

# JOHN PERONA

Dr. John Perona is a research scientist, environmental lawyer, and healthy climate advocate. He holds degrees in chemical engineering (B.S., Rutgers, 1983), biochemistry (Ph.D., Yale, 1990) and environmental law (LL.M., Lewis & Clark, 2016). Dr. Perona served for 17 years on the faculty of UC Santa Barbara (1994-2011) and since then as Professor in the Chemistry Department at Portland State University. For many years he directed a prolific research laboratory applying diverse approaches to the study of enzyme mechanisms and the metabolism of methanogens – the microorganisms that generate all of the biologically derived greenhouse gas methane in the natural world. The lab’s research has uncovered new pathways for assimilation of sulfur by methanogens and other microorganisms that flourish in the absence of oxygen.

Dr. Perona’s accomplishments include publication of over 100 peer-reviewed articles and reviews in Biochemistry and related fields, as well as comprehensive reviews on the law and policy of groundwater management, genetic engineering of agricultural crops, and biodiesel development. His 2021 book [From Knowledge to Power: The Comprehensive Handbook for Climate Science and Advocacy \(K2P; www.fromknowledgetopower.com\)](http://www.fromknowledgetopower.com) was delivered to Governor Kotek and all members of the Oregon legislature, and has been endorsed by prominent climate and renewable energy leaders. K2P offers climate education for policymakers and serves as an entry point for engaged citizens who wish to help build the political will necessary to solve the climate change problem. In summer of 2023 Dr. Perona launched [Earthward](http://johnperona.substack.com), a weekly nonpartisan Substack newsletter covering the climate and renewable energy space ([johnperona.substack.com](http://johnperona.substack.com)). He has also been active in climate advocacy with Citizens’ Climate Lobby, serving as liaison to the office of Senator Ron Wyden from 2018-2021.

Dr. Perona offers engaging and accessible presentations on climate and renewable energy topics to a broad range of audiences, bringing nearly 30 years of experience in university classrooms and public education venues. Most presentations couple a deep dive into a particular topic with policy solutions and suggestions for how participants can contribute. Topics include solar geoengineering, carbon capture and storage, renewable hydrogen and biofuels. For recent presentations, see [fromknowledgetopower.com/climate-talk/](http://fromknowledgetopower.com/climate-talk/)

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