

# 2019 NASUCA Annual Meeting – San Antonio, TX

## Speaker and Moderator Bios



**Jeffrey P. Ackermann**  
**Chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC)**

Jeffrey was appointed in 2017 by Gov. John Hickenlooper to a four-year term. Prior to his appointment, Jeff served as executive director of the Colorado Energy Office (CEO). On behalf of the governor, CEO promoted clean energy policies and markets through programs and advocacy, including at the PUC.

He has more than three decades of experience in state government and the energy sector. Previous to his CEO appointment, Jeff led the policy research efforts at the PUC, assisting the commission prepare for changing markets and technologies. Jeff also served as an advisor to the commissioners on energy efficiency (demand-side management). Jeff also worked in product development in the utility sector, focusing on renewable energy as a voluntary product offering.

Jeff started his professional career in the service of low-income energy consumers, twice as director of the state's energy efficiency assistance program (weatherization) as well as an advocate for energy consumers with the state's nonprofit energy assistance fund.

Jeff earned a bachelor's degree from Albion College and a master's degree in non-profit management from Regis University.



**Jim Albright**  
**Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Texas Reliability Entity.**

Jim Albright serves as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, overseeing the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) and the Reliability Monitor department at Texas RE.

Before joining Texas RE, Mr. Albright was the Deputy Executive Director at the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT), where he served in various management positions guiding the organization through identification and implementation of strategic technology and business processes for over 15 years. Throughout his time with the PUCT, he had significant experience working with all levels of state government ranging from working with legislative leaders to task forces that executed and implemented statewide goals and objectives. Prior to his work at the PUCT, Mr.

Albright worked in finance and technology positions at the Texas Department of Economic Development, USAA Investment Management Company, and Grant Thornton.

Mr. Albright earned a Bachelor's degree in Finance from the University of Texas - Permian Basin.



**Paul Alvarez**  
**President, Wired Group**

Paul Alvarez has 15 years' experience in the electric utility industry in demand-side management program and rate design, benefit measurement, marketing, and regulation. He has similar experience in utility renewable energy compliance and the design of renewable generation incentive programs and rates. Paul led teams that completed the only two comprehensive, independent cost-benefit evaluations and effectiveness reviews of high-profile smart grid deployments, including SmartGridCity™ for Xcel Energy in 2010 and Duke Energy's Ohio deployment for that state's Public Utilities Commission in 2011. He published his first book, *Smart Grid*

*Hype & Reality – A Systems Approach to Maximizing Customer Return on Utility Investment* in 2014. He serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado's Global Energy Management Program, where he teaches "Electric Technologies, Markets, and Policy"; and at Michigan State University's Institute for Public Utilities, where he teaches "Distribution Utility Performance Measurement" and "an Introduction to Grid Modernization". He has testified or presented evidence in utility cases before regulators in California, Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Ohio. He holds a master's degree in Management from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University and an undergraduate degree in Finance and Marketing from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University.



**Keishaa Austin**  
**Policy and Program Analyst, Office of the People's Counsel,  
District of Columbia.**

Keishaa Austin, is a policy and program analyst with the Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia, where she focuses on distributed energy resources and consumer services. In her time with the Office of the People's Counsel, she led and participated in several studies including the District's of Columbia's Value of Solar Study and the Future of Solar in the District of Columbia. Ms. Austin also serves as The National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates' Distributed Energy Resources Committee chair, which shares information and establishes policies regarding energy efficiency, renewable energy, and distributed generation, and considers best practices for the development of cost-effective programs which promote fairness and value for all consumers. Ms. Austin is graduate of Howard University and earned her Juris Doctor for the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. She is a licensed in attorney barred in the state of Texas.



**Christina Baker**  
**Staff Attorney, Arkansas Public Service Commission**

Christina Baker currently serves the people of Arkansas as a Staff Attorney in the Arkansas Public Service Commission. Ms. Baker previously served for nine years with the Office of Public Counsel in Missouri appearing as a utility consumer advocate before the Missouri Public Service Commission. Further, she has over 12 years of experience as an environmental engineer.

Ms. Baker is licensed to practice law in Arkansas and Missouri. She also holds a Professional Engineer license in Missouri and Illinois and is in the process of seeking licensure in Arkansas.

Ms. Baker received her Juris Doctorate from St. Louis University School of Law. She holds a BS in Chemical Engineering and Masters of Law (LLM) in Dispute Resolution.



**Susan M. Baldwin**  
**SMBaldwin Consulting**

Ms. Baldwin has been actively involved in public policy for forty-one years, which includes thirty-five years in telecommunications policy and regulation, and eleven years in energy policy and regulation. She served as the Director of the Telecommunications Division for the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (which was subsequently reorganized), as a Senior Vice President for a consulting firm, and, since 2001, as an independent consultant. Ms. Baldwin sponsors expert testimony and reports submitted in state and federal regulatory proceedings, contributes to the policy-making of state legislatures, and writes detailed reports on telecommunications and energy issues. She has testified before 24 state public utility commissions in more than 75 regulatory proceedings as well as before five state legislative committees. She has submitted expert reports in state taxation proceedings and contributed to dozens of comments and declarations filed in Federal Communications Commission proceedings. Ms. Baldwin earned her Master of Economics from Boston University, her Master of Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics and English from Wellesley College.



**David Batz**  
**Senior Director, Cyber and Infrastructure Security, Edison Electric Institute**

Leveraging over 20 years of utility experience, David Batz brings significant industry knowledge in understanding and applying appropriate security solutions to address emerging threats and issues. In addition, Mr. Batz leverages a decade of energy regulatory compliance as well as physical and cyber security policy experience and engagement with federal agencies including Department of Energy (DoE), and the

Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

He is a member of InfraGard, and serves on the SANS Institute Advisory Board. He has authored various articles and presented at numerous events domestically and internationally on securing critical infrastructure, industrial systems and standardization topics for prominent industry associations including NIST, the National Academies of Sciences, and the World Economic Forum to name a few. Mr. Batz is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), and has multiple security certifications.



