

Clean Fuels' Environmental Science Program has confirmed its keynote speaker for its Sustainability Workshop, on November 1 & 2 in St. Louis. David Babson, Ph.D., from the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) will offer a keynote address on ARPA-E's vision for a new carbon economy and how the programs are working to optimize carbon efficiency and utility.



*Figure 1: David Babson, Ph.D.*

Babson currently serves as ARPA-E's program director focusing on bioenergy, agricultural systems innovation and carbon management.

Prior to joining ARPA-E, Babson served as the Senior Advisor for Renewable Energy, Natural Resources and the Environment in the Office of the Chief Scientist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. There, he led R&D coordination efforts on carbon management, climate adaptation, sustainability, agricultural systems innovation, bioenergy and biotechnology. Prior to joining USDA, Babson was a technology manager in the Department of Energy's Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) where he oversaw several Conversion Program projects and worked to understand how to leverage new technologies to advance the emerging bioeconomy and address global energy and climate challenges. Before BETO, Babson advocated for sustainable transportation solutions as a senior fuels engineer at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Since 2014, the Foundation has hosted a Sustainability workshop focusing on technical issues associated with sustainability and land use change (LUC) as they relate to the production of biodiesel fuels. This workshop has been integral in determining the Foundation's funding and research priorities.