

IOGANY'S 37TH ANNUAL MEETING

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

[NYS DEC, Division of Mineral Resources, Catherine Dickert, Director](#)

Catherine is a native of New York State who has lived and worked in different areas of the country. After earning her MS degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from the University of Vermont, she worked for the California Department of Fish and Game. She has also worked for non-profits and as a consultant before going to work for a small natural gas exploration and production company in western Colorado. She has been with the Department of Environmental Conservation for a year and a half.



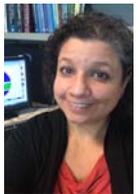
[NYS DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation, Andrea Skalski, P.E., Environmental Engineer 2](#)

Ms. Skalski is an Environmental Engineer 2 with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Andrea started with the DEC as a Petroleum Bulk Storage inspector in 1998. Her current position is Bulk Storage Program Manager for DEC Region 9. Andrea has held this position since 2003. She coordinates inspections and registrations, provides technical guidance and outreach for all Bulk Storage programs. Andrea holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Buffalo.



[NYS DEC, Division of Air Resources, Ona Papageorgiou, P.E., Environmental Engineer II, Bureau of Air Quality Planning](#)

Ona has been responsible for the implementation of several VOC rules and is currently responsible for the development of an air emissions focused oil and natural gas rule for New York State. She serves as a member of the Environmental Council of States innovative methane detection technologies team and brings 19 years of both private and public experience to her role as a regulator. Ona received a B.S. degree in chemical engineering from Arizona State University and an M.S. degree in environmental engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.



[NYS DEC, Division of Air Resources, Tom Wickerham, Environmental Program Specialist II](#)

He has been with the DEC since 1987 where he started in the Division of Mineral Resources. His office is responsible for regional management of the Federal Title V and State-level permit programs and ensuring the regulatory compliance of facilities through education, outreach and enforcement. Prior to working for the DEC, Tom spent twelve years in oil and natural gas exploration and development as a petroleum geologist. Tom has a BA in Geology from Thiel College and an MS in Environmental Health and Safety Management from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Since 1998 he has served as an Adjunct Professor in the Rochester Institute of Technology's Environmental Health and Safety Management program. For fifteen years, he spent much of his spare time as an Assistant Scoutmaster for a local Boy Scout troop, during which he served for two years as the Chair of the Special Scouting District and member of the Executive Board of the local Boy Scout Council. Tom is currently Chair of the Statewide Council of the State Employees Federated Appeal, an annual, donor-designated charitable program run by state employees that last year raised over \$5 million statewide.



[NYS DEC, Division of Water, Region 9, Melanie Stein, Assistant Environmental Engineer](#)

Melanie attended the University at Buffalo and has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering and M.S. in Civil Engineering. Enforces New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) program in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany Counties, with a focus on municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities. Routine work includes permit writing, facility inspections, and review of plans for water quality-related projects. Additional focus areas include water quality issues related to sanitary sewer overflows, bacterial loading at Lake Erie beaches, and the oil and gas industry.



[Department of Public Service, PSC, Kevin Speicher, Chief of the Pipeline Safety Section](#)

Kevin oversees the interstate and intrastate pipeline safety programs for hazardous liquid and natural gas pipelines. He started with the Department in 1995 as a Junior Engineer. He has served on the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) Gathering Line, New Inspector Development and Training, and Transmission Integrity Management task groups and currently serves on the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council Evaluation of Innovative Methane Detection Technologies workgroup. Kevin is a graduate of the Syracuse University College of Engineering and has a B. S. in Environmental Engineering.

