

ABSTRACT

“Made in China and the USA: A Success Story of the US-China Clean Energy Research Center”

Donald J. Challman

Associate Director and General Manager, University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research
Co-Investigator, Member of the US Steering Committee and Member of the
Bi-lateral IP Experts Working Group, US-China Clean Energy Research Center.

In 2009, the US Department of Energy, the China Ministry of Science and Technology and the China National Energy Administration agreed to develop a US-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) to facilitate joint research and development on clean energy by teams of scientists and engineers from the US and China. With respect to coal, CERC’s vision is to accelerate the deployment of advanced and environmentally-sound coal technologies for electricity, liquids and syngas, with a principal focus on technologies that will enable utilities and industry to respond to the challenges of capturing, using or storing carbon dioxide. Among the many accomplishments thus far, CERC has improved bilateral collaboration, data sharing, joint research planning and sustained technical exchange between American and Chinese researchers and institutes. In addition, one crowning achievement was the endorsement by both nations of a landmark IP Annex for the protection and sharing of intellectual property, as well as the associated implementing framework [the Technology Management Plan]. This presentation will explore one success story of technology development from lab to commercialization; about maintaining and protecting IP as Trade Secrets; about the structuring of a Know-how Show-how license; and about how the technology was shared and licensed in China under the terms of the CERC *Protocol*, IP Annex and TMP.

Biographical Sketch



Don Challman has broad experience in the public and private sectors, in occupations ranging from government regulator to bank director to research administrator to entrepreneur. For the past 26 years he has served as the Associate Director and General Manager of the University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research. CAER is a world-class academic research institute devoted to developing technologies for the utilization of coal and biomass for electric power, fuels and chemicals, and to address associated environmental concerns. At CAER, Mr. Challman has served in various capacities: finance and HR; strategic planning and new business development; tech transfer and licensing; communications/PR; facilities management; energy and environmental policy; and government and international relations.

Prior to joining UK, he spent 10 years in state government working for the state of Kentucky’s EPA and in its Department of Energy. As a state regulator he was responsible for programs directed to mining and reclamation, oil and gas, air and water quality, power plant siting, dam safety, land management and conservation of scenic and ecological resources. As a bank director, he was involved in public financing for water utility infrastructure improvements, energy conservation and solar energy. He is also the co-founder of several high-tech start-up companies, XtremeCarbons, Inc., The Lexington Carbon Company, LLC, Advanced Separation and Adsorption Products, Inc. and SmartMaterials, Inc. Mr. Challman holds an MBA/Finance from Xavier University and a BS/Natural Resource & Environmental Economics from the University of Kentucky.