



# **International Nuclear Law Essentials**

**Paris, France  
17-21 February 2020**

## **List of Lecturers**

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development  
Nuclear Energy Agency  
Office of Legal Counsel**





General Counsel Energy Belux,  
Benelux BU  
ENGIE Electrabel

Member

International School of Nuclear  
Law Supervisory Board

## **Marc BEYENS**

Marc Beyens is General Counsel of ENGIE Electrabel – Energy Belgium & Luxembourg.

He is a Member of the Board of Synatom S.A. (“Société de Provisionnement Nucléaire” – Belgium).

He is a Member of the Board and of the Supervisory Committee of the Belgian Nuclear Forum (BNS), as well as Chairman of the Legal Advisory Group of FORATOM.

Mr. Beyens serves as an Expert-Observer to the Nuclear Law Committee of the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) and to the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA – United Nations).

He is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the International Nuclear Law Association (INLA), over which he presided in 2006-2007. He founded the Brussels Nuclear Law Association (BNLA), of which he is the President.

He is a Member of the Supervisory Board of the International School of Nuclear Law (ISNL) at which he is a Lecturer as well as a Lecturer at the NEA International Nuclear Law Essentials (INLE).

Marc is a former Attorney at Law and a former Judge in a Commercial Court in Brussels.

Marc Beyens holds a Master Degree in Law of the Université Catholique de Louvain and pursued additional training in Financial Management at the H.E.C. St Louis in Brussels (Belgium), as well as a Postgraduate Executive Development / General Management Programme at Cedep-Insead in Fontainebleau (France).

He is Treasurer and member of the Board & EXCO of the Belgian Institute of Company Lawyers (IJE/IBJ).

Marc Beyens can be found on LinkedIn at: [www.linkedin.com/in/marc-beyens/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/marc-beyens/).



## **Paul BOWDEN**

Paul Bowden is Honorary Professor of Law at the Nottingham Law School. A former partner of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, he established the firm's environment, planning and regulatory group in the 1980s. He has advised extensively in the nuclear sector since the 1970s.

Paul serves as the Programme Leader of the International School of Nuclear Law and the International Nuclear Law Essentials. He was previously a member of the Board of the World Nuclear Association and Chair of the International Nuclear Law Association's Working Group on International Nuclear Trade and New Build.

Paul holds an honorary Doctorate in Law from Nottingham Trent University for his work in legal education.

*Honorary Professor of Law*  
The Nottingham Law School,  
United Kingdom

*Programme Leader*  
International School of Nuclear  
Law

Member

International School of Nuclear  
Law Supervisory Board



## **Khalil BUKHARI**

Khalil is the General Counsel of International Nuclear Services Ltd (INS). INS is owned by the UK Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and deals with UK and overseas utility customers for the transport, storage and de-storage of nuclear materials, Mixed Oxide (MOX) fuel supply and related consultancy, package design and management services.

Khalil is a UK qualified lawyer experienced in managing legal and compliance risk at a national and international level with a recognised expertise in nuclear transport law. Prior to INS, Khalil worked for General Electric advising its global leasing business on a diverse range of legal and compliance issues in a multi-jurisdictional environment.

Khalil has supported the UK government on amending the Nuclear Installations Act 1965, obtained injunctions against Greenpeace and more recently advised on the transport of high risk nuclear materials in support of the US National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) led M3 (Materials Management Minimisation) programme.

With the aim of helping to increase understanding of nuclear transport law and liability issues, Khalil is a regular conference speaker and holds a range of leadership positions within the nuclear industry, including recently being appointed as a Judge of the European Nuclear Energy Tribunal.

*General Counsel*  
International Nuclear Services  
Ltd (INS)

*Chair*  
International Nuclear Law  
Association (INLA) Transport  
Law  
Working Group

*Member*  
IAEA International Expert  
Group on Nuclear Liability  
(INLEX)

*Vice-Chair*  
NEA Working Party on Nuclear  
Liability & Transport (NEA  
WPNLT)

*Judge*  
European Nuclear Energy  
Tribunal (ENET)



## Stephen G. BURNS

Stephen G. Burns recently completed his service as a Commissioner of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). President Obama appointed Mr. Burns as a Commissioner on November 5, 2014, to a term ending June 30, 2019. Mr. Burns served as the 16th Chairman of the NRC from January 1, 2015 through January 23, 2017.

