

Dr. Katrina Knauer is a polymer chemist who has dedicated her scientific career to solving the plastic waste problem. She completed the BASF PhD Leadership Development Program (LDP) in 2018 before taking a Senior Scientist role in BASF's Plastics Division. Her research efforts focused on advanced recycling technologies which ultimately led her to leading Materials Innovation R&D at Novoloop, a chemical recycling startup. In 2021, Dr. Knauer joined the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the Department of Energy's BOTTLE Consortium where she is developing sustainable technologies to chemically upcycle today's existing plastic waste streams and develop new plastics for the future that are recyclable by design.