**Richard Berkley, Esq.**  
**Executive Director, New York's Public Utility Law Project**

Richard A. Berkley, Esq. is the Executive Director of New York's Public Utility Law Project. Previously Mr. Berkley was Chief of Staff and Counsel to Senator Kevin Parker of the New York State Senate, and before that he was Director of the Senate Committee on Energy and Telecommunications. He was Counsel to Assemblyman Richard Brodsky, Chair of the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, and served as Information Technology Attorney and

Assistant Counsel for the State Office of Children and Family Services. He was also Telecommunications and Cable Franchise Counsel for the City of New York, and worked at the State of Wisconsin's Public Service Commission while in law school. He is a member of the bar of the State of New York and the State of New Jersey. He received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin, master's of arts from New York University, and bachelor's of arts from Fordham University-College at Lincoln Center.



**Janet Gail Besser,  
Managing Director, Regulatory Innovation & Utility Business  
Models, Smart Electric Power Alliance**

As Managing Director of Regulatory Innovation & Utility Business Models, Janet Gail Besser leads two closely integrated pathways that are priorities for SEPA. She brings to this role broad energy industry experience as a regulator, clean energy business association leader, utility executive, developer, consultant, and consumer advocate. Previously, she was Executive Vice President of the Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC), Vice President, Regulatory Strategy and Policy at National Grid, Chair of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, where she led electric industry restructuring, and an executive and expert consultant at Analysis Group and Lexecon. She also held senior staff roles at the Massachusetts Energy Office and New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, served as policy director for a DC-based national independent power association, and began her career as a small hydro developer and low-income consumer advocate. Janet is a nationally recognized expert on a wide range of energy policy issues with deep relationships across the industry. She earned a Master in Public Policy degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and a B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Williams College.



**Stefanie A. Brand  
Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel**

Stefanie A. Brand serves as the Director for the Division of Rate Counsel, a position she has held since October 1, 2007. The Division of Rate Counsel represents the interests of consumers of regulated electric, natural gas, water/sewer, telecommunications, cable TV service, and insurance (residential, small business, commercial and industrial customers).

Rate Counsel's mission is to make sure that all classes of utility consumers receive safe, adequate and proper utility service at affordable rates that are just and nondiscriminatory. Rate Counsel is a member of several state utility policy making groups and also represents consumers in setting energy and telecommunications policy that will affect the provision of services into the future. The New Jersey Legislature charged Rate Counsel with being "devoted to the maximum extent possible to ensuring adequate representation of the interest of those consumers whose interest would otherwise be inadequately represented in matters within the jurisdiction of the Division of Rate Counsel." The Division's website is <http://www.state.nj.us/rpa/>

Prior to joining Rate Counsel, Stefanie was the Assistant Attorney General in Charge of Litigation for the Division of Law within the Department of Law and Public Safety. In this position she oversaw all civil litigation for the state. Her tenure with the Division of Law included work on a variety of issues such as child welfare, environmental regulation, human services, employment and tort law.

Stefanie brings over 25 years of legal experience to the Division. She has spent over 20 years advocating on behalf of the people of New Jersey. After 5 years in private practice, she joined the Division of Law in 1992. She worked as a Deputy Attorney General for 10 years, focusing on solid waste, environmental cases and federal litigation. In 2002, Stefanie was named Deputy Attorney General in Charge of Litigation and in 2003, she was named Assistant Attorney General. Stefanie graduated from Columbia University School of Law in 1986 and clerked for Associate Justice Gary Stein of the New Jersey State Supreme Court.





## **Bob Burns** **Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission**

Chairman Bob Burns currently serves as one of five state-wide elected members of the Arizona Corporation Commission. His first term began in January 2013 and he was recently re-elected to a second four-year term that started in January 2017. As a Corporation Commissioner, Bob oversees the regulation of Arizona's private water, wastewater, electric, gas and telecommunications companies as well as civil enforcement of the Arizona Securities Act, safety inspection of railroads and pipelines and the incorporation of businesses.

During his time at the Commission, Bob has been actively engaged in issues pertaining to emerging technologies in energy. He initiated the Commission's investigation into the technological developments that are impacting and/or anticipate to impact our current energy model, including: solar, energy storage, fuel cells, microgrids, demand-side management and smart grid. This investigation culminated in a report making several recommendations the Commission has adopted, including: reforming the utilities' Integrated Resource Planning, renewable energy and smart grid integration policies, and establishing statewide interconnection rules to streamline the process for customers who seek to adopt new technologies. Importantly, his efforts have led to more customer choice in energy consumption and savings. He is frequently asked to speak about these topics at conferences nationwide. Bob hopes to continue to be a key player in guiding the anticipated changes to the regulatory and business models being driven by emerging technologies.

For the past 54 years, Bob Burns has lived in Arizona and played an important role in making Arizona a better place to live, work and play. After serving as an Aviation Electronics Technician in the US Navy, Bob was honorably discharged and in 1962 moved with his wife Gayle to Arizona where he began his career at a division of General Electric which later became part of Honeywell. As a computer programming analyst, Bob was instrumental in writing and installing many computer software systems for plants in the steel, paper, petrochemical, fuel distribution, and electrical generation industries. As a lead programmer, Bob wrote and tested standardized control panel software packages for power generation facilities.

After retiring from Honeywell, Bob and Gayle became small business owners. They owned and operated several businesses, including five Elementary Preparatory Schools. The combined schools were licensed to care for five hundred students per day. After twenty seven years of operation, they sold their schools and now manage their commercial real estate properties.

