KEYNOTE SPEAKER: “America’s Energy Coach” Thomas E. Kiser, President & CEO, PSI Energy Solutions – a Worthington Industries Company

Thomas E. Kiser is known as “America’s Energy Coach” and coaches his brand of energy innovation as a professor of practice in sustainable energy at Arizona State University to develop interdisciplinary energy curriculum; as a board member of the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center; as an advisory board member to the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment; as a consultant to the Wege Foundation for their “Economicology Sustainable Strategy for Colleges and Universities;” as the company approved by the Ford Motor Company Board of Directors to write a playbook executing the largest energy project in Ford’s history that included 25 million square feet of manufacturing facilities with savings and avoided costs in excess of $300 million over the last 10 years; and as a member of the Joint Board of Counselors for the China-U.S. Center for Sustainable Development. He is also the first foreigner to be appointed as a senior advisor to the Shanghai Municipal Economic Commission, where he leads an initiative to create sustainable energy efficiency demonstration projects in Shanghai. Kiser’s company, PSI Energy Solutions, LLC, has created award-winning demonstrations of energy strategies and technology that have been featured in major national magazines and more recently helped build the world’s first LEED Platinum food manufacturing plant. In 2012, Kiser teamed up with an Ohio-based metals manufacturing company, Worthington Industries, Inc., as part of his push to take PSI global. The combination of PSI’s expertise and successful track record with Worthington Industries’ history of taking innovation to scale will help even more companies with the desire to have energy efficiency programs drive productivity and reduce costs while enhancing environmental sustainability. Kiser earned a degree in aeronautical engineering from St. Louis University. He lives in Fremont, Ohio with his wife, three sons, a daughter and six grandchildren.

Bradley H. Belden, Manager, Occupational & Regulatory Services, The Belden Brick Company

Bradley Belden has worked at The Belden Brick Company for the past eight years where his primary responsibilities relate to managing the EH&S department. Along with ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations, Belden has implemented efficiencies in the manufacturing operations as they relate to energy and raw material consumption. He sits on various committees of the Brick Industry Association, the Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association, and The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association (OMA) where he is the chair of the Energy Committee and sits on the board of the OMA Energy Group. Prior to his work at Belden Brick, Belden graduated from Boston College with a finance degree and worked in Chicago on the Chicago Board Options Exchange and in New York City for JPMorganChase.

Dr. Kevin Crist, Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Ohio University

Kevin Crist is a professor of chemical engineering and the director of the Center for Air Quality at Ohio University. He has led several major research projects related to emission inventory analysis, atmospheric modeling and the development of a web-based management and analysis platform to host data from large-scale monitoring projects. The Center for Air Quality has been involved with emission inventory and air quality analysis for every major metropolitan area in the State of Ohio including mobile emissions modeling, and processing and evaluation of area and point sources. Crist has served as an environmental manager and environmental engineering consultant for several major corporations including Conoco, Texas Instruments and the Quaker Oats Company. He holds a B.S. in chemistry, M.S. in industrial hygiene from Texas A&M, and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Iowa.
Kira Darlow, Environmental Analyst, SC&A

Kira Darlow has spent the past three years working with the U.S. Department of Energy to estimate and analyze GHG emissions from fugitive sources across the DOE complex, including sulfur hexafluoride, wastewater treatment plants and landfills, for both the federal Greenhouse Gas Mandatory Reporting Rule and Executive Order 13514, which requires the measurement of direct and indirect GHG emissions from all federal facilities. She has also estimated GHG emissions for the Santa Clara Valley Water District in San Jose, CA, including all steps from sourcing the water to treatment and disposal at wastewater treatment plants. Additionally, Darlow has worked with numerous clients in the U.S. and abroad on various environmental projects, including waste facility reviews and nuclear waste characterization examinations and quality assurance audits. Darlow has master’s degrees in international business and international environmental policy from the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Robert Ellison, PE, Environmental Specialist, Air Management, Duke Energy Corporation

Robert Ellison has been complying with state and federal reporting requirements for the past 20 years. Since 1992, he has submitted reports to comply with state issued air permits and the federally mandated requirements of the Clean Air Act and the new Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule. Ellison has more than 30 years’ experience with Duke Energy, having worked in the environmental section and in the fossil and nuclear unit performance sections. In addition to reporting, he has been involved permit requirement negotiations, acid rain and CAIR allowance account management and capital project review. He has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and an M.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of South Carolina.

