

Electricity & Energy 2  19

Grid Opportunities of Future Utilities

Chair: Yitzhak Balmas, Deputy President & CEO, SVP, Israel Electric Corp.

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Dr. Vera Silva

Chief Technology Officer, GE Grid Solution

Vera Silva is the Chief Technology Officer for GE Power's Grid Solutions business, leading a team of 3,600 engineers in over 17 countries around the world. Under Vera's leadership, the engineering team is responsible for designing and producing world-class products and solutions for Grid Solutions' customers.

Prior to this role, Vera worked at Electricité de France (EDF), the largest French Utility dealing in electricity generation, distribution and sales, where for the past 9 years she has been working in Research & Development in a number of roles as Program Director for electricity systems and markets, Senior Engineer, Project Manager and research engineer.



Christian Kern

Director of the Blue Minds Company, Former Austrian Chancellor

Christian Kern has served as Federal Chancellor (Prime Minister) of the Republic of Austria and as Chairman of the Social democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ).

Before entering politics for three years, he had conducted business for more than 20 years, keeping several Board and C-Level positions in the energy- and rail industry in Austria, Turkey, Italy and France.

Currently Christian Kern is Partner and Director of The Blue Minds Company/Vienna, Chairman of the Israel based Energy-AI Startup F-sight/ Hod Hasharon and is acting as advisor of several Israel based tech companies like Cylus Ltd.

Mr. Kern is President of the Austrian Chinese Business Association (ACBA) and in 2019 he joined the board of the Russian Railways RZD.



Terry Boston

Former President & CEO PJM, Presidential appointee to NIAC/DHS

After serving as president and CEO of PJM since 2008, Mr. Boston retired January 1, 2016. Among his many other public service roles, he is now volunteering as an advisor for the EIS Council.

Mr. Boston is past president of the Association of Edison Illuminating Companies and past president of GO 15, association of the world's largest power grid operators. He served as a U.S. VP of CIGRE, International Council of Large Electric Systems and received the CIGRE 2016 Attwood Award.

Mr. Boston was the first chair of the North American Transmission Forum, dedicated to excellence in performance and sharing industry best practices. He also was one of the eight industry experts selected to direct the North American Electric Reliability Corporation investigation of the August 2003 Northeast/Midwest blackout.



Anthony Pugliese

Former Chief of staff, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

Anthony Pugliese served as the Senior White House Advisor for the United State Department of Transportation.

Prior to this, Pugliese worked for Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett in the communications and policy office prior to joining the future Governor's campaign as his Policy Coordinator .

