

BRANDON J. CHARLES

Syracuse University
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EDUCATION

Expected May 2026	Ph.D. , Public Administration, Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs <i>Fields: Energy and Environmental Policy; Policy Process; Public Finance</i> <i>Committee: Dr. Peter Wilcoxon (Advisor); Dr. David Popp; Dr. Saba Siddiki</i>
2021	M.A. , Public Policy, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy
2005	A.B. , Economics, Dartmouth College

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Incoming in August 2026	Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy School of Public and International Affairs, University of Georgia
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PUBLICATIONS

Policy Design Complexity and Policy Outputs: Theory and Method (with Saba Siddiki, Matia Vannoni, Christopher Frantz, and Nicholas Oesterling). *Forthcoming at Policy Design and Practice*.

WORKING PAPERS

Debt Accumulation in Fossil Fuel-Reliant Localities During the Shale Boom and Implications for the Energy Transition. (2025) *Center for Policy Research*. Working Paper No. 274.
<https://surface.syr.edu/cpr/508>.

Information Processing in U.S. State Administrative Decisions: Evidence from Electric Utility Regulation.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Evaluating the Role of the Shale Boom and EITC in Urban Fiscal Health (with Lindsey Interlante and Sarah Larson)

Policy Design Complexity in U.S. Renewable Portfolio Standard Legislation (with Saba Siddiki)

AWARDS & EXTERNAL FUNDING

Resilient Energy Economies Initiative: Municipal Debt in Oil- and Natural Gas-Reliant Communities During the Shale Boom: Implications for Fiscal Risk and Resilience During the Energy Transition, \$55,125, August 2024 – May 2026: Co-Investigator (PI: David Popp)

2024 Syracuse University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 “Evaluating the Role of the Shale Boom and EITC in Urban Fiscal Health.” Association for Budgeting & Financial Management (ABFM) Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

- 2025 “Information Processing and Punctuated Equilibrium in Public Utility Regulation.” American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2025 “Understanding Adaptation to the Energy Transition in U.S. Fossil Fuel Communities: Local Government Challenges and Policy Solutions.” Public Management Research Conference (PMRC), Seoul, South Korea.
- 2025 “Debt Issuance of Fossil Fuel-Reliant Municipalities During the Shale Boom and Implications for the Energy Transition.” Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Summer Conference, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM.
- 2024 “Punctuated Equilibrium in Regulatory Policymaking: Evidence from State Electric Utility Expenditures.” Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Annual Conference, National Harbor, MD.
- 2024 “Debt Issuance of Fossil Fuel-Reliant Municipalities During the Shale Boom and Implications for the Energy Transition.” Association for Budgeting & Financial Management (ABFM) Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH.
- 2024 “Analyzing Implementation Complexity in U.S. Renewable Portfolio Standard Legislation.” Conference on Policy Process Research (COPPR), Syracuse, NY.
- 2024 “Punctuated Equilibrium in Regulatory Policymaking: Evidence from State Electric Utility Expenditures.” Conference on Policy Process Research (COPPR), Syracuse, NY.
- 2024 “Municipal Debt in U.S. Energy Communities: Implications for Community Resilience.” American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2023 “Analyzing Implementation Complexity in U.S. Renewable Portfolio Standard Legislation.” Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “Municipal Debt in Oil- and Natural Gas-Reliant Communities During the Shale Boom: Implications for Fiscal Risk and Resilience During the Energy Transition.” Resilient Energy Economies Summer Convening, Albuquerque, NM.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| December 2023 - Present | <p>Graduate Research Associate
Syracuse University Center for Policy Design and Governance, Syracuse, NY</p> |
| September 2021 - Present | <p>Graduate Research Associate
Syracuse University Center for Policy Research, Syracuse, NY</p> |
| September 2020 – May 2021 | <p>Bartlett Fellow
Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC), Chicago, IL</p> |
| March 2016 – August 2020 | <p>Senior Project Manager
MRW & Associates, LLC, Oakland, CA (employed remotely in Seattle)</p> <p>Testified as expert witness and negotiated multi-party settlement agreements in state public utility commission proceedings regarding utility rates and rate structures, electric vehicle infrastructure programs and rate designs for commercial charging, and other policies (sponsored written testimonies listed below).</p> <p>Evaluated energy generation project economics and risks; analyzed utility resource plans.</p> |

Forecasted and analyzed retail electric rates.
Evaluated distributed generation investments.