Zack Griffin, LC, President, Evolved Energy Solutions

Zack Griffin is the president and co-founder of Evolved Energy Solutions, Inc., a lighting audit and design/build firm serving commercial, industrial, retail and other non-residential customers throughout Ohio. The firm offers energy analysis, lighting and control design, procurement of financial incentives, and installation. The company believes that a properly designed lighting system can enhance the functional use of the space for occupants and operate efficiently and cost effectively. Griffin is a graduate of The Ohio State University and is active with several local sustainability focused organizations. Prior to starting Evolved, he worked with co-founders and a variety of technical partners in developing circuitry, optics and thermal management for prototype LED fixtures. Griffin is also a member of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America and past-president of the Columbus section.

Ellen Hewitt, Senior Consultant, Trinity Consultants, Inc.

Ellen Hewitt earned a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from The Ohio State University. With almost seven years of environmental experience, Hewitt has supervised air quality permitting and compliance services for industries such as chemical manufacturing, refining, asphalt processing, coal-fired power plants, tire and rubber manufacturing, and metal forming and processing. She has several years’ experience with air permitting in Ohio and West Virginia. Additionally, she has supervised the preparation of several GHG monitoring plans and has assisted several facilities with reporting GHG emissions as required by the GHG Mandatory Reporting Rule.
Bob Hodanbosi, Chief, Division of Air Pollution Control, Ohio EPA

Bob Hodanbosi became chief of the Division of Air Pollution Control at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in September 1992. His current duties include being responsible for the air pollution control program for the State of Ohio and development of the programs needed to comply with the Clean Air Act Amendments. Prior to that time, Hodanbosi held various positions in the Division of Air Pollution Control. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Air & Waste Management Association, and is registered as a professional engineer in the State of Ohio. Hodanbosi received his M.S. in chemical engineering from Cleveland State University in 1977, and his B.A. in chemical engineering from Cleveland State University in 1973. In addition, he completed post-graduate courses in fluid mechanics and turbulence at The Ohio State University from 1978-1982.

Sean Hogan, Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program Data Quality and Compliance Manager, U.S. EPA

Sean Hogan is responsible for data quality and compliance tracking under U.S. EPA’s GHG Reporting Program. He has been working on the development and implementation of the program since 2009. Prior to joining U.S. EPA’s Office of Atmospheric Programs, Hogan managed the Air Quality Analysis Office in EPA’s Region 9 Office in San Francisco. He holds a B.S. in environmental engineering from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

Michael Long, Network Leader, Ohio By-Product Synergy Network

Mike Long recently founded the non-profit Sustainable Ohio that operates the Ohio By-Product Synergy Network, an organization that helps businesses transform their wastes to value. He is president of Resource100 LTD, a consulting firm with a focus on waste reduction, recycling and the conversion of waste to products, fuels and energy. He is the founding executive director of the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio and served in that position for 18 years. He also served 16 years as an engineer and manager in the Ohio Department of Transportation and six years as the Columbus director of Public Utilities and Aviation. He is a graduate of Ohio University with a B.S. in industrial and systems engineering and was on faculty at The Ohio State University as an instructor on municipal and industrial solid waste management. Long is a professional engineer and SWANA-certified recycling systems manager.

Scott Miller, Director, Energy and Environmental Programs, Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs

Scott Miller is director of energy and environmental programs at the Voinovich School and oversees Ohio University’s Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3). He works with stakeholders to shape and implement programs that elevate and enhance Ohio University’s research and educational programs to improve the natural environment of the region, accelerate the deployment of clean energy technology, and connect public, private and non-profit organizations to the university’s resources. Miller was named a 2010 National Energy Executive with the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and he is immediate-past board chair for the University Clean Energy Alliance of Ohio. He was the principal program manager for the State of Ohio’s Climate Change Action Plan and serves on the management team that administers Ohio University’s research and community involvement activities at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, a cold-war era uranium enrichment facility.
Michelle Murcia, President & Interim Executive Director, Advanced Energy Economy Ohio

