NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

2026 Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana

Speaker Bios and Headshots



Paul Alvarez
President
Wired Group

Paul leads the Wired Group, a consulting practice formed to help consumer advocates evaluate for-profit utility infrastructure spending. Since 2014, Paul has submitted testimony in scores of proceedings before utility regulators in 21 states. With his infrastructure vantage point, he has become an expert in the pros and cons of all alternative ratemaking methods, and teaches a class on this topic at the Institute for Public Utilities at Michigan State University. Papers Paul has authored or co-authored have been published in *The Electricity Journal* and *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, and he is the author of *Smart Grid Hype & Reality,* a book published in 2014 and updated in 2018. 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. He is currently working on his second book, tentatively titled "For-profit utility regulation: How the US lost its way."



Michael S. Angelo, PhD
Executive Director
Hawaii Division of Consumer Advocacy

Michael has been the Executive Director of the Hawaii Division of Consumer Advocacy (DCA) since July of 2023 where he advocates for the provision of safe and reliable utility services delivered affordably, equitably, and aligned with the State's energy and climate goals. He started in his current role shortly before the tragic wildfires that struck Maui Island and has been steadfastly advocating since that time for greater resilience for all utilities to a range of hazards such as high winds, flooding, and wildfire. His work with the division oversees customer issues across all customer classes and a range of sectors including electricity, water transportation (freight and passenger), gas, water and wastewater, and telecom. Prior to his current role, Michael worked in various energy-related areas that included as faculty with University of Hawaii's Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, as a Research Engineer with Hawaiian Electric, and an analyst with the DCA.



Christy M. Appleby
Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate
Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate

Ms. Appleby joined the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) in 2000. During her time with the OCA, Ms. Appleby has worked on cases involving electric, natural gas, water/wastewater, and telecommunications utilities before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. Ms. Appleby has also participated in related appeals. In recent years, Ms. Appleby has focused on low-income customer issues; consumer issues, including water and electric high bill complaints and reliability issues; and consumer requests for water main extensions. As a part of this work, Ms. Appleby supervises the OCA's Call Center. On behalf of the office, Ms. Appleby also participates in the individual electric and natural gas Universal Services Advisory Committees. Ms. Appleby was also recently named co-chair of the NASUCA Consumer Protection Committee and participates as a member of the NASUCA Gas Committee. Prior to joining the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, Ms. Appleby interned for two years at MidPenn Legal Services. Ms. Appleby received a B.A. in History and English from Boston College and a J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law at the Pennsylvania State University.



Rhiana Ash
Telecom Policy Advisor
Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel

Rhiana Ash is the Telecom Policy Advisor at the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) and a career-long advocate for the consumer interest in matters before state and federal regulatory agencies. A New Englander through and through, Rhiana has sixteen years of public service experience spanning across the Connecticut and Massachusetts border. Prior to joining OCC, Rhiana focused on regulatory compliance as the Senior Telecommunications Specialist with the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable.

Rhiana is a subject matter expert in the telecommunications and cable industries and delivers expert testimony on telecommunications network reliability and service quality reporting. She draws upon her regulatory background to support consumer protection and education goals. Rhiana has also done substantial work related to universal service policies involving access, affordability, availability and adoption.

Rhiana is a former member of the Board of Directors of Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi), a non-profit community access television provider in Arlington, Massachusetts. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Affairs from Northeastern University and a Master of Public Administration from Suffolk University, where she was a Commonwealth Fellow.



Logan Atkinson Burke
Executive Director
Alliance for Affordable Energy

Since joining The Alliance in 2013, Ms. Burke has participated in dozens of regulatory proceedings at the Louisiana Public Service Commission, the New Orleans City Council, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency. She has also led several collaborative efforts with allied organizations advocating for climate justice, affordable housing, public health, and good governance, ultimately contributing to reports on health impacts of energy, the creation of a sustainable housing policy for New Orleans, and a more holistic consideration of resource planning, including the impacts of climate change. She also participated in the Louisiana Climate Initiatives Task Force on the Power Sector Working Group.

Before joining The Alliance, Ms. Burke was a founder and development director for the Committed To Equality Initiative in California. Logan's interest in conservation, sustainability, and affordable energy stems from a passion for equal access to vital resources. Before settling into public policy and energy work, Logan worked for a dozen years in the arts in New York and Los Angeles. Logan is a board member for the Clean Energy Group and is a member of the governance assembly for Collectrify, an Equitable Building Electrification Fund.



Richard W. Caperton
Vice President for Public Policy
SPAN.