Commissioner Burns has had a distinguished career within the NRC and internationally. Immediately prior to his service as Commissioner, Mr. Burns was the Head of Legal Affairs of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris from 2012 to 2014.

Prior to assuming his post at the NEA, Commissioner Burns was a career employee at the NRC from 1978 to 2012. He served in a variety of roles during his career, including being appointed as the NRC's General Counsel from May 2009 until April 2012. Also of note, Commissioner Burns was the Executive Assistant to former NRC Chairman Kenneth M. Carr and the Director of the Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication.

Commissioner Burns received his JD degree in 1978 from the George Washington University in Washington, DC and his BA degree in 1975 from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York.

*Former Commissioner*  
US Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission

*Former Head of Legal Affairs*  
Nuclear Energy Agency

*Retired General Counsel*  
US Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission

Past President

International School of Nuclear  
Law Supervisory Board



*Legal Officer*  
Non-Proliferation and Policy  
Making Section,  
Office of Legal Affairs,  
International Atomic Energy  
Agency (IAEA)

## **Cristian DE FRANCIA**

Cristian De Francia is a legal officer in the Non-Proliferation and Policy Making Section of the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), where he is involved with, inter alia, the drafting and interpretation of safeguards agreements, providing advice on legal issues relating to safeguards agreements and dealing with questions related to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, as well as legal issues associated with other aspects of non-proliferation, including IAEA activities pursuant to relevant IAEA Board of Governors and UN Security Council resolutions. He also provides advice on matters related to the IAEA Statute and the conduct of the meetings of the IAEA's Policy-making Organs.

Before he joined the IAEA in 2012, Mr. De Francia worked for seven years as a lawyer at the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague providing legal advice on the adjudication of intergovernmental claims relating to foreign military sales and nuclear cooperation between Iran and the United States. Mr. De Francia also worked on other international arbitral commissions and practiced corporate law in New York from 2002 to 2005, with a principal focus on providing legal advice to multinational energy companies.

Mr. De Francia obtained his juris doctor degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2002, where he was a member of the Virginia Law Review, and is a member of the bar of the State of New York.



*Programme Director for National Implementation, Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC)*

## **Dr. Sonia DROBYSZ**

Sonia Drobysz is the Director for VERTIC's National Implementation Measures (NIM) programme where she oversees the development and implementation of global projects on the legislative implementation of obligations arising from international instruments for the non-proliferation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons and the security of related materials. Sonia works with the NIM team to provide legislative assistance worldwide, analysing legislation, reviewing draft laws and regulations, assisting in legislative drafting, raising awareness and publishing on the international and national CBRN legal frameworks.

Sonia formerly taught international relations, international law and constitutional law at the Sorbonne University. She was also an associate research fellow at the French Centre for International Security and Arms Control Studies (CESIM) where she worked and published on the IAEA safeguards system.

Sonia holds a PhD in international law from University Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne. Her thesis looked at the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the nuclear non-proliferation regime. She also holds a master degree in international law and international organisations from University Paris I and a university diploma in international nuclear law from the University Montpellier.





## Stephen EVANS

Stephen is “retired” after 11 years with the IAEA, but still working as a consultant for the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) and previously, for the medical division of ADNOC, the United Arab Emirates national oil company.

Until retirement in June 2015, Stephen was Project Officer for the IAEA Regulatory Infrastructure and Transport Section, working with Member States to improve national infrastructures for nuclear and radiation safety through application of IAEA safety standards and guidance, including the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. Core activities included infrastructure review programmes and training activities, together with regulatory self-assessment and support for drafting national regulations.