In 1989, Bob began his career in public service as an elected State Representative. In the House of Representatives Bob was a distinguished leader. He was Chairman of Appropriations, and served on many committees, including, Health, Judiciary, Ways and Means, Transportation, and Insurance. In 2001, Bob was elected as a member of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for overseeing the management of the Central Arizona Project, a 336-mile long system of aqueducts, tunnels, pumping plants and pipelines, and is the largest single resource of renewable water supplies in the state of Arizona. It is also the largest user of electrical power in Arizona. In 2003, Bob was elected to the Arizona State Senate where he again distinguished himself as an outstanding leader. Bob served as Chairman of Appropriations, and on a number of committees, including Rules and Finance. In 2009, Bob was elected as President of the Arizona Senate, and served as such until 2010. During the twenty years that Bob served in the Legislature, he was Chairman of the Appropriations Committee for fourteen years.

Bob's public and community service extends beyond his substantial time in the Legislature. As an active member of the community, Bob has served on the Board of Directors for Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor, is a member of Arizona Town Hall. In 1996, Bob initiated the legislation that created the Arizona Telemedicine Program. He became the first Chair of the Telemedicine Council and continues to serve in that capacity. In the past, Bob has sponsored an in-line rollerblade hockey team, sponsored and coached numerous Summer Baseball League teams, and held membership in the Arizona, Phoenix and Glendale Chambers of Commerce.

Bob Burns was born and raised in Rolfe, Iowa. He and Gayle have been married for 57 years, and have two sons, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.



**Paula Carmody**  
**People's Counsel, Maryland Office of People's Counsel**

Paula Carmody is the People's Counsel for the State of Maryland. The Maryland Office of People's Counsel is an independent state agency that represents the interests of consumers of utility and energy supplier services in state and federal regulatory and appellate court proceedings.

Ms. Carmody served as President of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) from 2011 to 2013. She also was a member of the Electricity Advisory Committee of the Department of Energy from 2015-2017 and is an ex officio member of the Maryland Energy Administration's Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Advisory Board, and the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) Advisory

Council.

Ms. Carmody has had extensive experience working on consumer issues. She previously served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Consumer Protection Division, Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, and an Assistant People's Counsel. She also was the Managing Attorney of the Baltimore, Maryland office of the UAW-GM Legal Services Plan, and a Staff Attorney with the Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. Ms. Carmody graduated with a Juris Doctorate degree from Antioch School of Law, Washington, D.C. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.



**Steve Chriss**  
**Director, Energy Services, Walmart Inc.**

Steve W. Chriss is Director, Energy Services for Walmart Inc. and is responsible for managing Walmart's regulatory and legislative cost exposure from changes in electric and natural gas rates, interventions in utility proceedings, rate and pricing analyses, and developing strategic initiatives with regulated utilities. Since 2007, he has managed interventions in over 400 regulatory dockets. Steve also serves as a witness on behalf of Walmart and in his career has testified in over 200 rate and policy dockets in 40 states and on legislative matters in four states.

Prior to joining Walmart, Steve was an Economist and later Senior Utility Analyst for the Oregon Public Utility Commission from 2003 to 2007. From 2001 to 2003, Steve worked as an Analyst on domestic and international energy regulatory projects for Econ One Research, Inc., an energy and economics consulting firm.

Steve received a M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Louisiana State University in 2001 and a B.S. in Agricultural Development and a B.S. in Horticulture from Texas A&M University in 1997. He also completed coursework in Agricultural Education and Communication at the University of Florida.



**Gregory Cooke**  
**Chief, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission**

Greg Cooke is the Chief of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs within the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau. Greg supervises outreach the IGA provides to state and local governments and their representative organizations, as well as to other federal regulatory agencies, for the purpose of fostering an understanding of FCC programs, policies, rules and decisions. Greg is also responsible for overseeing the work

and activities of the commission's Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Prior to moving to IGA in April 2019, Greg was the Deputy Chief of the Policy Division in the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, where he supervised all areas of alert and warning at the Commission. Previously, Greg served as Deputy Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau's Competition Policy Division and an Assistant Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau's Network Services Division. Greg received his B.F.A. from Boston University and his J.D. from Fordham University.



**Jennifer Easler**  
**Attorney, Office of Consumer Advocate, Iowa Department of Justice**

Ms. Easler represents consumers and the public interest in matters coming before the Iowa Utilities Board, relating to matters such as utility rate increases, advance ratemaking, energy efficiency issues, mergers, acquisitions, transactions involving Iowa utilities, as well as, utility industry investigations.

Currently, Ms. Easler serves as the Chair for the State Energy Efficiency Network where she earned a 2011 Leadership Award for her hard work, advocating for ratepayers in EE. She also served other positions as Chair of Iowa Energy Center Advisory Council, the Public Consumer Sector Representative on MISO Advisory Committee and Transmission Planning Advisory Committee, and Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council.

Ms. Easler graduated with a BBA from the University of Iowa, and a Juris Doctor, with Honors from Drake University.



**Honorable Trey Martinez Fischer**  
**Texas House of Representatives, 116<sup>th</sup> District**

First elected at 29 years old, Representative Trey Martinez Fischer recently finished serving his 9th Legislative Session fighting for the people of San Antonio in the Texas House of Representatives. Since being elected, he has risen to become the most senior member and Dean of the Bexar County Delegation to the Texas Legislature and the 20th most senior member of the Texas House overall. He now serves in the leadership of the Texas House of Representatives as Chairman of the House Committee on Business & Industry, giving the people of San Antonio a voice at the forefront of the legislative issues that will shape the future of the Lone Star State. He also serves as a senior Democrat on the powerful Ways & Means committee.

Upon being elected, Rep. Martinez Fischer quickly earned a reputation as someone who would not back down from his convictions, becoming one of the most influential and passionate champions for those in need. *Texas Monthly* perhaps put it best when, in naming Rep. Martinez Fischer one of the 10 Best Legislators in the state in 2013, they declared him “a soldier prepared to do battle but ready to make peace.” A hard worker, he has been recognized for his accomplishments and has received numerous awards in every one of the legislative sessions in which he has served.

