

Civil and Environmental Engineering Seminar Series



Alternative Energy and Energy Independence

John Hanger,
Secretary.
Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Protection

May 1, 2009
12:40 - 1:30 PM
College of Engineering
Room 126

Profile

As Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Mr. Hanger manages an agency of more than 3,000 employees with a mission to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment.

From June 1998 to August 2008, Mr. Hanger was president and CEO of Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture). In this capacity, Mr. Hanger worked with a staff of 20 in offices in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and West Chester. PennFuture works to improve Pennsylvania's environment and economy.

Mr. Hanger was particularly involved with PennFuture's work to promote clean energy technologies and to increase the supply and demand for clean electricity products. Hanger played a major role in drafting and enacting in November 2004 Pennsylvania's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act that will require approximately 4,000 megawatts of new wind, solar and other renewable energy sources.

From April 1993 to June 1998, Mr. Hanger was a commissioner with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC), where he served on the Electricity Committee, the Consumer Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). He advocated for policies that allow consumers to choose their electric, gas and telephone companies; that assist low-income families; and those that benefit the environment, such as net metering, energy conservation, and renewable energy.

As an expert on energy and environmental issues, public utility regulation, and competition in the electricity, gas and telephone industries, Mr. Hanger has testified before the United States Congress and many state legislatures. He has authored numerous articles, written leading regulatory decisions and lectured widely to diverse audiences.

Mr. Hanger is a 1979 graduate of Duke University and a 1984 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.