

## Committee on Repurposing Plastics Waste in Infrastructure

### Information Gathering Session #7

Web-meeting via Zoom

#### Agenda

August 31, 2022

2pm-5:00pm Eastern Time

#### Meeting Purpose

Gather information on plastics recycling industry practices, regulations, and policy.

#### OPEN SESSION

- 2:00 pm **Opening Remarks and Introductions**  
➤ David Dzombak, *Committee Chair*
- 2:10 pm **Session on Recycled Plastics Collection, Sorting, and Markets: Current Conditions and Trends**  
➤ Ganesh Nagarajan, *Senior Director for Plastics, Waste Management Inc.*
- 2:55 pm **Session on Policy and Regulation: Plastics Circular Economy and Environmental Issues**  
➤ Rachel Meidl, *Fellow in Energy and Environment, Rice University*
- 3:40 pm **Session on Impact of Policy**  
➤ Reid Lifset, *Research Scholar and Associate Director of Industrial Environmental Management Program, Yale University*
- 4:30 pm **Adjourn Open Session**

## Presenter Biographies

### Ganesh Nagarajan



Dr. Ganesh Nagarajan is the Senior Director of Plastics at WM. He leads strategy development towards increasing recycling and recovery of plastic waste. He is additionally responsible for value creation and stakeholder engagement. Prior to WM, Dr. Nagarajan worked at LyondellBasell for over two decades in multiple roles including Application Development, Sales, Marketing & Business Management. He also supported the development of numerous recycling projects as a thematic expert for the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, as well as an Executive Advisory Board Member of Cyclx. His international assignments include roles as Marketing and Sales Manager for Northeast Asia and Australia at Basell Asia Pacific Limited and as Managing Director for Basell Polyolefins India Limited.

### Rachel Meidl



Dr. Rachel A. Meidl is a distinguished fellow in energy and environment at Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy and a strategic advisor for Morgan Stanley Capital International. Her research focuses on sustainability; circular economy; life cycle management; environmental justice; safety and environmental regulations of the treatment, storage, disposal, and transportation of hazardous materials and wastes; and understanding the environmental, economic, and social impacts across energy supply chains.

Dr. Meidl was previously appointed as Deputy Associate Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration in Washington, D.C. Prior to her service in government, she was Director of Regulatory & Technical Affairs at American Chemistry Council. She has over 25 years of regulatory, public policy, advocacy and technical experience in industry, academia, government and international relations.

Dr. Meidl holds a Ph.D. in law and public policy from Northeastern University, a master in environmental policy and management, a master of education in applied science and technology with certifications in

chemistry and physics, and bachelor degrees in conservation biology and zoology & animal physiology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Dr. Meidl is also a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager.

### Reid Lifset



Reid Lifset is a Research Scholar and Resident Fellow in Industrial Ecology on the faculty of the [Yale School of the Environment](#) (YSE). He is the founder and an editor of the [Journal of Industrial Ecology](#), an international peer-reviewed scientific journal. His research focuses on the application of industrial ecology to novel problems and research areas, the evolution of extended producer responsibility (EPR), resource and material efficiency, the environmental impact of the digital economy, and the circular economy. He is a member of the UN's [International Resource Panel](#) (IRP), the governing council of the [International Society for Industrial Ecology and](#) the editorial board of the journal, *Waste and Biomass Valorization*.

He has recently advised the Finnish Prime Minister's Office on EPR and the circular economy and served as a lead author on the IRP's [Resource Efficiency & Climate Change](#) study.

In 2015, he was awarded the ISIE's Society Prize and has chaired the Gordon Research Conference on Industrial Ecology. He has served on the U.S. EPA's Science Advisory Board and has advised organizations including the OECD and the Luce Foundation.