After graduation in 1975, Stephen enjoyed a long clinical, academic and managerial career in medical imaging and healthcare generally. From 1989 he was Director of Planning at a large UK hospital, then in 1995, he became General Secretary and Chief Executive of the UK Society and College of Radiographers. In 2000 Stephen and like-minded colleagues established a software company developing clinical governance systems for the UK NHS. This work and his medical imaging background led to his joining the IAEA in 2004.

*Consultant*  
Federal Authority for Nuclear  
Regulation (FANR)  
Abu Dhabi, United Arab  
Emirates

*Retired Project Officer*  
Regulatory Infrastructure and  
Transport Section,  
International Atomic Energy  
Agency (IAEA)



*Partner*  
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw  
Pittman LLP

## **William FORK**

William Fork is a Partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP where he specialises in representing electric utilities and companies on issues relating to international energy transactions, export control, nuclear liability and domestic nuclear regulation. He advises clients regarding the regulation of international nuclear power plants, nuclear vendor procurement and agreements for the construction, operation and fueling of nuclear power units. He served as the General Counsel of the implementing company of a civil nuclear power programme during its development phase and participated in the International School of Nuclear Law in Montpellier, France in 2004.

Mr. Fork received his LLM in international comparative law and JD from Cornell University Law School and a BS from the United States Military Academy at West Point.



Group Senior Legal Counsel  
NKT

## Ákos FRANK

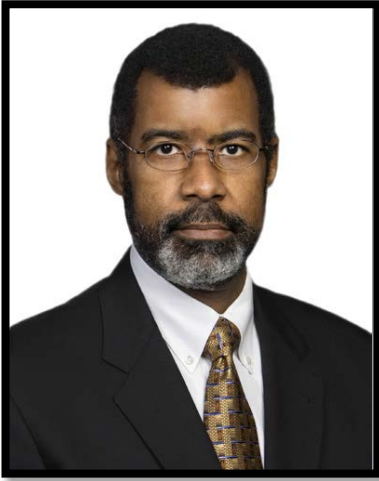
Ákos Frank is an international commercial lawyer working in the field of nuclear energy and electricity transmission.

He is Group Senior Legal Counsel, based in Copenhagen, advising the companies of the Danish industrial conglomerate NKT. He is concentrating on high voltage underground and undersea electricity transmission projects.

In his former position until 2015 he was Senior Legal Counsel for AREVA's Reactors and Services Business Group, where he advised the international installed base business and multiple nuclear new build projects. He coordinated the praxis group on fusion power and served on the Board of Directors of AREVA Spain and AREVA Sweden.

Mr. Frank is an active Member of the German Federal Association of In-House Counsels and the International Nuclear Law Association. He lectures at multiple courses organised by universities and industry.

Ákos Frank holds a juris doctor degree with honours of the Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Budapest (Hungary) with a joint certificate from Humboldt University, Berlin (Germany), an LLM in US and Global Business Law from Suffolk University Law School, Boston (USA) and the *Diplôme d'Université de Troisième Cycle de Droit Nucléaire* awarded by the University of Montpellier 1 (France). He is an Academic Fellow of the Center for American and International Law, Dallas (USA).



*Director-General*  
Nuclear Energy Agency

## **William D. MAGWOOD, IV**

Mr. William D. Magwood is the Director-General of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) since 1 September 2014.

He has extensive experience in both the regulatory and developmental aspects of nuclear energy, including at the international level. From 2010 to 2014, he served as one of the five Commissioners appointed by the US President and confirmed by the US Senate to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). While a commissioner, he advocated the importance of nuclear regulatory independence and the necessity of maintaining strong, credible and technically sound nuclear regulation in the United States and all countries that use nuclear power.

Prior to his appointment at the NRC, from 2005 to 2010 he provided independent strategic and policy advice to US and international clients on energy, environmental and technology policy issues. During this time, he also sat on various advisory groups and provided technical and policy advice to members of the US Congress on nuclear research, education and climate change policy.