Michelle Murcia is a finance executive, with more than 20 years of broad finance and administration experience, and brings experience in energy related investment, cluster development and non-profit leadership to Advanced Energy Economy Ohio. Previously, Murcia served as chief financial officer of TechColumbus, where she managed all aspects of finance and investments. Prior to TechColumbus, Murcia served as the director of corporate financial services at Battelle Memorial Institute where she was responsible for mergers and acquisitions, portfolio company oversight, venture fund investments and relationship management, and transactions involving equity. Her professional experience includes investments for Fletcher Spaght Ventures II, corporate finance, accounting administration and shareholder relations for Maxwell Technologies in San Diego, California, and extensive work designing and implementing equity based compensation structures for start-up companies, public companies and non-profits. Murcia holds a B.S. in business administration from California State University, an M.B.A. from The Ohio State University, and is a CPA and a Certified Equity Professional.

David E. Nash, Partner, McMahon DeGulis LLP

David E. Nash is a partner at McMahon DeGulis LLP, an environmental and energy law firm based in Cleveland, Ohio. As an environmental lawyer for more than 25 years, Nash has negotiated diverse stakeholder interests to achieve real-world business and legal solutions. His legal practice includes environmental issues relating to advanced energy, emerging technologies, corporate sustainability, climate change, business and real estate transactions, regulatory matters and legislative matters, environmental litigation, and environmental enforcement actions. He has experience in advanced and renewable energy permitting and regulatory counseling for developers and owners, including counseling for the first offshore wind turbine project proposed for Lake Erie. Nash received his J.D. from Duke University School of Law and earned a B.A. from Wake Forest University. He was also listed as one of the best environmental lawyers in America by The Best Lawyers in America and recognized by Chambers USA. Nash is a co-founder of the Corporate Sustainability Network.

Todd Nein, Interim Executive Director, Ohio Air Quality Development Authority

Todd Nein is the interim executive director of the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority, and has been with the Authority for more than seven years. The Authority assists businesses with the financing of air pollution control equipment as well as energy related projects. He also serves as the State Small Business Ombudsman for the Clean Air Act. Nein brings with him extensive federal and state government experience. He served as a White House intern, in the Office of the Administrator at the U.S. EPA and at The Presidential Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. He also served as government liaison for The Nature Conservancy in Florida. Nein was involved in the formation of the Earth Conservation Corps – a White House domestic policy initiative – as well as the first U.S. EPA workgroup on environmental justice. He has served on the boards of several statewide non-profit organizations. Nein is a graduate of Xavier University. He, his wife and daughter are natives of the Cincinnati area and currently reside in Columbus.

John A. Seryak, PE, CEO, Go Sustainable Energy

John Seryak is founder and CEO of Go Sustainable Energy. He has led development of Go’s unique business strategy of being an industry leader in energy auditing, energy simulation, commissioning and M&V, while pioneering next-stage, state-of-the-art consulting services such as net-zero energy studies, micro-grid consulting, and developing innovative utility efficiency programs. In addition to his work at Go, Seryak is a board member of Advanced Energy Economy Ohio and has served on the conference organizing committees for the Manufacturers’ Education Council for several years, and for the University Clean Energy Alliance of Ohio. He has received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in mechanical engineering, is a licensed professional engineer, and is a Department of Energy (DOE) pumping systems energy expert.
Andrew Shroads, QEP, Senior Air Quality Specialist & Regional Director, SC&A

Andrew Shroads is the regional director for S. Cohen & Associates, a consulting firm specializing in environmental compliance, nuclear licensing, radiological sciences, and remediation. His primary focus is on developing compliance programs for and training personnel on local, state, tribal, and federal air quality and greenhouse gas laws and reviewing the environmental impacts of federal nuclear and energy development projects. For the past 14 years, he has worked in a steel mill, as the chief inspector for the division of air quality, and as an environmental consultant. Shroads has conducted environmental audits for hundreds of facilities in dozens of industry sectors. He uses his strong understanding of air quality and greenhouse gas rules to keep his clients ahead of developing regulations. He is an amateur historian of air pollution and manufacturing in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and the Ohio River Valley and tee ball commissioner in his hometown Little League.

