

John A. Howes

Since 1992, John A Howes, has been Principal of the Redland Energy Group, an independent marketing and policy advisory consulting firm in Washington, DC. Redland specializes in strategic communications, governmental relations, issue analysis and business development. Major clients served include electric and natural gas utilities, nuclear energy companies, battery manufacturers, secondary lead processing companies, venture capital firms and multi-national finance institutions.

Among Redland's major accomplishments have been to secure major funding from US Department of Energy to demonstrate advanced lead-acid batteries in a variety of mobile and stationary applications. Two of these projects were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to develop manufacturing capacity for new advanced lead-carbon batteries for use in stationary power applications.

Redland also managed the due diligence assessment of a project to refurbish a major nuclear reactor plant in South America.

Recently, Mr. Howes was appointed a Vice Chair of the ABA SEER Energy Infrastructure, Siting and Reliability (EISR) Committee with particular responsibility for program development of issues related to the circular economy. Mr. Howes also serves on the Air Climate Advisory Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Redland directed TVA Watch, a coalition of investor-owned electric utilities bordering the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). This was a successful effort to resolve business conflict between TVA and its investor-owned utility neighbors. It included the placement of articles in The Wall Street Journal, Associated Press, and Chattanooga Free Press.

Redland also provided coordination services to a coalition of electric and gas utilities successfully advocating repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 to enable efficient flow of private capital into new areas of business opportunity.

In 2014-15, Redland led the development of a natural gas hybrid electric vehicle for a consortium of natural gas companies and the lead-acid battery industry. The vehicle has been on display throughout North America at various industry exhibitions.

From 2005 to 2007, Mr. Howes took a leave of absence from Redland to carry out several projects for Navigant Consulting, Inc. These included assisting the sale of the Palisades Nuclear Plant in Michigan and the dispersal of federal assistance to the City of New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Prior to Redland, Mr. Howes was Director of Federal Governmental Affairs for CMS Energy Corporation. Among other accomplishments, Mr. Howes secured a federal investment tax transition rule to help finance the conversion of the Midland Nuclear Plant in Michigan to a natural gas-fired cogeneration facility.

He worked in U.S. Congress as Staff Director for U.S. Rep. Robert W. Davis, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Before his work in Congress, Mr. Howes had a distinguished career in journalism, working for Panax Newspapers. He won several awards for investigative and deadline reporting and served as Chairman of a Newspaper Guild unit in Local 22 in Detroit.