

Paul: Good afternoon. I'm Paul Gilman. I'm going to do some introductory remarks for our speaker for this afternoon's luncheon.

Let me say something about our speaker, tell you a little bit about him and a little bit about the organization that he represents. Jimmie Powell is the Energy Team Lead of The Nature Conservancy's energy team. They're engaged in developing their thoughts on energy policy for their organization, The Nature Conservancy. Some of you may be familiar with The Nature Conservancy, one of the largest land trust organizations. Their mission is to preserve the habitat of endangered and threatened species, flora and fauna. They do that largely by acquiring the land, by buying the land. They're active in all 50 states and 30 countries around the world. They have over 1400 preserves. And, naturally, energy policies and how we use our lands is something that they greatly care about because it relates to their mission in habitat preservation and, through it, species preservation.

Jimmie has been at The Nature Conservancy for almost 10 years, having done some work in governmental affairs for them, but now is the energy team lead. Prior to that, he spent two years working with Congressman Panetta and former Governor Whitman of New Jersey on the Pew Ocean Foundation. He went there from 20 years on Capitol Hill, working largely in the Environment and Public Works Committee, where he was Staff Director for Senator Chafee of Rhode Island. He knows our industry in a way like many others do not. He worked on the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 and had specific responsibility for that part of the law that relates to our industry, so Jimmie has known us longer than many. And I wasn't even aware of that. He was telling me about he'd toured the Alexandria facility before, and I didn't need to tell him anything about our industry.

We're just very pleased to have him here today, a man of great experience in environment and energy policy. Please welcome Jimmie Powell.