



# Building a Sustainable Future: The Global Energy Transition

May 16 – 17, 2024

New York Marriott Marquis  
New York, NY

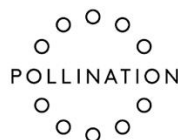
2024 ESG Leadership Awards

May 16, 2024 | 6pm – 9pm

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# Building a Sustainable Future

The Global Energy Transition

May 16 – 17, 2024

New York, NY

## DAY ONE      Thursday, May 16, 2024

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7:30 – 8:30 AM      **Registration and Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:45 AM      **Opening Remarks**

**Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

8:45 – 9:30 AM      **Where Are We in the Energy Transition?**

According to the latest Conference Board research, half of CEOs around the globe see the renewable energy transition as significantly positive for their company, and yet it remains one of their lowest near-term priorities. This panel will discuss where we currently stand in the shift to renewable energy, the forces that are driving and deterring the shift, and what are the paths to greater progress.

**George S. Barrett**, Founder, **The Overtone Group**, Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, **Cardinal Health**

**Rich Gottwald**, President & CEO, **Compressed Gas Association**

**Dr. Joel N. Myers**, Founder & Executive Chairman, **AccuWeather**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

9:35 – 10:20 AM      **What Are the International Forces at Play?**

The shift to renewable energy is not happening in a vacuum, but against the backdrop of wars, geopolitical rivalries, trade tensions, and competing regulatory regimes. This session will discuss how this complex matrix of forces is affecting the global energy transition.

**Aniket Ghai**, Senior Officer, **UN Office of the High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDs**

**Ben Herskowitz**, Senior Managing Director, ESG & Sustainability Advisory Solutions, **FTI Consulting**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

10:20 – 10:35 AM      **Break**

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10:35 – 11:20 AM **Where Are the Growth Opportunities in Energy Transition?**

There is significant money to be made (or saved) in the global energy transition. This panel will discuss where to look for opportunities, how to assess the ROI of the renewable energy shift, and how companies can make the business case – both internally and externally – for action.

**John Morton**, Managing Director, Head of Americas, **Pollination**

**Michelle Sim**, Director, Corporate Sustainability, **Semptra**

**Josh Tippin**, Vice President of Fuels and Energy Services, **Penske Transportation Solutions**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

11:25 – 11:50 AM **Playbook for Reaching Net Zero**

What does it take for a company to reach Net Zero. There are multiple levers, from reducing energy usage, to shifting sources, to carbon credits and carbon capture and more. Hear from one of the largest companies in the world on how it is getting there.

**Kara Fulcher**, Director of Sustainability, North America, **Michelin**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

11:55 – 12:20 PM **Fireside Chat: Where Will the Energy Transition Stand in January 2025?**

While the shift to renewable energy may be inevitable, the issue can be polarizing. This session will address what a post-election landscape at the federal and state level could look like, and how companies can prepare for the unknown.

**Elizabeth Lien**, Senior Director, Federal Climate Policy and Subnational Programs, **WWF**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

12:25 – 1:10 PM **Do Consumers Actually Care?**

The shift toward sustainability is happening because corporate boards and C-suite leaders know it's a good long-term business strategy to reduce environmental and social risk, and because regulators are demanding climate-related reporting. Overshadowing this is increasing consumer willingness to shift their loyalty to brands that emphasize sustainability. This session will feature new research identifying a \$44 billion sustainability opportunity for brands. Senior practitioners from key sectors will share their insights on our panel.

**Erin Bigley**, Chief Responsibility Officer, **AllianceBernstein**

**Chris Gray**, Vice President, Sustainability, **UnitedHealth Group**

Moderator: **Dave Armon**, Executive Vice Chairman, **3BL**

1:10 – 2:10 PM **Lunch**

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2:15 – 3:00 PM

## **What Kind of Capital Investments Will be Needed in the Energy Transition?**

With [\\$130 trillion](#) expected to go into projects to decarbonize and renew infrastructure by 2027, how are companies planning for a future that meets environmental, business, and employee needs? This panel will discuss the public and private investments being made in infrastructure, how companies can analyze the best approach for them to take, and how to invest wisely.

**Andrew Howell**, Head of Research, Sustainable Finance, **Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)**

**Michael Ragona**, Chief Engineer Substation Projects Engineering, **Con Edison of New York**

**Robert G. Schwiers Jr.**, Chief Economist Strategy & Sustainability, **Chevron**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

3:05 – 3:20 PM

## **Break**

3:25 – 3:55 PM

## **How Can Boards Add the Most Value?**

The Conference Board has found that board members across the globe and CEOs share the same ESG priorities, but that board members are significantly less confident in their companies' approach to sustainability than the executives leading the charge. This panel will discuss how best to effectively engage the board on sustainability and renewable energy. How can boards add the most value? What does management need to do differently? How should boards adapt?

