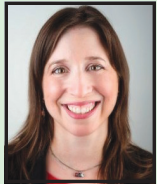


Birnboim-Kochman promoted as senior associate by KSQ



**Rachel
Birnboim-
Kochman**

WHITE PLAINS, NY KSQ Architects has promoted Rachel Birnboim-Kochman, AIA, LEED BD+C, project manager, to senior associate. She joined KSQ in 2005 and leads KSQ's New York studio where she specializes in managing projects for New York City multifamily housing developers as well as university student housing. Birnboim-Kochman is an alumna of Carnegie Mellon University and a member of the New York AIA and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

Cousins of Arup named chair-elect of USGBC board of dirs.



**Fiona
Cousins**

NEW YORK, NY According to Arup, Fiona Cousins, PE, CEng, LEED Fellow has been named chair-elect by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) board of directors.

"I have spent years working with, learning about, and understanding USGBC and feel that I am now able to help lead the organization as it adapts to changes in the marketplace, scales up its activities around the world, and maintains longer-term engagement with buildings," said Cousins, a principal in Arup's New York office. "My career so far has been based on the twin pillars of resource-efficient design and an understanding that collaborative, interdisciplinary processes are the best way to achieve this."

The responsibilities of the chair are to facilitate discussion among board members, guide the board in its legal, strategic, and fiduciary duties, chair meetings and maintain appropriate communication between the CEO and the board.

"USGBC's board of directors provides invaluable direction and perspective, collectively bringing decades of experience to the table and using their individual expertise to shape the future of the organization, the community and the green building movement as a whole. Delivering on the promise of developing buildings that sustain and enhance the vitality of life is no small undertaking. Our board of directors is comprised of representatives from many different segments of the building industry and will undoubtedly make great strides in the coming year," said Rick Fedrizzi, CEO and founding chair, USGBC. "Fiona is a natural choice for chair-elect as her skills and experience align with her passion for a better built environment and USGBC's mission to transform the building market to one where green and sustainable choices are made as a matter of course."

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NYSERDA: \$14.5m available for new tech. at power plants

ALBANY, NY The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is making available \$14.5 million for replicable projects that demonstrate reduction of greenhouse gas emissions at power plants through the use of market-ready technologies. Examples of eligible technologies include advanced controls for plants, boiler controls, advanced burners, turbine retrofits, waste-heat recovery, or in-facility electrical load reduction and efficiency improvements. Under-utilized technologies, as well as proven new and advanced technologies, are encouraged.

Under this new pilot program, up to \$2 million will be available per project. As part of the criteria for funding, all projects must be replicable as part of the effort to promote similar cleaner energy delivery projects across N.Y. and support the growth of these market-ready technologies.

MCenergy: Utilities impose increase in transmission charges for 2015

VALHALLA, NY Starting this year, customers within PJM's territory, 15 states spanning from N.J. to Illinois, will most likely see an increase in their overall electric rates due to a change in transmission charges. MCenergy expects this to be a trend for other independent system operators with New York and New England ISO's likely to follow. While PJM is set to increase Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS) charges for all of its utilities this year, MCenergy sees the biggest impact to their PSE&G customers.

What are NITS charges?

NITS Charges, also called Transmission Enhancement Charges (TEC), are paid to the PJM ISO which operates and maintains the reliability of the electric grid. The charges are used to upgrade the infrastructure of the electric system and ensure the flow of electricity.

Impact to MCenergy Clients

Every energy consumer in the PJM territory is charged NITS fees; even customers being supplied by their utility without a third party contract will see an increase. Depending on the utility, the increase in NITS charges will vary. All customers in PSE&G saw an increase in their NITS charges starting in January.

In PSE&G the increased charge will be included on the supply side of your bill no matter which supplier you're currently under contract with or which product type (fixed or variable) you have. Depending on the supplier, the charge will show up as a separate line item or be embedded within a fixed price.

The rate increase could be between \$0.003/kWh - \$0.009/kWh, depending on the building's load factor (e.g., A property with a 50% load factor will most likely see an increase of \$0.006/kWh). Every 1 million kWh's consumed, represents an increase of \$3,000 - \$9,000.