



## **CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING: The Cost of Nitrate Removal from the Mississippi River**

**Dr. Sridhar (Sri) Vedachalam, Director of the Safe Drinking Water Research and Policy Program, Northeast-Midwest Institute**

Dr. Sridhar Vedachalam is Director of the Safe Drinking Water Research and Policy Program at the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a nonprofit, nonpartisan research, education, and policy organization that focuses on issues affecting 18 states in the Northeast and Midwest regions of the U.S. His work has addressed nationally relevant issues such as affordability, aging infrastructure, extreme weather impacts, financing, and non-point source pollution, and is cited by national, state, and local policymakers.



Dr. Vedachalam is the Editor for Urban Water at the Global Water Forum, an online resource presenting evidence-based, accessible, and freely available articles concerning freshwater governance. He has conducted research at the water institutes at Cornell and Johns Hopkins universities, and prior to his current role, served as an Environmental Legislative Fellow in the House of Representatives with Rep. Matt Cartwright (PA). He holds a PhD from The Ohio State University.

### **John Albert, Chief Research Officer, Water Research Foundation**



John Albert joined the Water Research Foundation staff in January 2005 as a project officer in research management and in 2008 assumed the duties of a senior account manager. He was named subscriber services manager in 2010 and Chief Research Officer in 2016.

Prior to that, John worked as a research associate focusing on on-site wastewater systems and bacterial source

tracking. He holds an MPA with a concentration in nonprofit management from the University of Colorado–Denver, as well as an M.S. degree from the Colorado School of Mines and a B.A. in biology from Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH.

**Jimmy Bramblett, Deputy Chief – Programs, Natural Resources Conservation Service – United States Department of Agriculture**

Jimmy Bramblett is the Deputy Chief for Programs with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). In this role, he is responsible for developing policies and procedures to invest the agency’s 4-billion dollars of technical and financial resources in a customer service oriented and scientifically defensible manner.

He has also served as the Deputy Chief for Science and Technology (S&T), the Wisconsin State Conservationist, and his tenure included a 10-year period as a faculty research scientist at The University of Georgia.



**Eric Heath, Senior Policy Counsel, Northeast-Midwest Institute**



Eric Heath joined the NEMWI staff as Senior Policy Counsel for the Institute’s Mississippi River Basin Program in 2018. He provides research and analysis on various policy matters related to the Mississippi River Basin Program, serves as a point of contact for Capitol Hill offices, and supports the Institute’s policy education initiatives, especially related to the Mississippi River Basin.

Before joining NEMWI, Eric worked as a Legislative Fellow for Congressman Matt Cartwright and an International Law Fellow at the American Society of International Law. He holds an LL.M. in International Economic Law from the University of Edinburgh (2016), a J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law (2015), and a B.A. in Law, Justice, & Society from Lipscomb University (2012).