

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## INAUGURAL DIRECTOR OF FERC'S NEWLY FORMED OPP ELIN KATZ TO KEYNOTE New England Women in Energy and the Environment's Eleventh Awards Gala

BOSTON, MA – – [New England Women in Energy and the Environment \(NEWIEE\)](#), a powerful force of professional women, will host its 11<sup>th</sup> Awards Gala from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM on April 28, 2022 at the Westin Copley Place Boston. This annual event brings together over 500 women and men to celebrate women's leadership and achievements across the energy and environmental fields.

**Elin Swanson Katz**, the inaugural Director of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's newly formed Office of Public Participation (OPP), will provide the Keynote Address for the 2022 Gala. The OPP serves as a liaison for environmental justice communities, Tribal members, landowners, consumer advocates, and other historically underrepresented stakeholders, and responds to inquiries and requests for administrative and technical assistance from members of the public.

NEWIEE will also honor the following women at this year's Gala for their accomplishments as women leaders and change makers in energy and the environment:

### Leadership Awardee

- **Rachel Kyte** – Dean of The Fletcher School at Tufts University

### Achievement Awardees

- **Meg Lusardi** – Executive Vice-President, PowerOptions Inc.
- **Marissa Paslick Gillett** – Chairman, CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

### Rising Star Awardee

- **Keirstan Field** – Project Manager, Petersen Engineering

### Special NEWIEE Board Recognition

- **Shalanda Baker** – Deputy Director for Energy Justice, Office of Economic Impact and Development, U.S. Department of Energy

Tickets to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NEWIEE Awards Gala are [on sale](#) now.  
For more information, please visit [www.NEWIEE.org](http://www.NEWIEE.org).

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*Founded in 2008, NEWIEE provides a forum for sharing expertise and experiences of its members while fostering a dynamic environment for those passionate about energy and environmental issues in the New England area and beyond.*