Richard leads the company's regulatory and policy functions, where his job is making sure that energy markets work well for the company's products. Prior to this, Richard built an industry-leading market development team at Arcadia and led national policy development and ran the regulatory team covering the eastern United States for Opower, which was acquired by Oracle. Earlier in his career, he did research and advocacy on energy finance policy at the Center for American Progress and political organizing at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Richard received his MBA from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University and his BA from Pomona College in Claremont, California. He and his wife live in Washington, DC.



Kayla Cherry
Senior Associate
Synapse Energy Economics

Kayla Cherry conducts research and analysis supporting regulatory engagement with rate design and grid modernization topics. Her recent work includes evaluating statistical methods for analyzing time-varying rates and their load reduction impacts, disseminating best practices on transmission cost allocation for large loads, and identifying potential cost shifting risks in utility integrated resource plans (IRPs).

Prior to joining Synapse, Ms. Cherry worked at Deloitte Consulting, where she supported the strategic formation of decarbonization roadmaps for large clients across building and automotive industries. She has written reports for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and conducted economic and

environmental impact analysis for a portfolio of hyperscaler data centers. Ms. Cherry subsequently led research on demand flexibility and virtual power plants for Rewiring America during her time as a graduate student at the Yale School of the Environment. Her previous projects and consulting engagements have spanned across geographies in the U.S. and globally.



Nicholas Crowley, CFA
Vice President
Christensen Associates Energy Consulting

Mr. Crowley is a Vice President with Christensen Associates Energy Consulting. He has filed testimony and reports that design and review utility incentive regulation frameworks across North America. He has prepared memoranda, presented to utility executive teams, participated in technical conferences, and organized conference workshops on alternative regulatory regimes currently in place in both Canada and the US. Recently, Mr. Crowley testified on PBR issues on behalf of EPCOR Utilities in Alberta, as well as Unitil Corporation (gas & electric), National Grid (gas), National Grid (electric), and Eversource (electric) in Massachusetts. He has calculated TFP measures for the electricity and gas sectors and developed indexes for use in performance-based ratemaking. He has also performed cost benchmarking analysis and assessed earnings sharing mechanisms for use in PBR frameworks. He assists electric utilities in measuring cost of capital studies for rate cases. He has also measured price responses by customers participating in leading demand response programs. Prior to joining CA Energy Consulting, Mr. Crowley served as an economist at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, where he assisted with energy industry benchmarking, the incentive regulation of oil pipelines, and the review and evaluation of natural gas pipeline rate cases in the Division of Pipeline Regulation. He is a CFA charterholder. His work has been published in the Electricity Journal and the journal Utilities Policy.



Jeff Dennis
Executive Director
Electricity Customer Alliance

The Electricity Customer Alliance is a coalition of electricity customers ranging from the largest to new loads to residential consumer advocates that is dedicated to advancing customer-centric solutions to modernize the grid, support digital infrastructure and manufacturing, and grow the economy while keeping energy affordable. He is also Senior Counsel CO2EFFICIENT. There, he guides companies and not-for-profit organizations through the intersection of federal and state regulation of the electricity sector and the complexities of wholesale electricity market rules and governance processes, and develops strategies to accelerate the planning, permitting, and development of electric transmission infrastructure. Jeff was most recently the first Deputy Director for Transmission in the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office, where he spearheaded all of DOE's transmission deployment initiatives and led the implementation of bipartisan, first-of-their kind, public-private partnerships that facilitated over $8 billion in private sector transmission investment. Earlier in his career, Jeff served at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in a variety of roles for over a decade, including Director of Policy Development and Senior Legal Advisor to a Commissioner. He was also General Counsel and Managing Director at Advanced Energy United, and a lawyer in private practice.



Sydney Forrester
Policy Researcher
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Sydney broadly focuses her research and technical assistance efforts on energy affordability, distributed energy resources, distribution system interconnection, and retail rates. More specifically, her work includes studying both the quantitative and policy-driven aspects of distributed energy resources and their impacts on the grid and ratepayers. Sydney holds a B.A. in Mathematics and a B.S. in Earth and Environmental Engineering from Columbia University. She also holds an M.S. in Sustainable Energy Systems and an M.S.E. in Mechanical Engineering from University of Michigan.



Jessica Freedman
Managing Attorney
Energy & Ratepayer Advocacy Division
Massachusetts Attorney General's Office

Jessica is a Managing Attorney with the Energy & Ratepayer Advocacy Division at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. Her work focuses on issues relating to energy affordability, public participation, and rate design. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office in 2020, she practiced in Hawaii, working at the Public Utilities Commission, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the Intermediate Court of Appeals.