Outside of politics, Rep. Martinez Fischer is a practicing lawyer in the San Antonio area. He and his wife, Elizabeth, who is also an attorney, live together with their daughters in western San Antonio. His favorite sport is whatever his girls happen to be playing at the time.



**Kara Brighton Fornstrom**  
**Chair, Wyoming Public Service Commission**

Governor Mead appointed Kara to the Public Service Commission on March 1, 2013. Governor Gordon re-appointed her on March 1, 2019. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law.

Kara started her legal career at the Wyoming Attorney General's Office, Water Division working on the Nebraska v. Wyoming litigation over the North Platte River. In August, 2000, she was a founding partner of Hageman & Brighton where her practice was focused exclusively on water issues, including representation of several irrigation districts, agricultural interests and municipalities.

Kara's NARUC activities include: Member of the NARUC Board of Directors; Member of the Committee on Electricity; Vice-Chair of the Clean Coal and Carbon Management Subcommittee; Member of the NARUC-DOE Natural Gas Infrastructure Modernization Partnership; Former President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners; Former Member of the Committee on Gas; and Former Vice Chair of the Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety. In addition to being actively engaged with NARUC, Kara represents Wyoming on various regional boards and associations: Vice-Chair of the Energy Imbalance Market's Board of State Regulators; Class 5 Member on the Western Electricity Coordinating Council Advisory Committee; Wyoming's Representative on the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body; Wyoming's Representative on the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation; Wyoming's Representative on the Northern Tier Transmission Group; and Former Member of the Gas Technology Institute's Public Interest Advisory Committee.

In addition to her Commission duties and representation, Kara focuses her efforts on carbon capture technologies, especially related to development of innovative ratemaking tools to incentivize regulated utilities to engage in CCUS projects. In August, 2015, she was a member of the NARUC delegation to China for the U.S. Department of Energy's Regulatory Policy Technology Mission. In April, 2019, she was a member of the CCUS Policy, Research and Implementation Collaboration and Exchange to the United Kingdom. Kara lives in Pine Bluffs with her husband, Justin, and their daughter, Keefer, where she is active in her community and church, St. Paul's Catholic Church.



**Bryce Freeman**  
**Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate**

Appointed in May of 2003, Bryce Freeman currently serves as Administrator of the Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate. The OCA provides independent representation of utility customers in contested cases before the Wyoming Public Service Commission.

Prior to being appointed to his current position, Bryce was on the staff of the Wyoming Public Service Commission for approximately nine years. Prior to his time at the Public Service Commission Bryce served as a Principal Appraiser in the utility valuation section of the Wyoming Department of Revenue and served as Assistant Deputy Treasurer in Laramie County. Bryce has also been, and continues to be, heavily involved in regulatory and energy policy development on behalf of Wyoming consumers, including appointment to the Western Electric Coordinating Council's Reliability Assessment Committee and Chair of the Scenario Development Subcommittee, as well as active participation in the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation. Bryce also served as Secretary of the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority for ten years with his most recent term ending in March of 2014. Bryce and his wife Pam make their home outside of Cheyenne and have three grown children.





**Jordy Fuentes**  
**Director, Residential Utility Consumer Office**

Jordy Fuentes is currently the Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office. Mr. Fuentes has worked for the Residential Utility Consumer Office since 2015, in various positions. Mr. Fuentes holds a law degree from Arizona State University, where he also received the Law, Science, and Technology Certificate, specializing in Environmental and Sustainability Law. Mr. Fuentes serves on the State's Water Emergency Team, actively participates on the Arizona Mexico Commission – Energy Committee, and regularly represents residential ratepayers

before the Arizona Corporation Commission. Prior to working for the Residential Utility Consumer Office, Mr. Fuentes worked as an Information Technology Director, for public schools in Arizona. In 2009, Mr. Fuentes was elected to the Town Council for the Town of Taylor and for a time served as Vice-Mayor. Mr. Fuentes is a married and the father of four children.



**Richard Glick**  
**Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

Commissioner Richard Glick was nominated to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by President Donald J. Trump in August 2017 and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on November 2, 2017.

Before joining the Commission, Commissioner Glick was general counsel for the Democrats on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, serving as a senior policy advisor on numerous issues including electricity and renewable energy.

Prior to that, Commissioner Glick was vice president of government affairs for Iberdrola's renewable energy, electric and gas utility, and natural gas storage businesses in the United States. He ran the company's Washington, DC, office and was responsible for developing and implementing the U.S. businesses' federal legislative and regulatory policy advocacy strategies.

Commissioner Glick previously served as a director of government affairs for PPM Energy and before that was director of government affairs for PacifiCorp. He served as a senior policy advisor to U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, and before that was legislative director and chief counsel to U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers of Arkansas. From 1988-1992 Commissioner Glick was an associate with the law firm of Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand.

Commissioner Glick is a graduate of George Washington University and Georgetown Law. He and his wife Erin have a son.



**Sheri Givens**  
**Vice President, US Regulatory and Customer Strategy,**  
**National Grid**

Sheri Givens is Vice President of US Regulatory and Customer Strategy at National Grid, a clean energy company serving the electric and heating needs of more than 20 million customers in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York.

Sheri's professional experience includes nearly twenty years in legal, regulatory, legislative, and external affairs. Prior to joining National Grid, she consulted on utility consumer education and regulatory policy issues in energy markets nationwide. Sheri is the former Governor-appointed Texas utility consumer advocate and served on the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates' Executive Committee and both the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and Texas Reliability Entity's Boards of Directors. She was also an attorney for the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Texas Workforce Commission, and Texas Legislature.

