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[www.ElectrificationCoalition.org](http://www.ElectrificationCoalition.org)

## Electric School Buses: The Opportunity for Illinois

### Speaker Bios

September 14, 2022

#### Speaker

#### Bio

**Aaron Viles**, Director of Campaigns,  
Electrification Coalition



Aaron Viles is the Director of Campaigns for the Electrification Coalition, focused on helping accelerate community efforts to increase adoption of EVs. He is based in Lexington, KY. With over 20 years of experience in advocacy, Aaron comes to the EC from a stint in electoral politics, recently working with the Kentucky Democratic Party. Aaron brings experience with environmental, energy, and online advocacy to the EC team. He is currently the volunteer chair of the board of directors of Healthy Gulf, a New Orleans-based regional environmental group.

**Katrina McLaughlin**,  
Clean Energy Associate,  
WRI



Katrina McLaughlin is an Associate on the U.S. Energy team. She supports WRI's work on clean energy and grid policy, electricity market design, and transportation electrification.

Prior to joining WRI, Katrina completed a fellowship at the U.S. Climate Alliance with a primary focus on power sector issues. Past positions also include two years working on energy policy at Resources for the Future, as well as two seasons serving with AmeriCorps on public lands across Nevada, Montana, and Wyoming.

She holds a Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs. She completed her undergraduate studies in Political Science and Environmental Economics and Policy at the University of California, Berkeley.

**Dr Louise Giles, Pediatric  
Pulmonologist,  
University of Chicago**



B. Louise Giles, MD, is a leader in the field of pediatric pulmonary medicine. She treats children with a wide range of respiratory disorders, including asthma, chronic respiratory failure and non-CF bronchiectasis.

As an active researcher, Dr. Giles studies pulmonary health for those with chronic lung disease. She has investigated the mechanisms that regulate the expression of extracellular superoxide dismutase (EC-SOD) in the developing lung. She has also studied the use of mechanical ventilation, such as high-frequency oscillatory ventilation when conventional mechanical ventilation fails.

**Senator Dick Durbin**



Senator Dick Durbin, from Springfield, is the 47th U.S. Senator from the State of Illinois, the state's senior senator, and the convener of Illinois' bipartisan congressional delegation. Senator Durbin also serves as the Senate Majority Whip, and has been elected to this leadership post by his colleagues every two years since 2005. The Senator also serves as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and sits on the Appropriations and Agriculture Committees.

**Megha Lakhchaura,  
Illinois Electric Vehicle  
Officer**



Megha Lakhchaura serves as the Electric Vehicle Coordinator at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Lakhchaura, prior to joining the Agency, worked for EVBox, Inc. as the Director and Head of Policy, North America from 2018 to 2022. She previously served as Policy Director for Sunrun, Inc., a rooftop solar and battery storage provider, and as a Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst for the California Public Utilities Commission assisting in reliability and renewable generation programs. Megha received a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Isabella Thoburn College, a Master's in Business Administration from the Symbiosis Center for Management and Human Resources Development, and Master's in Public Policy from UCLA.

**Julie Armitage,**  
Chief, Bureau of Air,  
Illinois EPA

Julie Armitage is the Chief of the Bureau of Air for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. She has a J.D. from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and a B.S. in Finance from Bradley University.

She has served as a staff and managing air enforcement attorney, managing regulatory attorney, legal counsel for the Agency, manager of the compliance section for the Bureau of Air and Chief of the Bureau of Air.

As Chief of the Bureau of Air, she oversees planning, development and implementation of goals and programs relating to permitting, modeling, monitoring, regulatory development, inspection, and compliance assurance. She also oversees grant and rebate programs for the Bureau.

**Lisa Clemmons Stott,**  
eMobility and Innovation  
Director, Illinois  
Department of  
Commerce and  
Economic Opportunity



Lisa Clemmons Stott is the Electric Mobility and Innovation Director at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. In that role, she works to grow advanced manufacturing in the electric vehicle sector by highlighting the state's many assets, including one of the most aggressive incentives programs in the nation, the Reimagining Electric Vehicles Act. She has worked at the critical intersection of community and economic development for more than a decade, including as a founder of her own consulting firm and the executive director of the state capital's downtown business district. Her career started in the Illinois legislature as a staff person and she has held numerous leadership, communications and change management roles.

**Robert Wolfe,**  
Finance Officer, Illinois  
State Board of Education

Robert Wolfe, Financial Officer of Illinois State Board of Education, has been with the Agency in a variety of capacities since 1989. He started with the Agency as a field auditor worked his way up through the management ranks assuming the role of Financial Officer in August, 2012.

**David McEllis,**  
Illinois Legislative  
Director, Environmental  
Law & Policy Center



David McEllis is the Illinois Legislative Director at ELPC, working on current Illinois energy legislative issues. Prior to joining ELPC, David served as senior legislative counsel in the Office of the Illinois Senate President. He was the lead Senate Democratic staffer for the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee and the Senate Labor Committee. He lives in Chicago with his wife and daughter.

