

## U.S. Energy Security and Water

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U.S. national security interests can cover a variety of issues, but one that has been enduring over the last forty years has been energy security, which means that there are sufficient supplies of energy at prices that do not disrupt ordinary economic and social activity. The nature of the energy security challenge has morphed over those decades to include carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels, and more recently, the security of electricity supplies.

Now, as the nature of interdependencies between energy and water are becoming clearer, so too the connections between water and national security are also becoming clearer and adding new challenges. Leading options to respond to the need to increase energy security by increasing the domestic production of oil and oil substitutes, and reducing GHG emissions through carbon capture and sequestration, may be limited because of water quantity or quality constraints. And in the electric power sector, expansion of conventional supplies to meet demand may be constrained because significant parts of the country, water supplies are expected to be insufficient. There are energy options though, that can reduce energy dependence, cut emissions, and conserve water. This presentation will explore these issues.

**Paul Faeth** is a Senior Fellow at CNA Corp., where he is works on issues tied to water, energy, climate, and national security. Current topics include research on U.S. energy security and water, the environmental impacts of shale fracking, and water and conflict. Prior to joining CNA, Faeth was the President of Global Water Challenge, a coalition of 24 corporations, NGOs, foundations, universities, and health agencies, working together to promote and invest in safe drinking water and sanitation for the poor in developing countries. Faeth worked for 18 years at the World Resources Institute, a global environmental think tank. He led the Economics Program and then became the Executive Vice-President and Managing Director, managing strategy and operations. Faeth's policy research at WRI included topics such as water, agriculture, climate change, and trade. Faeth also worked at the International Institute for Environment and Development, and the USDA's Economic Research Service. He holds degrees in Agricultural Engineering and Resource Systems and Policy Design.