Sheri earned a Bachelor of Arts in government from the University of Texas at Austin and a Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center. She currently serves on the Association of Women in Energy, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, and Northeast Clean Energy Council Boards of Directors. Sheri is Vice Chair of Utilities United Against Scams, and she is a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee.



**Michael Goggin**  
**Vice President, Grid Strategies**

Michael Goggin is Vice President at Grid Strategies, a strategic consulting and advocacy firm helping clients with the integration of clean energy into the electric grid. Michael graduated from Harvard and has 15 years of experience in the clean energy field, including 10 years at the American Wind Energy Association.



**Jason Hewitt,**  
**Investment Development Officer, Sustainability Partners, LLC**

Jason Hewitt is SP's Investment Development Officer responsible for developing new investment opportunities in the Southern US. For nearly a decade he has worked in the municipal, utility, school and hospital sectors. He is an expert in Smart Cities technologies and brings this experience to bear in government and commercial settings.

Prior to joining SP, Jason spent over 7 years as the founder of Brilliant Efficiencies, an energy efficiency solutions provider to government entities. Simultaneously, Jason has spent over 17 years as a film and television producer and has worked on over 150 film and television projects. Prior, Jason founded and sold a number of technology start-ups.



**Kenneth C. Hill**  
**Vice Chairman, Tennessee Public Utility Commission**

Dr. Kenneth C. Hill, a native of Morrison City (North Kingsport), was appointed to the Tennessee Public Utility Commission by Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey in 2009 and reappointed in 2016.

Since his appointment, Dr. Hill has served as Chairman of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission and is currently active with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC). He is a member of the NARUC Committee on Water, the NARUC Committee on International Relations, and the NARUC Subcommittee

on Clean Coal and Carbon Sequestration.

At present, he is also a member of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER), a member of the ICER Working Group for Small Energy Consumers, and a mentor in the ICER Women In Energy Mentoring Program.

Dr. Hill has been a presenter at the NARUC and SEARUC annual meetings. He has also been a presenter and participant at the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) Water Summit, the NAWC Commissioners' Forum, and the Emerging Issues Policy Forum (EIPF) (Energy) multiple times. Additionally, he has been a panelist at the NAWC Southeastern Chapter Conference, as well as at the United States' Department of Energy Industrial Energy Efficiency Conference in Little Rock, Ark.

During his tenure with the TPUC, he has also served as a member of the Tennessee State Information Systems Council, member of the Board of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI), member of the Eastern Interconnection States Planning Council (EISPC), delegate to the 5th and 6th World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFERV), and a Tennessee Team Member of the National Governors' Association Policy Academy on Enhancing Industry through Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Speech (Broadcasting) and History from East Tennessee State University; a Master of Science degree in Speech (Broadcasting) from Indiana State University; a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies from Baptist Christian College; a Master of Religious Education from Manahath School of Theology; and a Doctor of Religious Education from Andersonville Baptist Seminary.



**Fritz Hirst**  
**Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, North American Electric Reliability Corporation**

Fritz Hirst is Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation. His responsibilities include representing NERC before the United States Congress, executive branch agencies, and supporting NERC's mission with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In these roles, Fritz works closely with federal and state policymakers and provides strategic counsel to NERC's business units and senior leadership.

Prior to joining NERC in 2014, Fritz served for twelve years as Director of Federal Affairs for TECO Energy, Inc. At TECO, Fritz developed and implemented strategies to achieve policy outcomes from Congress and executive branch agencies. Fritz provided strategic counsel to TECO businesses and senior executive management. As TECO's principal representative in Washington, DC, Fritz also directed and executed TECO's political programs.

Before joining the private sector, Fritz was a senior staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving as Legislative Director and the principal energy and environment policy advisor to a member of the House Energy

& Commerce Committee. In this role, Fritz supervised the Capitol Hill staff, directed and implemented the member's legislative agenda and strategic initiatives.

Early in his career, Fritz was an account executive for a leading public affairs firm in New Jersey specializing in energy and environmental policy. Fritz holds a bachelor's degree in economics and French from Gettysburg College and a master's degree in political science from American University.



**Christine M. Hoover**  
**Attorney, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate**

Christine Maloni Hoover joined the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) in 1987. During her tenure at the OCA, Ms. Hoover has worked on all aspects of utility law and regulation. Currently, she oversees water and wastewater cases, consumer education and outreach, as well as working on policy issues and supervising administrative, IT and support staff as a Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate. In addition, she is a member and former chair of the Water Committee of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA). Ms. Hoover received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctor from American University's Washington College of Law.



**John B. Howard**  
**Commissioner, New York State Public Service Commission**

On July 19, 2019, John B. Howard was appointed Commissioner of the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission), his term runs through February 1, 2024. Mr. Howard brings over 37 years of New York State service, serving in various roles in the Legislature and Executive branches, with vast experience in the energy sector to the Commission. At the New York Power Authority, he was responsible for monitoring relevant activities at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Department of Environmental Conservation and the Commission. He served as Executive Deputy Director at the New York State Consumer Protection Board where he oversaw the Board's utility intervention filings to the Commission, FERC and the Federal

Communications Commission. He was also responsible for the Board's consumer advocacy and public outreach programs.

As Executive Director for then Member of Assembly Paul D. Tonko, Chair of the Assembly Energy Committee he developed and led the Chairman's program in energy policy and legislation including low cost energy programs, electric deregulation, authority reform and energy taxes. Mr. Howard served as Deputy Chief of Staff to then Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo where he developed and oversaw implementation of the Attorney General's Community Partnership Initiative and worked on the Attorney Generals' Wind Energy Industry initiative. Since 2011 he served as Director of Chamber Operations to Governor Cuomo where he was responsible for the execution of Governor Cuomo's public appearances across the State, requiring detailed knowledge of the Governor's policy initiatives, New York's geopolitics, including Federal, State and local officials as well as every State agency and authority.