June 2013 – March 2016 **Senior Market Analyst**
Bloom Energy Corporation, Sunnyvale, CA (employed remotely in Seattle beginning in January 2014)

Led utility and product market analysis; presented market analysis, strategic forecasts, and industry updates to staff- and executive-level audiences.

September 2008 – May 2013 **Senior Associate**
MRW & Associates, LLC, Oakland, CA

September 2006 – August 2008 **Economic and International Policy Coordinator**
Biotechnology Industry Organization, Washington, DC

July 2005 – June 2006 **Legal Assistant**
White & Case LLP, Washington, DC

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Templeton, Mark and **Brandon Charles**. Texas Underscored that Now is the Time for a National Electricity Czar. Forbes. March 10, 2021.

Charles, Brandon and Laura Norin. California Cap-and-Trade Program Recovers. Project Finance NewsWire. Norton Rose Fulbright. December 2017.

Charles, Brandon, Laura Norin, and William Monsen. Uncertainty and Surplus Allowances Dog California Cap-and-Trade Program. Project Finance NewsWire. Chadbourne & Parke (now Norton Rose Fulbright). August 2016.

Mehta, Heather, Laura Norin, and **Brandon Charles**. California: Moving Beyond the Elections. Project Finance NewsWire. Chadbourne & Parke (now Norton Rose Fulbright). November 2010.

TEACHING

Guest Lecturer: State-Local Public Finance & Fiscal Policy, “Household Mobility, Sorting, and Municipal Competition,” Spring 2024

Teaching Assistant/Guest Lecturer: Introduction to Statistics, Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant: Public Budgeting, Summer 2023

- Independently led discussion section of approximately 25 students covering course material, problem sets, and Excel skills

Teaching Assistant/Guest Lecturer: Economics for Public Decisions, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant: Economics for Public Decisions, Fall 2021

Guest Lecturer: Regulatory Law and Policy, “Utility Ratemaking and Incentives for Investment,” Spring 2021

SERVICE

Syracuse University Center for Policy Research Graduate Student Representative, AY 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

Public Panel Organizer and Introductory Speaker: What’s At Stake for U.S. Climate Goals? Prospects in the Wake of WV v. EPA and the Inflation Reduction Act. Center for Policy Research, Syracuse University. November 1, 2022.

Co-Organizer: Syracuse University Center for Policy Research Environmental Policy Lab

Referee: *Journal of Public Policy*; *Policy Studies Journal*; *Public Budgeting & Finance*; *Utilities Policy*

EXPERT TESTIMONIES

1. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-10-012
Rebuttal Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Utility Consumers’ Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company’s Application to Extend and Modify the Power Your Drive Pilot Approved by Decision 16-01-045. June 19, 2020.
2. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-10-012
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Utility Consumers’ Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company’s Application to Extend and Modify the Power Your Drive Pilot Approved by Decision 16-01-045. May 18, 2020.
3. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-03-002
Direct Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning San Diego Gas and Electric Company’s 2019 General Rate Case Phase 2 Application. April 6, 2020.
4. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-07-006
Rebuttal Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Utility Consumers’ Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company’s Application for Approval of Electric Vehicle High Power Charging Rate. February 20, 2020.
5. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-07-006
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Utility Consumers’ Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company’s Application for Approval of Electric Vehicle High Power Charging Rate. January 13, 2020.
6. California Public Utilities Commission Application 19-06-001
Direct Testimony of Richard McCann and Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Agricultural Parties Concerning Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s 2020 Energy Resource Recovery Account and Generation Non-Bypassable Charges Forecast and Greenhouse Gas Forecast Revenue Return Application. September 10, 2019.

