AGENDA

8 – 8:30 a.m.  
Policy Academy Welcome
- Devashree Saha, director of energy and environmental policy, The Council of State Governments
- Edgar Ruiz, executive director, CSG West

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.  
Opportunities and Challenges in Water Infrastructure
The session will open with some scene-setting macro thoughts. The speakers will highlight flashpoints impacting water opportunities: infrastructure gap, climate stress, current state of innovation, and emerging solutions and business models to address challenges.

Speakers:
- Radhika Fox, CEO, US Water Alliance
- Nathan Allen, executive director, WaterStart

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.  
Communicating the Value of Water: Rate Setting and Affordability Issues
Communicating the value of water not only to the public, but to decision makers and elected officials, is critical to assuring financial sustainability of water systems and providing affordable water to consumers. This session will explore strategies to consider the financial needs and conditions of the utility while addressing affordability of rates.

Moderator:
- Josh Young, government affairs senior director, American Chemistry Council

Speakers:
- Glenn Barnes, associate director, Environmental Finance Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Gregory Pierce, senior researcher, Luskin Center for Innovation, University of California at Los Angeles

10:45 – 11 a.m.  
Break
11 – Noon

**Water = Jobs: The Economic Opportunity of Investing in Water Infrastructure**

Closing the water infrastructure gap in the U.S. is a pressing need. The speakers will discuss the benefits of investing in water infrastructure, from job creation to sparking economic activity across the country.

Moderator:
- Devashree Saha, director of energy and environmental policy, The Council of State Governments

Speakers:
- Alexander Quinn, director of sustainable economics, Hatch
- Josh Young, government affairs senior director, American Chemistry Council

Noon – 1 p.m.

**Lunch**

1 – 2:15 p.m.

**Beyond Flint: The Future of Water Quality Issues in the United States**

Communities from Flint, Michigan to New York have experienced tragic lapses in water quality. Consumer confidence in drinking water is understandably shaken. Hear from our speakers on national trends in water quality testing, monitoring and reporting; challenges faced by utilities with different water sources; common myths about water quality; and best practices in communicating consumer confidence results and community outreach.

Moderator:
- Scott Berry, director of policy and government affairs, US Water Alliance

Speakers:
- Christina Devine, Ph.D candidate, College of Engineering, Virginia Tech
- Clark Halvorson, assistant secretary, Environmental Public Health, Washington State Department of Health
- Peter Grevatt, director, Office of Water, EPA
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.  Strengthening Flood Resilience Through Integrated Water Management  
*Floods can strike suddenly, devastating communities and rarely confining themselves to one political jurisdiction. Hear from our two speakers on how they are using integrated water management to tackle flooding challenges and reduce future flood risks.*

**Moderator:**  
- Tom Owens, program director, US Water Alliance

**Speakers:**  
- Tyler Antrup, urban water program manager, Office of Resilience and Sustainability, City of New Orleans
- Carol Haddock, acting director, City of Houston Department of Public Works & Engineering

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.  Break

3:30 – 5 p.m.  Managing Water During Times of Drought  
*Increasingly states are battling drought that has led to water shortages. Hear from industry leaders and state policymakers on the gravity of the situation. Speakers will discuss government actions—new policies, new mandates, what’s to come, opportunities to improve the water industry—and impact on counties, cities and industries.*

**Moderator:**  
- Radhika Fox, CEO, US Water Alliance

**Speakers:**  
- John Entsminger, general manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority
- Kathryn Sorensen, director, Phoenix Water Services Department
- Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Joaquin Esquivel, member, California State Water Resources Control Board

5 – 5:15 p.m.  Closing Words and Wrap