

Hi! My name is Shelley Cohen and I am the CEO of Alpha Solar Group. It has been my honor to serve as an MDVSEIA board member for the past 4 years. I am thankful for everyone's past support, and would be honored to have your vote again in the upcoming MDVSEIA election. Over the past several years, I worked tirelessly to help MDVSEIA become a sustainable organization that provides value and services to its members. As a solar consultant who has worked at all business levels, I am able to serve in an unbiased manner to ensure that all aspects of the solar industry are heard and represented – from DG to utility scale to community solar and beyond. As a local, woman owned business deeply entrenched in the local community, I am able to serve as an advocate for small business, underserved communities, job training programs, and building a robust solar industry. Some of my accomplishments on the MDVSEIA board include: helping to expand the solar conference, creating the solar awards, leveraging my networks to bring in new members, speakers, and sponsors, and creating the Member Engagement Committee to make MDVSEIA more valuable to our members. It is an important and challenging time in our industry and I would love to continue to work with MDVSEIA and the solar industry to bring people together and keep the solar industry strong and thriving.

Shelley Cohen has 20 years of experience in environment and energy related fields. Ms. Cohen is the CEO and Co-founder of Alpha Solar Group, a local, woman owned and operated solar consulting company. Alpha Solar Group provides full, turn-key solar project development services including project management, solar PV project design, permitting, and advice on financing, SRECs and Incentives. Ms. Cohen founded ASG in April 2015 to follow her passion for solar and maximize her impact on the environment, the economy, and the quality of people's lives.

Previous Experience:

Prior to founding her own business, Ms. Cohen worked as a Senior Project Developer for Ameresco. Ms. Cohen worked on both sides of the meter to create comprehensive energy solutions to meet her client's energy needs. In her position with Ameresco, Ms. Cohen focused on developing solar PV, CHP, energy efficiency, and Landfill Gas Utilization projects, developing 18MWs of renewable energy projects. Prior to joining Ameresco, Ms. Cohen worked for the EPA as the Team Lead of the Landfill Methane Outreach Program. She also for the President's Council on Sustainable Development as the Education Task Force Coordinator, and as an Intern for the White House Office on Environmental Policy.

Leadership Experience:

Ms. Cohen has been widely recognized for her expertise in the clean energy industry, which has afforded her tremendous opportunities to speak and lead on environmental issues. In 2015, Ms. Cohen was selected by the Impact Center for the Woman's Executive Leadership Fellowship. In 2012, Ms. Cohen attended Al Gore's Climate Leader Training seminar providing her with the skills to educate others on the impacts of climate change, and returned as a mentor in 2018.

Select Boards and Advisory Boards

- Member, Board of Directors, DC Environmental Film Festival, 2018-present.
- Member, Board of Directors, MDV-SEIA, chapter of the Solar Energy Industry Association, 2014-present.
- Member of the Jury, The Eric Moe Sustainability Award, DC Environmental Film Festival, 2011- present.
- Member, Board of Directors, National Wildlife Federation, 2008-2017.
- Member, Board of Directors, Delaware Energy Services Coalition, 2012-2015.
- Chair, Greening Committee for the 2013 Green Inaugural Ball. The event, held at the Newseum in DC, was a zero-waste, carbon neutral event, hailed as one of the most eco-friendly events ever produced.

Education, Training, and Certifications

Ms. Cohen bleeds orange after earning a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University focusing on Environment and Energy policy, and completed additional Masters level coursework in Sustainable Development at the SUNY School of Environmental Science and Forestry. She is also a proud Jumbo after earning her undergraduate degree from Tufts University.

Notable Presentations, Publications, Awards and Acknowledgements

Ms. Cohen has been a featured speaker at hundreds of local, national, and international renewable energy and solar conferences, and is a published author. Ms. Cohen testified recently in front of the DC Council and DE.

- Featured in INC.: <https://www.inc.com/kevin-j-ryan/entrepreneurs-respond-to-trump-solar-tariff.html>
- All Women Solar Build 2017 with Grid Alternatives, DC. Built a 3.2kw installation for a low-income senior.
- Featured Speaker, Women's Empowerment: Leaders in Energy East Coast Summit, April 6, 2017
- Moderator, Low Income Solar Panel, Solar Focus 2016, Washington, DC. November 2016.
- Moderator, "Opportunity Assessment for Solar Installers", Solar Focus Conference 2015, DC, Nov 16-17.
- Profiled as a Woman Leader in Solar, July 2015, <https://blog.heatspring.com/heatspring-solar-alumnae-from-courses-to-consultants-ceos/>
- Green Inaugural Ball Blog Publications, Series of nine blog posts. <http://blog.nwf.org/tags/green-ball/>

Personal and Community:

Ms. Cohen (and her husband, Mike Gala, a 'green' architect) have utilized their expertise in green building practices in their own home, using all environmentally friendly building materials and energy efficient lighting and appliances, including installing a 12kw solar PV installation and cool roof on their home. She is active in the local school her daughters attend, and is the leader of Daisy Troop 42012, Ms. Cohen spends as much time as she can outdoors with her husband, and daughters, Sienna (10), and Sabrina (7).