

Plenary: Planning for climate change in Michigan

- **Update on the Michigan Climate Action Plan: Michigan's plan so far**
[Steve Chester](#), former director, Department of Environmental Quality
- **The state of the nation: State and regional action on climate**
[Tom Looby](#), senior project manager, Center for Climate Strategies
- **Next steps for Michigan**
[Rebecca Humphries](#), director, Department of Natural Resources and Environment
- **A tribal perspective**
Frank Ettawageshik, executive director, United Tribes of Michigan

Moderated by Mike Beaulac, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment

Speaker bios

Steve Chester, former director, Department of Environmental Quality

Steven Chester, of counsel with Foley & Lardner LLP, has 28 years of both government and private practice experience in all aspects of environmental law and litigation. He is a member of the firm's Environmental Regulation Practice.

Prior to joining Foley, Mr. Chester served for seven years as director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the highest ranking environmental regulatory position in the state. As director of Michigan's environmental protection agency, he was responsible for overseeing the management of Michigan's air quality, water resources, solid and hazardous waste, oil and gas, land management, and remediation and redevelopment programs. While in this role, Mr. Chester guided the Michigan Climate Action Council in developing a climate action plan to mitigate the adverse impacts of greenhouse gases on the state's residents and environment.

Tom Looby, senior project manager, Center for Climate Strategies

Since joining CCS in 2007 Tom has managed the Iowa, Kansas Michigan and Western States climate change projects for CCS and facilitates the Cross Cutting Issues Technical Work groups in several states. Previously, Tom served as the Director of the Office of Environment at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for 10 years prior to forming his own environmental consulting business in 2000. During his tenure in Colorado he was the founding Vice President and second President of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS). He has extensive experience facilitating inter-governmental and public-private initiatives and processes. Tom served as an elected member of the Frisco Town Council from 2004-2008 where he helped the Town become a leader in environmental sustainability in the Colorado high country. Tom holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Colorado and a Bachelors degree in civil and environmental engineering from Michigan State University.

[Rebecca Humphries](#), director, Department of Natural Resources and Environment

Rebecca A. Humphries became director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment January 17, 2010, after serving as director of the former Department of Natural Resources since 2004. Created under executive order by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, the DNRE assumed the powers and functions of the departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality, both of which were abolished by the executive order.

Humphries began her career with the agency in 1978 as a property specialist in the Real Estate Division, moving in 1981 to the Wildlife Division where she became chief in 1998, leaving that post to become DNR director in 2004. Humphries is a graduate of Michigan State University, with a degree in fisheries and wildlife, and has completed course work toward her MBA through the University of Wisconsin. She was awarded an honorary Ph.D. in public service from Central Michigan University in December 2004.

Frank Ettawageshik, executive director, United Tribes of Michigan

Frank Ettawageshik is a member of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians where he's served a number of political positions including tribal chairman. He sits on many other boards and commissions, such as the Great Lakes Resources Committee, the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, Michigan Indian Education Council, the Little Traverse Conservancy, is active in the National Congress of American Indians and others too numerous to mention here. He also represented Michigan's 12 tribes on the Michigan Climate Action Council.

When not performing his duties on these various bodies, Frank splits his time between his home in the Traverse City area where he's a professional potter, giving workshops and running his gallery and commuting to Lansing where he currently serves as the Executive Director of the United Tribes of Michigan.

