

RUNNING FOR COUNCILOR OF SRA

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I attended my first SRA Annual Meeting in San Francisco in 2012, then a graduate student of Joe Arvai, and eventually a postdoctoral scholar working with Robyn Wilson. I am now an Assistant Professor at Michigan State University and the president of the SRA Decision Analysis and Risk Specialty Group. I primarily study risk perception and risk communication, along with analyzing the social and cultural impacts of clean energy systems, development and transitions more broadly. SRA is my “research family” and I prize the society’s ability to connect diverse scholars and practitioners and create life-long friendships and collaborations. I look forward to an SRA that adopts a more applied and policy-focused role, one in which SRA members are encouraged to recommend best practices and share with stakeholders the best available science. I appreciate previous efforts to incorporate more practitioners and would like to see our efforts shared more widely, either via webinars or livestreams to interested members of the public.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada Geography PhD 2015 Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI Community, Ag, Recreation and Resource Studies MSc 2011 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI Economics BA 2005

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2017 – present Assistant Professor, Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University.
2013 – 2018 Special Term Appointee, Decision & Risk Analysis, Argonne National Laboratory. 2016 – 2017 Senior Research Associate, School of Environ. & Nat. Resources, The Ohio State University. 2015 – 2016 Post-doctoral Scholar, Earth & Environ. Systems Institute, Pennsylvania State University.

PUBLICATIONS¹

- Bessette, D. (2022) Heuristics and bias in assessing the social impacts of energy projects. *Handbook of Environmental Impact Assessment*. Ed. Alberto Fonseca. Edward Elgar.
- Crawford, J.*, D. Bessette & S.B. Mills (2022) Rallying the anti-crowd: Organized opposition, democratic deficit, and a potential social gap in large-scale solar energy. *Energy Research & Social Science*. Vol. 90. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102597>
- Bessette, D. & J. Crawford* (2022) All’s fair in love and WAR: The conduct of wind acceptance research (WAR) in the United States and Canada. *Energy Research & Social Science*. Vol. 88. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102514>
- Gunn, G., V. Tarabara, M. Ruttty, D. Bessette & R. Richardson. (2021) Roughness and storage capacity of freshwater ice in the Straits of Mackinac. *Cold Regions Science & Technology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.coldregions.2021.103278>
- Schaefer, M.** , L. Schmitt Olabisi, K. Arola, C.M. Poitra, E. Matz, M. Seigel, C. Schelly, A. Adesanya, & D. Bessette. (2021) Understanding socio-technological systems change through an Indigenous Community-based participatory framework. *Sustainability*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13042257>
- Bessette, D., C. Schelly, L. Schmitt-Olabisi, K. Halvorsen, V. Gagnon, A. Fiss, K. Arola & E. Matz. (2021) Energy democracy in practice: Centering energy sovereignty in rural communities and Tribal Nations, *Routledge Handbook of Energy Democracy*. ed. A. Feldpausch-Parker, D. Endres, T. Rai Peterson & S. Gomez. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429402302>
- Bessette, D., M. Ruttty, G. Gunn, V. Tarabara, & R. Richardson. (2021) The perceived risk of underwater oil pipelines in icy conditions. *Journal of Great Lakes Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jglr.2020.12.002>