From 1998 to 2005, Mr. Magwood was Director of Nuclear Energy at the US Department of Energy (DOE). During his tenure, he launched several important initiatives including the US Nuclear Power 2010 programme and the Generation IV International Forum (GIF). He was also actively involved in the work of the NEA, serving as a Steering Committee bureau member from 1999 to 2003, and as Chair in 2004 and early 2005.

Prior to his experience at the DOE, Mr. Magwood managed electric utility research and nuclear policy programmes at the Edison Electric Institute in Washington, DC, and was earlier a scientist at Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Magwood, a US national, holds Bachelor's degrees in Physics and English from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Pittsburgh.



*Deputy Head*  
Office of Legal Counsel,  
Nuclear Energy Agency

## **Kimberly Sexton NICK**

Kimberly S. Nick is the Deputy Head of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. In this position, Ms. Nick is the lead counsel for nuclear safety and regulatory affairs. She also directs the legal education and publication programmes.

Prior to arriving at the NEA in April 2014, Ms. Nick served as Legal Counsel to Commissioner William C. Ostendorff at the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). As the chief legal advisor to the Commissioner, she was responsible for providing legal and policy advice on a wide range of significant issues, such as the licensing and adjudication of the high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain, the agency's regulatory responses to the earthquake and tsunami at Fukushima Daiichi in Japan, new reactor licensing and the NRC's Waste Confidence rulemaking.

Before joining the Commissioner's office, Ms. Nick was an attorney in the Office of the General Counsel of the NRC and litigated critical enforcement actions against individuals and licensees as well as the licensing of the US Department of Energy's Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Ms. Nick received her JD degree, *cum laude*, from Boston University School of Law, where she was an editor on the *American Journal of Law and Medicine*. She received her Bachelor's degree, with distinction, from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.



*Former Senior Nuclear Insurance Expert*

*Former Director Nuclear Energy Swiss Reinsurance Company*

## **Sebastiaan M.S. REITSMA**

Sebastiaan M.S. Reitsma served as the Director Nuclear Energy at Swiss Re and Manager of the Swiss Pool for the Insurance of Nuclear Risks from 1995-2011. In 2012, he was hired as a Senior Nuclear Insurance Expert by the Swiss Reinsurance Company (Swiss Re) in Zurich, where he served until 2014. From 2013 until 2018, he served as a Consultant at Nuclear Risk Insurers Ltd. in London, with an emphasis on third party liability.

Prior to moving to Switzerland, he served as the Manager of the Dutch Pool for the Insurance of Nuclear Risks and was responsible for long tail claims regulation at the Dutch Reinsurance Group from 1990 until 1995. He has also held posts with the Dutch Association of Insurers (with an emphasis on European development), Het Zilveren Kruis Insurance Group (legal affairs), Amfas Insurance Group (non-life insurance).

He served as the Chairman of the Nuclear Pools' Forum, the international organisation of Nuclear Insurance Pool Managers on two separate occasions, 1997-2000 and 2004-2011. In addition, he served as an Expert-Representative of the international nuclear insurance industry at the Nuclear Law Committee of OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency in Paris from 1990-2017.

He continues to serve as a Member of the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna and participates in this Expert Group's legal assistance missions in various countries.

In addition to these professional posts, he continues to serve as a lecturer at the International School of Nuclear Law, the International Nuclear Law Essentials, the IAEA Nuclear Law Institute and the European Nuclear Energy Leadership Academy.

He studied civil law at Leiden University in the Netherlands.



*Consultant*

## **Guenther SCHWARZ**

Guenther Schwarz provides consultancy services in the field of the safe and secure use and management of nuclear/non-nuclear radioactive materials, radiation sources and nuclear technologies.

He has over 30 years of experience in the assessment, evaluation and control of the safety and security of activities involving the use and management of radioactive material, nuclear substances, radiation sources and ionising radiation. During his career, he served in various capacities, including 22 years as a safety advisor to a major German nuclear safety support organisation, working on various national and international projects.