On September 23, 2019 Commissioner Howard was appointed as member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal. Commissioner Howard received Bachelor of Science from Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications and resides in Duanesburg, New York





**John Howat**  
**Senior Policy Analyst, National Consumer Law Center**

John has been involved with energy programs and policy issues since 1981. At National Consumer Law Center over the past 20 years, he has managed regulatory, legislative and research projects across the country in support of low- and moderate-income consumers' access to affordable energy and utility services. He has represented public agencies and non-profit organizations in a range of capacities in states across the country and as an expert witness in proceedings before state utility regulatory commissions in 22 states.

John is particularly interested in issues where questions of technology, policy and equity in the energy and utility industries intersect. He has worked extensively on design and implementation of low-income energy affordability and efficiency programs, utility consumer protections, metering and prepaid utility service, rate design, and utility credit reporting and utilization of consumer credit scores. He is co-author of NCLC's [Access to Utility Service](#), and has had articles published by Electricity Policy Journal, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, Clearinghouse Review, National Consumer Law Center, AARP, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and National Energy Assistance Directors Association.

Previous to joining the Advocacy Staff at NCLC, John served as Research Director of the Massachusetts Joint Legislative Committee on Energy, Economist with the Electric Power Division of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and Director of the Association of Massachusetts Local Energy Officials. John has a Master's Degree from Tufts University's Graduate Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and a BA from The Evergreen State College.



**D. Maurice "Don" Kreis**  
**State Consumer Advocate, New Hampshire**

D. Maurice "Don" Kreis has served as New Hampshire's Consumer Advocate since 2016. Prior to leading the office that represents the interests of the Granite State's residential utility customers, Don previously served as general counsel of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, as a hearing officer with the Vermont Public Utility Commission, and as an assistant professor at Vermont Law School. His "Power to the People" column appears regularly on the news web site

InDepthNH.org.



**Warren Lasher**  
**Sr. Director, System Planning, ERCOT, Inc.**

As Senior Director of System Planning for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT), Mr. Lasher is responsible for transmission planning, load forecasting and resource adequacy analyses for the ERCOT interconnection. Mr. Lasher has been at ERCOT for fifteen years; before this he was employed by the Southern Company in Birmingham, Alabama, where he worked in the Engineering and the Planning organizations. Mr. Lasher has a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, and graduate degrees in Environmental Management and Computer Science



## **Barbara Lockwood**

### **Vice President of Regulation, Arizona Public Service Commission**

Barbara Lockwood is vice president of regulation for Arizona Public Service (APS). Based in Phoenix, APS is Arizona's largest electric company and serves nearly 1.2 million customers around the state.

Lockwood manages federal and state regulatory activities for APS. Prior to moving into regulatory, she served as general manager of energy innovation, where she managed technology and renewable energy programs, including the operation and maintenance of the utility's solar generation fleet.

Lockwood began her career at DuPont in chemical engineering and management roles. She then spent a number of years in environmental consulting providing property development and business acquisition services to national and global companies in a variety of industries. Lockwood joined APS in 1999.

Her policy and regulatory experience includes testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming as well as a field hearing with Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords on the Federal Investment Tax Credit and its effect on solar development in the Southwest.

Lockwood served on the Western Governors' Association Solar Task Force and the Arizona State Renewable Energy Task Force. She has also served on the Solar Technical Advisory Board for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the Research Advisory Committee for the Electric Power Research Institute and the Board of Directors for the GridWise Alliance.

She is active in the community as a board member for the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute and the Arizona Science Center, where she is immediate past board chair. She is a past president of Keep Phoenix Beautiful. Lockwood also serves on the Advisory Committee of the Critical Consumer Issues Forum, a national energy policy group.

Lockwood holds a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Clemson University and a Master of Science in environmental engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. She is a registered professional chemical engineer in Arizona.



## **Richard Meyer**

### **Managing Director, Energy Analysis, American Gas Association**

Richard Meyer serves as a Managing Director of the Energy group at the American Gas Association, which represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver natural gas throughout the United States. Mr. Meyer's responsibilities include policy and economic analysis to support the association's outreach to advance awareness of the important role that natural gas utilities serve in meeting the needs of a clean energy economy. Mr. Meyer's work relates to natural gas supply and demand fundamentals, residential and large-volume markets, greenhouse gas emissions and

climate-related policy, and natural gas distributed generation technologies like combined heat and power. Before AGA, Mr. Meyer was with ICF in its Fuels and Technology group. He has an M.A. in Global Environmental Politics from American University and an M.S. in Physics from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California.



**Jonathon Monken**  
**Senior Director, Electricity Infrastructure Polic, PJM**  
**Interconnection**

In his capacity as Senior Director, Electricity Infrastructure Policy at PJM Interconnection, Jonathon develops policy with PJM states, members and federal partners to build enterprise-level resilience in the areas of physical and cyber security, risk management, operations and planning. Mr. Monken previously served as Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and State Homeland Security Advisor from 2011 to 2015 where he oversaw Illinois' disaster preparedness and response, nuclear safety and homeland security programs.

Prior to becoming IEMA director, Monken served for two years as Acting Director of the Illinois State Police, an agency with a staff of 3,400 sworn and civilian personnel and an annual budget of approximately \$428 million.

Jonathon also possesses a distinguished military career having served as an armor officer for one tour of duty in Kosovo and two combat tours in Iraq. Major Monken was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device for valor in combat. He is currently serving in the Army Reserves supporting the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Monken earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from West Point, and holds an MBA from Northwestern University.



**Joseph Paladino**  
**Technical Advisor, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy**  
**Reliability, U.S. Department of Energy**

Mr. Joseph Paladino has worked for most of his career in the advancement and commercialization of technology to address energy and environmental issues. His efforts in both private and public organizations have focused on waste management, energy efficiency, and energy infrastructure modernization. Over the past several years, he led efforts to convey the impact of the smart grid technologies advanced in projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. His current focus is to leverage this information to help decision-makers, including regulators, make informed infrastructure investments given the rapid advancement in technology and

customer options.

