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Education

Ph.D. Candidate in Business Economics and Public Policy, 2027 (expected)
Kelley School of Business, Indiana University
Committee: R. Andrew Butters (chair), John Maxwell, Haizhen Lin, Nikolaos Zirogiannis, Koray Cosguner.
Minor: Environmental Studies

Master of Business, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University 2024

M.A. Economics, The University of Texas at Austin 2020

Bachelor of Economics and Business in Finance, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University 2011

Research Fields

Industrial Organization, Energy and Environmental Economics, Applied Microeconomics.

Research

Working Papers

“Delayed Information and Behavioral Spillovers: Evidence from U.S. Drinking Water Violations”,
2026

Abstract: Timely public disclosure is a central component of environmental regulation, yet little is known about how delays in mandated notifications affect protective behavior and its spillovers across communities. This paper studies how the timing of public notification influences household avoidance behavior following acute microbial drinking water violations in the United States. I combine administrative data on drinking water violations and enforcement actions with high-frequency retail scanner data on bottled water sales from 2006–2019. I show that avoidance behavior responds sharply to timely public notification but is substantially muted when notification is delayed or missing. Event-study evidence indicates that households do not respond to the onset of contamination itself, but rather to the arrival of salient public information. I further document spillover effects in neighboring communities that are not directly affected by violations. These spillovers arise primarily within shared media markets and dissipate with geographic and informational distance, highlighting the role of local media in transmitting risk information. Alternative channels such as social connectedness and socio-demographic similarity do not generate comparable spillovers in the absence of media exposure. Together, the results demonstrate that the effectiveness of right-to-know policies depends critically on implementation, particularly the timing of information release, and that information disclosure can induce behavioral responses beyond the targeted population.

“Federal Enforcement Retrenchment and Compliance under the Clean Water Act”, 2026.

Abstract: This paper studies the role of federal oversight in environmental regulation under cooperative federalism. I examine how the 2017 retrenchment in federal Clean Water Act enforcement affected compliance and pollution at major publicly owned wastewater treatment plants. The analysis combines plant-level inspections, enforcement actions, and discharge monitoring reports from ICIS-NPDES with ambient monitoring data from the Water Quality Portal, river network data from NHDPlus, and impaired waters and Total Maximum Daily Load data from ATTAINS in a nationwide panel spanning 2004 to 2024. Identification leverages pre-determined cross-plant variation in features that plausibly shape federal targeting but are fixed before the policy shift, including downstream pre-2012 TMDL completion intensity and downstream channel slope. I estimate how reduced federal oversight affects self-reported effluent concentrations, significant noncompliance, the timing and composition of federal and state enforcement responses, and downstream ambient water quality. I also test whether weaker federal oversight reduces the informativeness of self-reported discharges by weakening their relationship with downstream water quality. The paper contributes evidence on the deterrence value of the federal enforcement backstop beyond state-administered regulatory programs and builds a new nationwide panel of significant non-compliance and enforcement actions for major wastewater treatment plants from 2004 to 2024.

Work in Progress

“Eco-Labels, Consumer Demand, and Water Quality: Evidence from Laundry Detergents”

Abstract: Chemicals in consumer products affect human health both directly and indirectly, with many pollutants entering water systems via wastewater treatment facilities. Laundry detergents are a major source of such chemical discharge due to their widespread use and direct pathway into wastewater systems. As public concern over environmental health grows, firms increasingly adopt voluntary eco-labels to differentiate products with safer chemical ingredients. One of the most prominent examples is the EPA’s Safer Choice program, part of the agency’s Pollution Prevention (P2) efforts. I investigate whether eco-labeling in the laundry detergent market leads to improvements in downstream water quality. I leverage temporal and spatial variation in the sales of detergents carrying the Safer Choice label across the United States, combined with data on effluent violations by Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) under NPDES permits. In addition, I estimate households’ willingness to pay for eco-labeled detergents to quantify the role of consumer demand in driving the adoption of safer products. This allows me to evaluate whether market-based mechanisms, operating through consumer preferences, can complement regulatory efforts in reducing environmentally harmful chemical exposure.

Seminar and Conference Presentations

2026: 24th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference (Rising Stars session); 7th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists*; Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting*.

2025: 8th Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop; IU O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs; IU Kelley BEPP Brown Bag.

2024: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting; IU Kelley BEPP Brown Bag.

2021–2023: 4× IU Kelley BEPP Brown Bag; IU O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

* = scheduled

Awards and Honors

BEPP Fellowship Award, Kelley School of Business (\$1,000)	2026
IU Grant-in-Aid of Research Award, Indiana University (\$1,000)	2025
Doctoral Office Travel Grant, Kelley School of Business	2021–2026
Doctoral Program Fellowship, Kelley School of Business	2021–2026
Dean’s Fellowship, Kelley School of Business	2021–2022
Bolashak International Scholarship (\$130,000)	2019–2020

Research Experience

Research Assistant for R. Andrew Butters, Kelley School of Business	2022–Present
Research Assistant for John Maxwell, Kelley School of Business	2024–Present
Research Assistant for Boyong Seo, Kelley School of Business	2023–2025
Research Assistant for Haizhen Lin, Kelley School of Business	2021–2023
Research Assistant for Jackson Dorsey, Kelley School of Business	2021–2022
Research Assistant for Nitya Pandalai-Nayar and Olivier Coibion, UT Austin	2020–2021

Teaching Experience

Associate Instructor, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University BUS-G 202, Business, Government and Society.	2024, 2025
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Academic Service

Ph.D. Student Representative, Doctoral Policy Committee, Kelley School of Business	2023–2024
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Professional Experience

Financial Projects Analyst, Azia Turabi LLP, Almaty, Kazakhstan	2015–2019
Sales Analyst & Financial Manager, Dudar LLP, Almaty, Kazakhstan	2011–2013

Skills

Programming: R, Stata, Python, Slurm, L^AT_EX, QGIS.

Languages: English, Russian (fluent), Kazakh (native).

Last updated: May 2026