¹* denotes a supervised student; ** denotes a supervised postdoctoral scholar

- Bessette, D. & S. Mills (2020) Farmers vs. Lakers: Agriculture, amenity, and community in predicting opposition to United States wind energy development. *Energy Research & Social Science*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2020.101873>
- Bessette, D. & R. Gregory. (2020) The promise and reality of social-cultural metrics. *Ecology and Society*, Vol 25.
<https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-11730-250311>
- Brosemer, K., C. Schelly, V. Gagnon, K. Arola, J. Pearce, D. Bessette & L. Schmitt Olabisi (2020) The energy crises revealed by COVID: Intersections of indigeneity, inequity and health. *Energy Research & Social Science*, Vol. 68. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2020.101661>
- Schelly, C., D. Bessette, K. Brosemer, V. Gagnon, K. Arola, A. Fiss, J. Pearce, & K. Halvorsen (2020) Energy Policy for Energy Sovereignty: Can policy tools enhance energy sovereignty? *Solar Energy*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.solener.2020.05.056>
- Campbell-Arvai, V., D. Bessette, L. Kenney & J. Arvai. (2019) Improving decision making for carbon management initiatives. *International Journal of Risk Assessment and Management*, Vol. 22, Issue 3/4, P. 342-358.
<https://doi.org/10.1504/IJRAM.2019.103338>
- Bessette D., S. Zwickle, & R.S. Wilson (2019) In the weeds: Distinguishing organic farmers who want information about ecological weed management from those who need it. *Renewable Agriculture & Food Systems*, Vol. 34, Issue 5, P. 160-171. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742170518000042>
- Bessette, D., R. Wilson, C. Beaudrie & C. Schroeder. (2019) An online decision support tool to evaluate ecological weed management strategies. *Weed Science*, Vol. 67, Issue 4, P. 463-473. <https://doi.org/10.1017/wsc.2019.21>
- Bessette, D., R. Wilson & J. Arvai. (2019) Do people disagree with themselves? Exploring the internal consistency of complex, unfamiliar, and risky decisions. *Journal of Risk Research*, DOI: [10.1080/13669877.2019.1569107](https://doi.org/10.1080/13669877.2019.1569107)
- Campbell-Arvai, V., D. Bessette, R. Wilson & J. Arvai. (2019) Decision-making for the environment, *SAGE Handbook on Nature*, Section: "Risk and the environment: social theories, public understandings, and the science policy interface," ed. N. Pidgeon & B. Macgillivray. SAGE. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781473983007.n26>
- Mills, S., D. Bessette & H. Smith. (2019) Exploring Landowners' Post-Construction Changes in Perceptions of Wind Energy in Michigan. *Land Use Policy*, Vol. 82, P. 754-762. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2019.01.010>
- Bessette D., & J. Arvai. (2018) Engaging attribute tradeoffs in clean energy portfolio development. *Energy Policy*. Vol. 115, P. 221-229. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2018.01.021>
- Bessette D., L. Mayer, B. Cwik, M. Vezer, K. Keller, R. Lempert & N. Tuana. (2017) Building a values informed mental model (ViMM) for New Orleans climate risk management. *Risk Analysis*, Vol. 37, Issue 10, Pg. 1993-2004. DOI: 10.1111/risa.12743 <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.12743/full>
- Zwickle, S., R. Wilson, D. Bessette, S. Culman, & D. Doohan (2016) Facilitating ecological weed management decisions by assessing risk-benefit tradeoffs. *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, Vol. 40 Issue 7, P. 635-659. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21683565.2016.1166170>
- Bessette D. J. Arvai, & V. Campbell-Arvai. (2016) Expanding the reach of participatory risk management: Testing an online decision-aiding framework for informing internally consistent choices. *Risk Analysis*, Vol. 36, Issue 5, P. 992-1005. DOI: 10.1111/risa.12481 <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.12481/abstract>
- Kenney, L, D. Bessette & J. Arvai. (2015) Structuring decisions about energy in developing communities: an example from Canada's north. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, Vol 58, Issue 5, P. 855-873. DOI: 10.1080/09640568.2014.899205 <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09640568.2014.899205>
- Bessette, D., J. Arvai & V. Campbell-Arvai. (2014) Decision support framework for developing regional energy strategies. *Environmental Science & Technology*, Vol. 48, P. 1401-1408. DOI: 10.1021/es4036286 <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/es4036286>
- Arvai, J., R. Gregory, D. Bessette & V. Campbell-Arvai. (2012) Decision support for the development of energy strategies. *Issues in Science and Technology*, Vol. 28, No. 4, P. 43-52. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43315645>

RECENT GRANTS

United States Department of Energy—Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Community-Centered Solar Development: Exploring the Key Enabling Community Factors, Impacts and Opportunities for Large-Scale Solar. Total funds received: \$2,500,000. MSU portion: \$286,142. 2021-2024. Co-Principal Investigator/MSU Principal Investigator.

Michigan State University: Project GREEN. Leveraging solar and robotic technology to address energy and labor

constraints for Michigan Vegetable Growers. Total funds received: \$79,650. 2021-2023. Co-Investigator. National Science Foundation: Growing Convergence Research. A Convergent Discipline in Socio-Technological System Transitions – Research on Michigan Community & Anishinaabe Renewable Energy Sovereignty. Collaborative Proposal w/ Michigan Technological University. Total funds received: \$1,645,708. MSU portion: \$343,708. 2019- 2025. MSU Principal Investigator.