Mr. Paladino has an A.B. in Biology from Middlebury College and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. He also holds a patent for a design for a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.



**Darlene J. Phillips**  
**Senior Director, Operations Engineering Support, PJM Interconnect**

Ms. Phillips previously served as senior director, Strategic Policy and External Affairs, leading State Government Policy regulatory and legislative efforts and driving strategic communication efforts on key industry matters.

Prior to joining PJM, Ms. Phillips was a member of the senior leadership team in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. External Affairs division focusing on supporting engagement efforts with the regions' regulatory and stakeholder community. Leading the Issues Management, Corporate Communications and External Training Departments, Ms. Phillips was responsible for synthesizing MISO's complex business functions and strategies for decision makers, driving media and other outreach strategies and leading external

education efforts. During her eleven-year MISO career, Ms. Phillips also held leadership roles in the Operations, Information Technology and Business Services divisions.

Prior to joining MISO, Ms. Phillips spent time as a member of the management teams for both Arthur Anderson and Bearing Point, overseeing numerous projects in both organizations' National Energy Practice Groups working on key projects for MISO start-up activities; New York Independent System Operator, ERCOT and many energy related projects.

Ms. Phillips began her career in the energy industry as a control room engineer for Michigan Electric Power Coordination Center in Ann Arbor.

Ms. Phillips, holds a Juris Doctorate from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis (cum laude); a Masters of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Ms. Phillips is a licensed attorney in the state of Indiana and is a member of the Indiana State and Energy Bar Associations.



**Gregory J. Poulos, Executive Director  
Consumer Advocates of the PJM States, Inc.**

Greg Poulos is the executive director for the Consumer Advocates of the PJM States, Inc. (CAPS). Established in 2013, CAPS is a nonprofit organization whose members include state advocate offices in the 13 PJM states and the District of Columbia. As a whole, the CAPS members represent over 65-million consumers throughout the PJM footprint. As the executive director of CAPS, Greg coordinates the efforts of the member offices, stays active in the PJM stakeholder process, and monitors relevant proceedings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to ensure that the prices consumers pay for reliable, wholesale electric service are reasonable.

Prior to joining CAPS, Greg spent over six years at EnerNOC as a member of the Regulatory Affairs team. While at EnerNOC, Greg regularly represented the company at public utility commissions throughout the Midwest. He also interacted with many regional transmission organizations including PJM, Inc., the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO).

Greg earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He received his Juris Doctorate with from the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.



**Paul Roberti  
Chief Counsel, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
Administration (PHMSA)**

Paul Roberti was sworn in as PHMSA's Chief Counsel on March 27, 2018 by U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao. Previously, he was an Executive Director at Ernst & Young (EY) where he was a member of the firm's Advisory practice specializing in power and utilities. In addition to serving clients across North America, he was a member of a select team that provided strategic advice to clients navigating Mexico's historic energy reform measures in the power and natural gas sectors.

Prior to EY, he served seven years as a Commissioner on the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, after being appointed by the Governor and unanimously confirmed by the Senate. As Commissioner, he was responsible for regulating the rates, charges and practices of the State's electric, gas, water and telecom utilities. During that period, he served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where he also served as Chairman of the Pipeline



Safety Task Force and Vice Chairman of the Committee on Gas. He was a member of the Board of Directors at NARUC and the National Regulatory Research Institute. In 2016, he received NARUC's "Terry Barnich" Award for recognition of his international service for advising the nations of Moldova, Georgia, Nigeria, India, Jamaica and Mexico on energy policy.

Mr. Roberti served two terms on the U.S. Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee after being appointed by Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz. He was also a member of the Public Interest Advisory Committee at the Gas Technology Institute, and Chairman of the Advisory Committee at New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities.

Before his role as Commissioner, he served as Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Regulatory Division at the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, having served four consecutive administrations over the course of seventeen years, where he was responsible for energy and public utility matters at both the State and Federal level. Before the Attorney General's Office, he was engaged in the private practice of law. He was a Law Clerk to Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Donald F. Shea, after graduating from Suffolk University School of Law. He received a Chemistry degree from the College of the Holy Cross.

Mr. Roberti was admitted as a member to the Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Florida, U.S. District Court and U.S. Court of Appeals (1<sup>st</sup> and D.C. Circuits). He resides in Rhode Island with his wife and three children.



**Cheryl Roberto**  
**Senior Principal, Synapse Energy Economics**

Cheryl Roberto provides expert consulting services for removing operational, regulatory, and policy barriers to the decarbonization of the energy system on behalf of mission-driven investors, regulators, and other stakeholders seeking to accelerate the transformation of the grid. Through decades of experience including as a consumer and environmental advocate, regulator, utilities executive, and as an attorney, Cheryl Roberto is skilled in unifying consumer, public interest, environmental, and private investment priorities to map constructive future paths.

Before joining Synapse in 2019, Ms. Roberto was Managing Director of Utility Transformation at Twenty First Century Utilities LLC, an investment firm dedicated to driving the adoption of clean, economical energy technologies through the acquisition and operation of utility companies. Prior to 2015, Ms. Roberto was Associate Vice President of the Environmental Defense Fund's Clean Energy Program, where she led a nation-wide program advocating for regulatory reform, with the goal of accelerating the adoption of renewable energy technologies, modernizing U.S. energy infrastructure, and eliminating financial and regulatory barriers preventing widespread implementation of renewables, energy efficiency, and innovative energy generation and distribution approaches. From 2008 until 2012, Ms. Roberto was Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Previous roles include Director of the Department of Public Utilities for the City of Columbus and Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio. In 2013, Ms. Roberto was recognized by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance with the "Inspiring Efficiency Leadership Award" for her tireless efforts as a leader in energy efficiency and sustainable and equitable policies. She has served on a diversity of boards and commissions focused on energy efficiency, regulation, environmental conservation, regional planning, and research. She has testified before the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources regarding grid reliability and modernization, and before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Ms. Roberto holds a B.A. in Political Science from Kent State University, and a J.D. from the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University.



