public sector decisions, and how the changing global energy system is impacting geopolitics)

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Continental breakfast

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

US Energy Policy – Domestic

- Traditional goals of US energy policy and how could they change to adapt to new energy realities [e.g. energy “independence”, low-carbon economy].
- Major current policy debates [federal land use, energy infrastructure, EPA’s Clean Power Plan.

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Break

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11:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

US Energy Policy – International

- How does energy impact US foreign policy decisions and geopolitical engagement and diplomacy?
- Traditional goals of US energy diplomacy and how they are changing to adapt to new US energy realities [energy exports, sanctions, trade, climate agreements etc.].
- Energy Access and Poverty Challenge

1:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Lunch - Discussion Topic: Energy Finance

- How are energy deals funded and structured?

2:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Energy and Geopolitics

- What role is energy playing in some key global geopolitical challenges [e.g. Russia/Ukraine, fight against terrorism, South China Sea, etc.]?
- What threats could evolve from current energy landscape?

4:45 – 5:15 p.m.

Wrap up

7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Dinner – The Future of Oil- The New Middle East Reality

Day 4 Future Technology and Innovations (This session would discuss technologies and innovations that will impact energy and climate developments).

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Continental breakfast

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

A Closer Look at Tomorrow's Technology and Innovations

- Major developments in energy technology/innovation and their impacts, e.g. shale resources, solar, wind, etc.
- Next generation breakthrough technologies, e.g. energy storage, third-generation nuclear, etc.
- Role of public and private sector in energy RD&D [e.g. Mission Innovation vs. Breakthrough Energy Coalition].

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- Policy instruments that support technology development (e.g. tax credits, basic R&D like ARPA-E, loan guarantees).

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Closing Discussion

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