



## NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 2020

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### Featured article:

#### HDR's John Clark Honored with 2019 Floyd Hasselriis Pioneer Award.

Mechanical Engineer and Senior Project Manager John Clark, P.E., P.P.A., of HDR has been honored with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers 2019 Floyd Hasselriis Pioneer Award. The annual award is presented to an individual for pioneering work and outstanding contributions in the field of incineration and/or thermal treatment technologies over an extended period.

With more than 30 years of experience in the resource recovery industry, Clark has assisted with operations, maintenance and engineering projects at over 45 waste-to-energy facilities, covering most combustion technologies and performance review of waste gasification technologies.

Prior to joining HDR, he was part of the research and development team at Covanta Energy where he evaluated new technologies and new facilities, and provided support for plant improvements, steam cycle efficiency optimization and air pollution control equipment performance optimization.

“John is one of the most dedicated engineering professionals in the waste management industry. He is always willing to share information and help,” said former award winner Anthony Licata. “He has contributed to enhancing ASME through his dedication. John is extremely knowledgeable in the field of combustion and waste-to-energy.”

Clark has been an active member of ASME for 29 years, volunteering on various committees and serving on the executive board of the Materials and Energy Recovery Division from 2010-2016. He's served on the ASME Codes and Standards PTC 34 committee since 2011 and is involved with the ASME Research Committee on Energy, Environment and Waste. Clark has been a board-certified environmental engineer through the American Academy of Environmental Engineers since 1995.

## Upcoming events:

On March 29, 2020 the *Tri-State Engineering EXPO* will host the 17th annual Engineering EXPO event that aims to inspire young people to pursue an education and career in engineering. The goal of the event is to inform and recruit the next generation of innovators through interactive displays, educational discussion panels, robotics competitions and more! Engineering EXPO is free for students and their families to attend. Registration: [Link](#)

Date & Time: Sunday March 29th, 2020 11 AM - 3:30 PM

Address: White Plains High School, 550 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

To volunteer at ASME Westchester Section's table, contact: [rchuback@asme.org](mailto:rchuback@asme.org)

The *Earth Engineering Center at City College* will host a two-day conference in late October 2020 on sustainable waste management with a focus on thermal conversion. The conference will be a joint effort between ASME MER and WtERT-US. A call for abstracts will open in March 2020 on topics ranging from conventional WTE and other thermal conversion processes to broader topics related to sustainable management solutions for MSW. Please check the websites of EEC|CCNY ([ccnyeec.org](http://ccnyeec.org)) and ASME-MER (ASME.org) for updates.

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## Interesting items:

Professor Marco J. Castaldi, a member of the MER Executive Committee, has provided testimony at the Maryland House & Senate Committees on a series of proposed bills to remove WTE from Tier 1 renewable status and other exclusions. Specifically, in 2019 Professor Castaldi provided expert opinion on the *Clean Energy Jobs Act* which passed the General Assembly and was signed by the Governor, but provisions removing WTE from the RPS were stripped allowing WTE to remain Tier 1 renewable. In 2020 Professor Castaldi is providing testimony on the Governor of Maryland's "CARES Act" and Delegate Mosby's "Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources" which both attempt to remove WTE from the RPS.

How Are Robots Helping Us to Recycle Better? [Article](#) by Tom Gibson

[Interview](#) of Prof. Nickolas Themelis, President of Global WtERT, with NBC reporter working on MSW gasification project.

Waste-to-Energy with CCS is a Path to Carbon-Negative Power generation: [A new report](#) from the Global CCS (Carbon Capture and Storage) Institute describes WTE's role in relation to climate change and the benefits of CCS.

Perceptions of Waste to Energy facilities before and after construction. [Video](#) by Proteus (UK).

## Recent developments:

*Viridor's* WTE and MRF have begun operations in Bargeddie, Scotland. The joint facility has a 190,000-ton contract with five Scottish councils. The recycling and processing facility is at the center of a \$920 million investment in the Clyde Valley. [Link](#).

Commercial operations achieved at two new *Wheelabrator Technologies* waste-to-energy facilities in U.K. [Link](#).

\$120 million Waste to Energy Contract Renewal for *SUEZ* in Ouarville, France; including the operation of a bottom ash maturing platform that will be further used in civil engineering applications. [Link](#).

*Covanta Energy* Announces Concession Agreement to Build New WTE Facility in Zhao County, China. [Link](#).

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## Research opportunities:

Department of Energy Announces nearly \$100 Million for Bioenergy Research and Development. Included is up to \$18 million for Waste to Energy Strategies for a Bioeconomy. [Link](#).

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## ASME-MER Scholarship winners

### Anna Naumova

City College of New York, BS in Mechanical Engineering. Date of Graduation: Spring 2021.

Research subject: Processes that convert plastic materials to fuels.

### Komal Charania

NC State University, MSc in Environmental Engineering. Date of Graduation: May 2021.

Research subject: Estimating the elevated temperatures of landfills.

### Yegor Nikitin

City College of New York, PhD in Chemical Engineering. Date of Graduation: May 2022.

Research subject: Corrosion in Waste to Energy (WtE) processes.

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## Executive Committee:

Len Grillo, Chair; [grilloeng@aol.com](mailto:grilloeng@aol.com)

Timothy Sharobem, Vice Chair; [timothysharobem@gmail.com](mailto:timothysharobem@gmail.com)

Jeff Leblanc, Program Chair; [jeff.leblanc1@yahoo.com](mailto:jeff.leblanc1@yahoo.com)

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Marco Castaldi, Member-at-large; [mcastaldi@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:mcastaldi@ccny.cuny.edu)

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The Materials & Energy Recovery Division Chairman's Message, published in September 2019 can be found [here](#). For further information, visit our [website](#).