**Jackie Roberts**  
**Director, West Virginia Consumer Advocate Division**

Jackie Roberts is the West Virginia Consumer Advocate. She was President and founder of the Consumer Advocates of PJM, Inc. (2014 – 2015), Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee member (since 2014) of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, and a member of the PJM Interconnection LLC Nomination Committee (2011-2014). In 2014 she was elected to the North American Reliability Corporation (NERC) Members Committee. Most recently, Jackie was appointed to the Commodities Futures Trading Commission Energy & Environmental Markets Advisory Committee.

Previously she was an attorney with the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, and corporate counsel to both electric and natural gas utilities (Green Mountain Power in Vermont and EnergyNorth in New Hampshire, predecessor to National Grid). While at EnergyNorth Jackie was Corporate Secretary of three subsidiary natural gas utilities. She was the executive director of the Public Utilities Policy Institute where she served as the consultant to the NH legislature when it passed the first-in-the-nation electric deregulation statute.

Jackie has argued appeals before the Supreme Courts of two states (including the leading natural gas deregulation "take or pay" case in New Hampshire), the Ninth Circuit Court of appeals, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and the State Supreme Courts of West Virginia, Ohio, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Nevada.



**Daniel Roesler**  
**Co-Founder, CTO of UtilityAPI**

Daniel Roesler is the co-founder and CTO of UtilityAPI, a utility data service that automates interactions with utilities. UtilityAPI is an early adopter of the U.S. Department of Energy DataGuard Voluntary Code of Conduct, which outlines best practices for handling private energy data. Daniel is also Vice-Chair on the board of the Green Button Alliance, which manages the international standard around personal utility data access, and is a technical contributor to the Customer Data Access Committee at the California Public Utilities Commission, which comes up with the next

generation of regulations around utility data access in California. In his spare time, Daniel maintains several open source privacy and security projects.



**Gabriela Sandoval**  
**Director of Strategic Initiatives for TURN – The Utility Reform Network**

Gabriela leads a statewide project to end utility shutoffs. Gabriela works with community-based organizations throughout California—with a focus on communities struggling to make ends meet and communities of color—to develop a better understanding of where and why utility shutoffs occur, how shutoffs impact the health and housing of families and communities, and how to stop them.

Before joining TURN, Gabriela was Research Director at the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, a national "think-and-do tank" in Oakland, where the focus of her work was the *Closing the Racial Wealth Gap Initiative*. Previously, Gabriela was a faculty member of the Department of Sociology at UC Santa Cruz a job she left in order to coordinate the academic program for the first professional midwifery school in Mexico. She holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a Masters in Regional Planning from Cornell University.



**Kelly Speakes-Backman**  
**Chief Executive Officer, Energy Storage Association**

Kelly Speakes-Backman is CEO of the Energy Storage Association. She is a former Commissioner of the Maryland Public Service Commission, who has spent more than 20 years working on energy and environmental issues in the public, NGO and private sectors. She serves on the Board of NEEP and the External Advisory Board of Georgia Tech's Strategic Energy Institute.



**Paul Suskie**  
**Executive Vice-President Regulatory Policy, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Southwest Power Pool**

Paul Suskie is the Executive Vice-President of Regulatory Policy, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary for Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP). SPP is a non-profit Arkansas corporation designated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to serve as the Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) in eleven states. As an RTO, SPP is mandated by the FERC to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale prices of electricity in eight states. As a part of these mandates, SPP oversaw wholesale energy and transmission markets with transactions totaling \$20 billion in 2018.

Prior to joining SPP, Suskie was appointed by Governor Mike Beebe, to the Arkansas Public Service Commission as Chairman and as member of the Governor's cabinet. During Suskie's tenure on the Commission, he served in several leadership roles as a state regulator and was named to Arkansas Business's Top 40 under 40 list of individuals influencing business in Arkansas.

When appointed to the Commission, Suskie was serving in his third elected term as North Little Rock's City Attorney. While City Attorney, his office received numerous state and national awards for successfully addressing crime ridden neighborhoods through the use of civil nuisance abatement laws.

Before joining the North Little Rock City Attorney's office, Suskie worked for former United States Senator David Pryor in Pryor's Washington and Little Rock offices and was law clerk for Arkansas Attorney General Winston Bryant.

Suskie is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law, and the Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. He is a retired Colonel who served over 20 years in the U.S. Army's JAG Corp. During his military career he was appointed a state military judge and is a veteran of both the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In 2005, Suskie served a tour in Afghanistan and in 2008 he served a tour in Iraq with the 39th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.



### **Cody Warner**

#### **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Electricity Markets and Policy Group**

Cody Warner is a graduate student in the Energy and Resources Group at UC Berkeley and a researcher in the Electricity Markets and Policy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Cody conducts research on renewable energy policy in the US, including retail electricity rate design and its impact on the value of renewable energy systems. Cody has directly applied his research to several utility rate design proceedings, including recent proceedings in Nevada and Arizona related to distributed energy resources. Prior to his graduate studies, Cody received a BA in Economics and in Environmental Policy from Northwestern University



### **James Williams**

#### **Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel**

Jim Williams is a Utility Consumer Policy Expert with the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel. He is responsible for advocating consumer protections on behalf of at-risk consumers through improvements in utility credit and collection rules, policies and procedures to prevent loss of services. His responsibilities also include review and analysis of bill impacts associated with various utility rate increases and proposing payment assistance programs.