**State Senator Cristina  
Castro, 22<sup>nd</sup> District**



State Senator Cristina Castro represents the 22nd District, which includes all or part of 10 different communities located within Cook and Kane County. She is a second-generation Mexican-American and lifelong district resident who is committed to her community and to public service.

She is a member of the Latino Caucus and is Chairperson of the Executive Committee. She also serves on the Commerce, Energy and Public Utilities, Healthcare Access and Availability, Insurance, and Labor Committees.

**State Representative  
Robyn Gabel,  
District**



Robyn Gabel is from Evanston, IL, and has represented the people of the 18th District in the Illinois House of Representatives since 2010. Throughout her career, Robyn Gabel has demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the people of Illinois as an advocate for all, especially women, children and the most disadvantaged. During her time in the House, she has earned a reputation as an independent legislative leader, successfully passing numerous sponsored bills.

**Deputy Governor  
Christian Mitchell**



**Christian Mitchell** is an American politician, political consultant, and lawyer who currently serves as Deputy Governor for Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker's administration. Prior to assuming this role, Mitchell represented the 26th District of Illinois as state representative from 2013–2019. He also served as the executive director of the Democratic Party of Illinois during the 2018 election cycle, becoming the first African-American to hold the position.<sup>[2]</sup> Mitchell began his career as a community organizer, working with churches on the south side of Chicago and is an advisor to many reform-minded political leaders.

**Anthony Maietta,  
U.S. EPA, District 5**



Anthony Maietta is an Environmental Protection Specialist in the Chicago/Region 5 office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air and Radiation Division. Anthony graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a B.S. in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution. Since 2003 his work at EPA includes review and processing of state clean air laws under the Clean Air Act, transportation conformity in Indiana and Ohio, and managing voluntary programs such as the Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative, the SmartWay Transport Partnership, EPA's Clean School Bus Program, and EPA's Ports Initiative.

**Dr Lyndl Schuster,  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Business Services,  
River Trails School  
District**



Dr. Lyndl Schuster has served as the assistant superintendent for business services at River Trails District 26 since August 2006. She holds a B.S. and an M.S. in management with a concentration in finance from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She attended the School Business Management program jointly sponsored by Northern Illinois University and Illinois Association of School Business Officials and received her Chief School Business Officials endorsement in 2003. In 2016 she received her doctorate, educational leadership and superintendent endorsement from Western Illinois University. Dr. Schuster is passionate about the environment and leads the district's sustainability efforts as well as the District Wellness Committee, which focuses on employee and student health and wellness as well as environmental wellness. She believes that education holds the key to life-long success and her goal is to ensure that every student is inspired to learn and to reach their maximum potential while District 26 maintains financial stability.

**Philip Roy,**  
Director of External  
Affairs, ComEd



Philip Roy is Director of External Affairs at ComEd, which delivers electricity to more than 4 million residential and business customers across northern Illinois. In his current role, Philip leads a team that manages ComEd's relationship with around 200 communities in their service territory. In prior roles at ComEd, Philip developed and executed strategies related to renewable energy, distributed generation, beneficial electrification, and the utility business model.

Before joining ComEd, Philip served in local government as a public policy professional. He is a graduate of Lawrence University (B.A., Government) and Northeastern Illinois University (M.A., Political Science).

**Dr Ilandus Hampton,**  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Business Services,  
Joliet Township High  
School District



Dr. Ilandus Hampton is currently the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services for Joliet Township High School District 204. Dr. Hampton has 23 years of experience working in Education and is directly responsible for a \$125 million dollar budget and the daily operation and management of the business office, human resources, facilities, transportation, construction, risk management, crisis management, security, food service, and technology. Under his leadership, the Business Office has received the prestigious *Certificate of Excellence in Financial Auditing and Reporting Award* from The International Association of School Business Officials for nine consecutive years.

Dr. Hampton received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance with a minor in Economics from Chicago State University and a Master of Science degree in Education with a concentration in School Business Management from Northern Illinois University, and his Doctoral Degree in Education Administration and Supervision from National Louis University in December 2015.

**Chad Jones,**  
Superintendent, Hollis  
Consolidated School  
District

*Bio is forthcoming.*

**Haj Young,**  
Associate Manager, IEC  
Powered by Future  
Green

*Bio is forthcoming.*

**Kenni Jean Schrader,**  
Transportation  
Supervisor, Three Rivers  
Schools (MI)



*Bio is forthcoming.*

**Maggie Clancy,**  
Chief Commercial  
Officer, Levo Mobility



Maggie leads all aspects of the joint venture's customer acquisition efforts, driving relationships with school districts and other key decision makers related to fleet electrification. Before Levo, Maggie spent 23 years in executive leadership focusing on marketing, brand, and strategy. She previously oversaw the commercial EV strategy for National Express, the second largest private owner of school buses in North America. Prior to National Express, Maggie was the SVP of Global Marketing Operations for Publicis Group, at Leo Burnett and Starcom. Maggie holds a BA from Northern Illinois University and an MBA from Loyola University – Chicago.