**Jennifer Aspen Mason**, Chief Sustainability Officer, and EVP Safety & Sustainability, **J.M. Huber Corporation**

**Dave Stangis**, Partner and Chief Sustainability Officer, **Apollo**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

4:00 – 4:45 PM

## **Mapping the End-to-End Climate and Energy Transition for Your Industry**

Making the climate and energy transition goes well beyond the boundaries of your company's office walls. Making progress means engaging the entire value chain and understanding the unique energy needs, emission sources, and footprint of your industry. It also means taking advantage of the positive contributions your industry can make to enable others to advance the energy transition and/or adapt to a changing climate. This session will discuss how companies should look at their energy and climate transition plan from the perspective of their industry.

**Frederic Godemel**, Executive Vice President, Power Systems and Services, **Schneider Electric**

**Sarah Russell Crowe**, ESG & Sustainability Lead, **Nasdaq**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

4:45 – 5:00 PM

## **Reflections of the Day and Closing Remarks**

**Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

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5:00 – 6:00 PM

**Reception**

6:00 - 9:00 PM



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## DAY TWO      Friday, May 17, 2024

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### 8:00 – 8:45 AM      **Registration and Breakfast Roundtables**

Attendees join their peers for roundtable discussions, which will focus on critical challenges organizations face during this transition:

- **The Role of AI in ESG and the Sustainable Energy Transition:** Artificial intelligence can support reporting and energy transition tactics. This roundtable will explore what's real and what's still fantasy.

Moderator: **Matthew Sekol**, Sustainability Global Black Belt, **Microsoft**

- **Meeting Reporting Expectations as They Relate to the Energy and Climate Transition:** How do we balance the growing demands of sustainability reporting requirements with the challenges involved in advancing the Energy Transition?

Moderator: **Jack Moynihan**, Head of Sustainability Law, **The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.**

- **Making Carbon Commitments, Net Zero, and Scope 3:** Many companies have been delisted from the Science Based Target (SBTi) commitments list. This roundtable will discuss how to make commitments, deal with scope 3, and make progress.

Moderator: **Rich Gottwald**, President & CEO, **Compressed Gas Association**

- **Making and Meeting Renewable Energy Commitments:** With volatile renewable energy prices, how are companies meeting their commitments to source a majority (if not all) of their energy from renewables?

Moderator: **Saroja Raj**, Senior Manager, Energy, Environment Safety Health and Sustainability, **Lockheed Martin Corporation**

- **Moving Forward in a Time of ESG Backlash:** ESG has become politicized and is no longer just in the USA. This roundtable will explore how to keep advancing the sustainable energy transition in a charged political environment.

Moderator: **Erin McLaughlin**, Senior Economist, ESF Center, **The Conference Board**

### 8:45 – 9:00 AM      **Opening Remarks**

**Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

### 9:00 – 9:20 AM      **Keynote: Verizon's Approach to Decarbonization Including Enabling Carbon Abatement for Customers**

**James Gowen**, Senior Vice President, Global Sourcing and Supply Chain and Chief Sustainability Officer, **Verizon**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

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9:25 – 10:10 AM **What Role should Carbon Credits and Renewable Tax Credits Play?**

As companies shift gears from “carbon neutral” to “net zero” and prioritize support for the energy transition, what role should carbon offsets and federal income tax credits play? This panel will discuss the role of carbon offsets and federal income tax credits from the standpoint of effectiveness, cost, stakeholder expectations, including impact and economic return, and regulatory requirements.

**Jacob J. Worenklein**, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, **US Grid Company (USGRDCO)**

**Steven Lorch**, Partner, **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

10:15 – 11:00 AM **Is Technology the Answer?**

This session will address the key technologies involved in the energy transition – whether in conservation, low-carbon alternatives, or carbon capture. What is in our toolbox now? What is being underused? What is realistically on the horizon? What would be revolutionary?

**Scott Childress**, President of Sustainability, **UPS**

**Mike Hopkins**, Chief Advisor and Legal Team Leader, **Plus Power**

**Sangeeta Ranade**, Vice President, Energy as a Service Development, **AlphaStruxure**, a Carlyle Group and Schneider Electric company

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

11:00 – 11:15 AM **Break**

11:20 – 12:05 PM **How Can You Tell Your Energy Story More Effectively?**

Against the backdrop of increasingly proscriptive regulatory requirements, ESG backlash, skepticism about greenwashing, how can companies convey their sustainability stories in general – and their renewable energy strategy in particular – in a way that resonates with key audiences? What is the right blend of numbers and narrative, fear, and hope, that not only informs but inspires.

**Dr. Sweta Chakraborty**, CEO of North America, **We Don't Have Time**

**Terence Shields**, Chief Sustainability Officer, **The Hartford**

**Matthew Sekol**, Sustainability Global Black Belt, **Microsoft**

Moderator: **Steve Rochlin**, CEO, **IMPACT ROI** and Program Director, **The Conference Board**

12:10 – 12:20 PM **Reflections and Closing Remarks**

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