

# wise

women in  
sustainability  
and energy

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## networking lunch

November 20, 2024

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building  
energy  
exchange

# about WISE

## women in sustainability & energy

The Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE) series, founded in 2015 by Building Energy Exchange, is an inclusive platform for all people to learn from experienced leaders, to share knowledge, and to advance equity in the workplace.

This series brings together women from diverse fields to discuss cutting-edge policies, technologies, and programs. It provides a community and framework for year-round dialogue, along with robust mentorship and networking opportunities designed to promote equity and support the growth of professionals in sustainability and energy industries.

In over a decade, WISE has produced sold-out events, featuring over 60 women leaders, attracting 2,800+ industry professionals, and engaging 500,000+ through social media.

We are delighted to welcome you here for our fifth WISE networking lunch. We look forward to continuing to provide a platform for this community to grow. Thank you for joining us, and we hope you will continue this conversation with your colleagues, friends, and family.

- The BE-Ex Team

## join the conversation

Post about this event using [#BEExWISE](#).



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Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE)  
[linkedin.com/groups/12153791/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12153791/)

# WISE networking lunch

learn more about our table leaders



## Francesca Camillo

Manager, Energy Innovation, Vornado

Francesca Camillo is a multi-disciplinary sustainability and city planning professional with cross-functional experience in resiliency, facilities management, financial and data analyses. After thirteen years of freelance journalism and nearly one decade of public service, her professional path uniquely evolved through exploring the psychosocial relationships we have with the built and natural environments.



## Gizem Karagoz

Senior Project Manager, Green Economy,  
NYC Economic Development Corporation

Gizem Karagoz is a Senior Project Manager on the Green Economy team at the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC). She leads industry innovation initiatives related to circular construction, low carbon building materials, and climate tech pilots. Her work at the intersection of research, design and policy is critical in shaping a more inclusive and sustainable built environment.



## Jamie Kleinberg

Energy Manager, NYC School Construction Authority

Jamie Kleinberg is a Professional Engineer and Certified Energy Manager with over twelve years of experience in the sustainable buildings industry spanning government, private sector, non-profit, and academia. In her current role at the NYC School Construction Authority as Energy Manager, Strategic Planning for Sustainability, she develops and executes sustainability initiatives for NYC public schools with a focus on electrification and decarbonization.

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## Tess McNamara

Senior Sustainability Consultant, Arup

Tess McNamara is a Senior Consultant in Arup's New York office with the Climate and Sustainability Team. A licensed architect, Tess is an expert in decarbonization, whole life carbon, and integrated sustainable design. Tess has written sustainability masterplans for academic institutions, published on the carbon implications of office to residential conversions, and developed comprehensive decarbonization plans for airports, buildings, and Fortune 500 companies alike.



## Summer Sandoval

Environmental Justice Federal Funding Lead,  
Urban Sustainability Directors Network

Summer Sandoval leads USDN's work on the EPA EJ Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center. She supports local governments and communities in navigating the maze of federal funding opportunities to win grants and realize their projects to advance equitable climate action. Through USDN's Federal Funding Programs, Summer works with federal, community and technical partners to improve federal and grant programs to produce better, equitable outcomes for communities.



## Sunitha Sarveswaran

Director, Sustainability Programs,  
New York State Homes & Community Renewal

Sunitha Sarveswaran has a background in engineering and sustainability consulting. She currently works as the Director of Sustainability Programs at NYS Homes and Community Renewal overseeing the agency's efforts to decarbonize its affordable housing portfolio through beneficial electrification.

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## Rebecca Schmidt

Manager, NY Regional Sustainability,  
Turner Construction Company

Rebecca Schmidt oversees Turner Construction's sustainability efforts in NY since September 2024. She has 15 years in the field of building sustainability in the private and public sectors in NYC, working for Blackstone, the City of New York – Department of Design and Construction and CodeGreen Solutions.



## Shino Tanikawa

Executive Director,  
NYC Soil & Water Conservation District

Shino is Executive Director of the NYC Soil & Water Conservation District. She oversees the District's green infrastructure, urban soils and environmental education programs. She has led outreach and education projects on stormwater management through green infrastructure. Most recently she conducted an outreach project in the south Bronx informing residents of green infrastructure incentives and requirements, such as the Green Roof Tax Abatement program.



## Megan Blank

Director, Implementation, New York Power Authority

Megan Blank is an engineering professional, with a strong background in project management and contract management. Megan has been with the New York Power Authority for nearly 15 years. In her current role as Director, Implementation, Megan's responsible for the streamlined implementation of LED lighting retrofits and controls upgrades at public facilities throughout New York City.

## upcoming WISE & BE-Ex events



### **BE-Ex & WISE 2025 Winter Soirée January 2025**

Join Building Energy Exchange (BE-Ex) and Women in Sustainability & Energy (WISE) in January 2025 to celebrate our collective efforts in advancing decarbonization and realizing a resilient future for everyone, everywhere!

As we come together this winter, we will raise a glass to the strides we've made, together, and reaffirm our ongoing commitment to a zero-carbon future—ultimately setting the tone for a new year full of growth and impact.

Building upon the momentum from our amazing 10+ year anniversary event, Celebrate BE-Ex!, this gathering is an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, envision our path forward, and most importantly, partake in some winter merriment!

This soiree will include light programming and an informal networking reception with our collective BE-Ex & WISE communities over small bites and signature drinks.

More details are forthcoming! Stay tuned via our website and communications channels.

# WISE Sponsors

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Thank you to the generous support of our sponsors who make WISE programs possible!

WISE sponsors play a key role in supporting BE-Ex's efforts to expand the network of women leaders and to engage diverse communities in conversations about energy efficiency solutions.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please see our WISE Sponsor brochure by visiting the link below.



## keep in touch!



Sign up for our newsletter at [be-exchange.org](http://be-exchange.org) to find out about future WISE events such as panels, fireside chats, and networking opportunities. Make sure to check the 'WISE' checkbox.



Join our LinkedIn Group! This is a community space for all WISE members to share resources, job postings, articles, and other news in sustainability & energy.

**#beexwise**

**the building energy exchange is a center of excellence dedicated to reducing the effect of climate change by improving the built environment. BE-Ex accelerates the transition to healthy, comfortable, and energy efficient buildings by serving as a resource and trusted expert to the building industry.**