7. California Public Utilities Commission Application 18-11-003
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of Marin Clean Energy and Peninsula Clean Energy Concerning Pacific Gas & Electric Company's Application for Approval of Commercial Electric Vehicle Rates. April 5, 2019.
8. California Public Utilities Commission Application 18-04-002
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning PacifiCorp's 2019 General Rate Case Application. October 19, 2018.
9. California Public Utilities Commission Application 18-03-003
Prepared Supplemental Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation, William A. Monsen on Behalf of the City of San Diego and Cynthia Fang on Behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric Company. September 27, 2018. [Regarding the Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company for Approval of its 2019 Electric Sales Forecast]
10. California Public Utilities Commission Application 18-03-003
Prepared Joint Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation, William A. Monsen on Behalf of the City of San Diego and Cynthia Fang on Behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric Company. August 20, 2018. [Regarding the Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company for Approval of its 2019 Electric Sales Forecast]
11. California Public Utilities Commission Application 17-10-007
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of The Utility Consumers' Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company's 2019 General Rate Case Phase 1 Application. May 14, 2018.
12. California Public Utilities Commission Application 17-09-005
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the Utility Consumers' Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Application for Authority to Implement Rate Relief and Increase Spend in Support of the San Diego Unified Port District's Energy Management Plan. April 25, 2018.
13. California Public Utilities Commission Application 17-06-030
Testimony of Brandon Charles and Laura Norin on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning Revenue Allocation and Agricultural Rate Design in Southern California Edison's 2018 General Rate Case Phase 2 Application. March 22, 2018.
14. California Public Utilities Commission Application 17-01-019
Testimony of Mark Fulmer and Brandon Charles on Behalf of The Utility Consumers' Action Network Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Proposed Demand Response Portfolio. May 11, 2017.
15. California Public Utilities Commission Application 16-09-003
Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning Southern California Edison Company's Application for Approval of its 2016 Rate Design Window Proposals. April 28, 2017.
16. California Public Utilities Commission Application 16-06-013
Testimony of Laura Norin and Brandon Charles on Behalf of California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning Revenue Allocation and Agricultural Rate Design in Pacific Gas & Electric's 2017 General Rate Case Phase 2 Application. March 15, 2017.
17. California Public Utilities Commission Application 16-08-006

Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of South San Joaquin Irrigation District. January 27, 2017. [Regarding Pacific Gas & Electric Company's Application for the Retirement of Diablo Canyon Power Plant and Recovery of Associated Costs Through Proposed Ratemaking Mechanisms]

18. California Public Utilities Commission Application 15-04-012

Joint Supplemental Testimony of Cynthia Fang on Behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation. November 11, 2016. [Regarding San Diego Gas & Electric Company's 2016 General Rate Case Phase 2]

19. California Public Utilities Commission Application 16-06-003

Direct Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning Pacific Gas & Electric's 2017 Energy Resource Recovery Account and Generation Non-Bypassable Charges Forecast and Greenhouse Gas Forecast Revenue Return Application. August 29, 2016.

20. California Public Utilities Commission Application 15-04-012

Testimony of Laura Norin and Brandon Charles on Behalf of the California Farm Bureau Federation Concerning San Diego Gas & Electric's 2016 General Rate Case Phase 2 Application. July 5, 2016.

21. California Public Utilities Commission Application 15-09-001

Rebuttal Testimony of Brandon Charles on Behalf of South San Joaquin Irrigation District. May 27, 2016. [Regarding Pacific Gas & Electric Company's General Rate Case Phase 1 Application]

22. California Public Utilities Commission Application 15-09-001

Prepared Testimony of Laura Norin and Brandon Charles on Behalf of South San Joaquin Irrigation District Concerning Pacific Gas & Electric Company's General Rate Case Phase 1 Application. April 29, 2016.