**Steve Letendre, PhD**  
Director of Policy,  
Nuvve



**Steve Letendre, PhD**  
**Director of Policy, Nuvve**

Steve Letendre is a regulatory analyst and policy professional with over 25 years of experience specializing in the value of distributed energy resources and the grid of the future. He has prepared direct testimony, technical reports, and analysis on a range of energy policy issues including the publication of the seminal article on V2G titled "Electric Vehicles as a New Power Source for Electric Utilities" with Dr. Willett Kempton. At Nuve, Steve works to promote policies, regulations, and wholesale market reforms that unlock the value that V2G offers to the grid and customers.

**Nate Baguio,**  
Senior Vice President of  
Commercial  
Development – U.S.A.,  
Lion Electric



Nate Baguio has been working in the transportation industry for over 30 years. His career has taken him from behind the wheel of a school bus to launching the largest deployment of heavy-duty electric vehicles in North America. Currently, he is working to electrify the transportation industry as Senior Vice President of Commercial Development for one of the nation's leading EV manufacturers, The Lion Electric Co. Since joining Lion in 2018, he has helped position Lion as the leader in electric school bus deployments across North America. Baguio is leading the Commercial Development team in warming markets in target states across the United States, advocating stakeholders and policy makers to fund more money into the EV industry, and helping Lion attain more of the available funding for both Lion's bus and truck lines. His work has contributed to Lion's exponential growth in the market and position as a policy leader in the EV industry.

**Steve Kelley,**  
Chief Commercial  
Officer, InCharge



Steve leads all revenue functions at In-Charge. Mr. Kelley brings more than 25 years of domain experience, specializing in the renewable energy and high-tech sectors. In this role he is helping OEM's, Transit, Schools, and large fleets transition to Zero Emission vehicles. Prior to Coming to In-Charge Mr. Kelley formed Engie North America's eMobility division and was the cofounder of Green Charge Networks (Acquired by Engie in 2014) where he helped install EV Charging battery storage systems in over 150 California cities, schools and counties. Steve spent six years in the solar industry in leadership roles for SoCore Energy, DRI Energy, and SunPower. Steve's prior sales management experience includes management positions at Solectron, Oracle, Visa, and IBM. Steve received his bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley in Industrial Engineering and Economics.

**Kelly White,**  
EV Director, Navistar



Kelly has been with Navistar for 7 years in various roles working directly with Customers and Navistar Dealer network. In October 2021, she joined Navistar's eMobility team- focusing her efforts on IC Bus go-to-market electric strategy and its transition to zero-emission vehicles.

With experience in bringing together teams and working cross functionally, she has played an important role at IC Bus, managing the electrification conversation and identifying partners and resources that have led to the early adoption success of Electric School buses.

She believes in the work being done to contribute to the reduction of Co2 emissions and resource consumption. Drawing inspiration from the future of her young girls, who love to point out the "yellow school bus" on the road, Kelly's passion and belief in electrification across the School Bus industry grows stronger every day.

**Joshua Williams,**  
Midwest Regional  
Manager, Market  
Development, Highland  
Electric

Josh Williams recently joined Highland Electric Fleets where he leads the market development efforts across the US Midwest and Canada. Within his role Josh collaborates with environmental advocacy groups, policymakers and electrification thought leaders in order to promote electric school bus education. Josh joined Highland from Business Sweden where he provided market entry support to mobility and clean transportation companies. Prior to Business Sweden he served as the UK Government's Director of Automotive and Future Mobility for North America where his team facilitated trans-Atlantic trade & investment partnerships. Josh lives in the Chicago Area with his wife and three energetic young daughters.

**Susan Mudd,**  
Senior Policy Advocate,  
Environmental Law &  
Policy Center



Susan Mudd is an attorney and senior policy advocate for ELPC, where she directs ELPC's Diesel Pollution Reduction Initiative to protect children's and community health, ELPC's Electric School bus campaign and with ELPC's Science Advisory Council. Susan previously served as Citizens for a Better Environment's Wisconsin director for 15 years, consulted for the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and the Brico Fund. She lives in Chicago with her husband.

**Amanda Pankau,**  
Energy Campaign  
Coordinator, Prairie  
Rivers Network, Illinois  
Affiliate of the NWF



Amanda coordinates Prairie Rivers Network's campaign to work with advocates, leaders, and communities to realize the benefits of clean, renewable energy and address the costs of non-renewable sources, such as coal. She helps develop and implement policies, programs, and initiatives to fight climate change and ensure a just, equitable, and clean transition to renewable energy.

About the Electrification Coalition:  
[www.electrificationcoalition.org](http://www.electrificationcoalition.org)