Chad Smith, Deputy Chief, Ohio Department of Development, Office of Energy

Chad Smith is the deputy chief of the Office of Energy in the Ohio Department of Development. The office works to connect companies and communities with financial and technical resources in order to deploy renewable energy and energy efficient technologies in homes and businesses across the state. In this role, Smith provides direction and guidance to technical and administrative staff, develops and implements division and agency goals and objectives, develops policy and programs, and leads efforts to administer annual state funding of more than $15 million and $150 million in federal stimulus energy programs. Smith joined the Ohio Department of Development in November 2007 and has served the department in a number of roles before taking on his current assignment. He previously worked in the utility industry on international renewable energy projects/power investment deals and as a meteorologist in the U.S. Navy. He holds a B.A. from The Ohio State University and an M.A. from the International University of Japan.

Ray Strom, Chief, Efficiency and Renewables Division, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Ray Strom became chief of the Efficiency and Renewables Division at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) in 2009. His current responsibilities include the review of compliance by investor-owned electric utility companies and retail electric suppliers with Ohio’s energy efficiency and renewable energy requirements. Previously, Strom’s responsibilities at the PUCO included the siting of major utility facilities, and fuel cost review of electric utility companies. Prior to joining the PUCO in 1987, he worked as an analytical chemist in coal research and coke production facilities, and in quality control for a major coal mining company. Strom’s educational background includes an M.S. degree in botany and a B.S. degree in zoology, both with emphasis in environmental biology, and both from Ohio University. He also has earned an M.B.A. from Capital University, and has completed additional coursework in chemistry and environmental technology.

Sara Ward, Director, Ohio Interfaith Power and Light

Sara Ward, director of Ohio Interfaith Power and Light, is one of its original steering committee members and previously served as the advocacy chair of the board. She is presently involved in the 2012 Class of the GreenFaith Fellowship, a comprehensive education and training program to prepare lay and ordained leaders from diverse religious traditions for environmental leadership. Ward also serves as the spiritual director for Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Bexley Hall Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. From 1992 until 2007, Ward served as director of Ohio’s State Energy Office in the Ohio Department of Development, responsible for oversight of the state’s energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. She was recognized for her achievements receiving the “2008 Inspiring Efficiency Chairman’s Award” from the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and “Public Official of the Year 2007” from Green Energy Ohio.
Sean Wenger, Regional Energy Solutions Manager-Higher Education, Johnson Controls, Inc.

Sean Wenger has worked in the energy sector with Johnson Controls for more than 10 years. He began his career working with Johnson Controls’ government clients. Wenger has managed several businesses for Johnson Controls including their Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Youngstown service businesses. He currently runs Johnson Controls’ higher education and state government businesses for a multi-state region in the Midwest. Wenger’s public finance experience includes serving on the board of the Lorain Port Authority.

Eric Zimmer, CEO & Co-Founder, Tipping Point Renewable Energy

Eric Zimmer is co-founder and CEO of Tipping Point Renewable Energy and has more than 13 years’ experience starting, growing and executing technology businesses. He has worked in all aspects of sales, product management and implementation for clients and partners such as Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Grant Thornton, TIAA-CREF, The Ohio State University, K-Mart, Major League Baseball and the FBI. Zimmer has extensive experience in leading small, early-stage startups from product conception to actual sales and eventually to acquisition. He has been involved with companies that have been in the Inc 500 and the Columbus Fast 50. Two separate products he has helped develop have won TechColumbus Product of the Year Awards. Previously, Zimmer worked for SubmitOrder, a fast growing e-commerce company, HTP, Inc., a leading provider of software to the health care industry, and Sypherlink, an industry leader in providing solutions for automating and accelerating data integration and NIEM-conformance initiatives.

Michael Zimmer, Executive in Residence, Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs

In his more than 35 years of legal service, Michael Zimmer has advised international energy companies, utilities, manufacturing companies and state and local governments regarding climate change and ancillary issues related to energy, efficiency, corporate sustainability in manufacturing, environmental analysis for products, environmental regulation, and renewables energy project development. In his professional career, he has worked on energy projects and assignments in 35 states and more than 20 foreign countries. Zimmer also has extensive experience working with business groups to understand changes in energy and environmental policies and regulations, tax policy and capital formation and advanced energy technology issues in Ohio. He is regularly invited to testify before congressional committees, federal departments and agencies, and state commission and agencies on energy, efficiency and project development and finance. He holds numerous national committee appointments, and has served on state advisory assignments recently in Rhode Island, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Ohio and Kentucky. He holds a J.D. from University of Baltimore School of Law, with other studies conducted at Providence College, Brown University and Northwestern University.

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