Mr. Schwarz has published a number of papers concerning the control and regulation of the transport of radioactive material. For more than a decade, he organised and chaired a range of support and assistance activities in Eastern Europe on the development, implementation and application of an appropriate national regulatory framework for the transport of radioactive material.

He holds a Diploma and Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from the Technical University (RWTH) of Aachen, Germany.



*Insurance consultant and former  
Managing Director  
Power Nuclear & Construction  
Division,  
Price Forbes & Partners Ltd*

## **Mark TETLEY**

Mark Tetley has wide experience gained from senior positions across both the nuclear and non-nuclear insurance markets as an underwriter and a broker.

He has just completed (December 2019) an in-depth study for the European Commission about Nuclear Third-Party Liability and Insurance; he is also currently engaged as an Insurance Specialist at a UK legal consultancy called Prospect Group and at a London insurance underwriting agency. Prior to that, he served as the Managing Director of the Power, Nuclear & Construction division at Lloyd's insurance broker Price Forbes & Partners. He was Managing Director of Nuclear Risk Insurers Ltd (the UK nuclear insurance pool) between 2001 and 2014, and before that appointment was an underwriter at the Nuclear Syndicate and for Cox Political Risks Unit at Lloyd's. He also held other underwriting positions at Lloyd's and was a founding director of the Lloyd's Insurance business ventures in Japan and China.

During his time at Nuclear Risk Insurers Ltd, Mr. Tetley assisted the UK Government with the nuclear insurance aspects of the changes to the statutory nuclear liability legislation required because of the 2004 Paris Convention revision; he has also worked on the development of several new nuclear insurance pools, particularly in Eastern Europe and Asia.

Mr. Tetley is a member of the International Nuclear Law Association and he continues to serve as a lecturer at both the International School of Nuclear Law and the International Nuclear Law Essentials course. He is also involved in various UK renewable energy projects.





Senior General Counsel  
Canadian Nuclear Safety  
Commission

## **Lisa THIELE**

Lisa Thiele is the Senior General Counsel at the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Canada's regulator of the nuclear industry. In that role, she is responsible for the delivery by the in-house legal team of all legal services to the organisation. As Commission Counsel, Ms. Thiele supports and advises the Commission in its quasi-judicial functions in regular public hearings and meetings that the Commission conducts across Canada.

Ms. Thiele is the Canadian representative to the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency's Nuclear Law Committee, and is a regular contributor to the NEA's *Nuclear Law Bulletin*. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Nuclear Law Organisation. She has been on the faculty of the IAEA's Nuclear Law Institute since its inception in 2011, and regularly lectures at the International School of Nuclear Law at the Université de Montpellier, France. She has been both a mentor and lecturer at the World Nuclear University's Summer Institute, and also supports the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals' adjudication training programme by teaching newly appointed members of administrative tribunals about the conduct of quasi-judicial hearings and evidence in administrative law proceedings.

Before joining the Commission, Ms. Thiele gained substantial experience in administrative law working within other Canadian quasi-judicial administrative tribunals, including the RCMP External Review Committee, the Canadian Forces Grievance Board and the Canadian Judicial Council. Ms. Thiele received her undergraduate and law degrees from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. After a clerkship with Mr. Justice F.E. Gibson at the Federal Court of Canada, she was called to the Ontario Bar in 1997.



*Head*  
Office of Legal Counsel,  
Nuclear Energy Agency

## **Ximena VÁSQUEZ-MAIGNAN**

Ximena Vásquez-Maignan is the Head of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Previously, Mrs. Vásquez-Maignan was the Senior Legal Adviser for the Legal Affairs Section of the NEA from June 2011 until she was appointed Head in March 2015.

Mrs. Vásquez-Maignan works extensively on nuclear law, providing legal opinions and secretariat services to the NEA Nuclear Law Committee and the Contracting Parties to the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy and the Brussels Convention Supplementary to the Paris Convention.

Before joining the NEA, Mrs. Vásquez-Maignan worked for six years as an international legal adviser for a leading global water company and then settled down in China for eight years where she acted at first as a senior legal adviser for a French nuclear power company and then as a senior associate for an international law firm where she advised on nuclear issues.

She is co-Chair of the working group on Nuclear Liability and Insurance of the International Nuclear Law Association. She has also participates in educational programmes in nuclear law, international working groups on nuclear liability and has made presentations at international seminars and conferences.

Mrs. Vásquez-Maignan, a Chilean and French national, studied law at the Université de Paris II-Assas (Paris, France) and is a French qualified lawyer registered with the Paris Bar. She speaks English, French and Spanish.



*Legal Officer,  
Nuclear and Treaty Law Section,  
Office of Legal Affairs,  
International Atomic Energy  
Agency (IAEA)*

## **Anthony WETHERALL**

Anthony Wetherall is a UK qualified lawyer with over sixteen years of international and national nuclear law knowledge (over twelve years in the Office of Legal Affairs of the IAEA). He provides advice on various legal, regulatory and commercial issues in the areas of nuclear safety, security, safeguards (non-proliferation) and civil liability for nuclear damage.

Currently, Mr. Wetherall is an IAEA Legal Officer in charge of implementing legislative assistance activities for IAEA Member States in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

From June 2016 to December 2018, Mr. Wetherall was a Senior Research Fellow under the multi-disciplinary Nuclear Governance Project implemented by the Centre for International Law (CIL) of the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Energy Studies Institute (ESI) as part of the Nuclear Policy Research Programme of the Singapore Government. His main project outputs were policy reports to Singapore agencies on international, ASEAN and national nuclear law, regulation and policy.

Previously, Mr. Wetherall was an IAEA Legal Officer (2010-June 2016 and 2002-2008). He provided legal advice on various issues concerning nuclear safety, security and liability. Legislative assistance to IAEA Member States, including, the drafting of comprehensive national nuclear legislation.

Mr. Wetherall re-joined the IAEA Office of Legal Affairs in 2010 after working in the nuclear law team of Burges Salmon LLP advising clients in the context of nuclear new build, waste management and decommissioning programmes in the UK and overseas (2008-2010).

Mr. Wetherall has an LLM in Energy Law with Distinction (2015) and is a member of the International Nuclear Lawyers Association, the International Law Association and the Law Society of England and Wales.

His specialties include: nuclear law; regulatory; radiation safety; nuclear safety; nuclear security; physical protection; nuclear liability; legislative assistance; legislative drafting; treaty law; regulatory compliance; licensing; regulations; and international law.



Commissioner  
US Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission

## David A. WRIGHT

The Honourable David A. Wright was sworn in as a Commissioner of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission on 30 May 2018. He is currently serving the remainder of a five-year term ending 30 June 2020 and has been nominated for another term ending 30 June 2025.

Commissioner Wright was Owner/President of Wright Directions, LLC, a strategic consulting, policy development and communications business focusing on energy and water. During this time, he also was a member of the Advisory Council of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Nuclear Waste Initiative; and an Ex Officio Member and Chairman Emeritus of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, an ad hoc organization representing the interests of industry, state officials, local governments and tribes, and consumer advocates.

From 2004-2013, Commissioner Wright served the South Carolina Public Service Commission in a variety of capacities, including Vice Chairman and Chairman. From 2011-2012, he served as President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; he had previously served the association in other capacities, including as a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. From 2010-2013, Commissioner Wright was a member of the Advisory Board of the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute.

Previously, he was elected councilman and mayor in Irmo, South Carolina, and to the South Carolina House of Representatives.

A colon cancer survivor, Commissioner Wright is an advocate for cancer awareness and education, and a former member of the Leadership Council for the Cancer Centers at the University of South Carolina. He was presented with the Community Champions Award by Molina Healthcare of South Carolina in 2016 and the Blue Star Service Excellence Award by the University of South Carolina Center for Colon Cancer Research in 2014. In 1996, he received South Carolina's highest citizen honour, The Order of the Palmetto.

Commissioner Wright received a bachelor's degree in political science from Clemson University.