Tom Hassenboehler
Partner
Coefficient Group

Tom Hassenboehler has a career history of being at the center of many of the major energy and environmental laws and debates of the last decade. He most recently served as the Chief Counsel for Energy and Environment at the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce under Chairman Greg Walden (R-Oregon). Tom brings to the Coefficient team over fifteen years of experience executing successful legislative, business, and communications strategies in senior House, Senate and private sector positions. Tom is the founder and Executive Director of the Energy Consumer-Market Alignment Project (EC-MAP).

During his time in the House, he led and managed the issues and staff under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittees on Energy and Environment. He successfully oversaw bipartisan Committee passage of reauthorizations of several energy and environmental laws, and the launching of the Powering America hearing series, a comprehensive review of emerging issues affecting the nation's electricity markets.

He previously served as Chief Counsel for Energy under Chairman Fred Upton (R-Michigan) where he helped to shepherd through enactment of several legislative initiatives, including oil export reform and critical electric infrastructure protections in the FAST Act. He also often represented the Committee in international bilateral and multi-lateral meetings and Conferences, including multiple delegations related to energy trade, exports and international climate policy.

Before his roles in the U.S. House, he worked in the private sector as the Vice President of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs for America's Natural Gas Alliance, a trade association representing 30 of the nation's largest independent oil and gas producers. While at ANGA, he helped to lead a multi-million-dollar coalition of member company operatives and consultants to advance the market development and use of natural gas as a transportation fuel, while also providing broader natural gas related policy and lobbying efforts on behalf of the member companies.

Tom's earlier experience was in the Senate as Counsel for the Committee on Environment and Public Works under Ranking Member Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma). He focused on Clean Air Act, climate and fuels-related issues while conducting bipartisan oversight and overseeing the confirmation process of several Obama appointees to the EPA. He began his career working on various issues that led to the formation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 for the Energy and Commerce Committee under former Chairman Billy Tauzin (R-Louisiana) and Joe Barton (R-Texas).

A native of New Orleans, Tom received both his undergraduate and juris doctorate degrees from Louisiana State University. Tom's proven ability to lead through effective coalition building, bipartisan negotiating, and creative thinking on a range of complex and diverse issues broadly affecting energy and environmental policy helps to provide the Coefficient Group's clients with meaningful and measurable



Mike Haugh
Director
Advanced Energy United

Mike Haugh leads Advanced Energy United's policy and regulatory work before the FERC, with a focus on wholesale power markets and electric transmission. With over 30 years of energy industry experience, Mike has advocated on behalf of a wide range of stakeholders across both regulated and competitive markets.

A recognized industry expert, he has provided expert testimony before state utility commissions and legislative bodies across 14 states, consistently advocating for market designs that deliver tangible consumer benefits. Prior to joining United, Mike worked for the Ohio Consumers' Counsel for over 15 years, ran an independent energy consultancy, and was a Senior Fellow with the R Street Institute.



Ben Havumaki
Principle Associate
Synapse Energy Economics

Ben Havumaki consults on topics such as rate design, performance-based regulation (PBR), grid modernization, benefit-cost analysis, and macroeconomic modeling. Much of Mr. Havumaki's recent work has focused on regulatory approaches to managing risk and optimizing benefits from utility grid modernization investment programs. Examples include developing best practices for benefit-cost analysis of grid modernization investments in Minnesota and designing utility performance incentives to guard against excessive spending on reliability and grid modernization initiatives in Illinois. He has also worked on rate design issues related to fixed customer charges in New

Hampshire and Nova Scotia, as well improvements to legacy utility class structure and rate designs in Prince Edward Island.

Mr. Havumaki has also previously worked on rate design in Missouri, Georgia, Colorado, and California. In addition, Mr. Havumaki provides expert witness services. He has provided testimony in proceedings in Illinois, New Hampshire, Hawaii, and Georgia. He has assisted in drafting comments in several other jurisdictions, including Nevada, Mississippi, the District of Columbia, and New York.

Mr. Havumaki holds an MA in Applied Economics from the University of Massachusetts, where he received the Arthur MacEwan Award for Excellence in Political Economy, and a BA from McGill University. His graduate thesis research, reflected in a 2019 article in *Energy Policy,* focused on hybrid energy system design in Mauritius and entailed investigating economic and technical prospects for storage hydropower under a full-decarbonization constraint. Mr. Havumaki also co-authored a benefit-cost analysis primer for the World Bank entitled "World Bank Water Management, Sanitation, and Conservation Projects in Developing Countries: A Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis."



Hooman Hedayati
Telecommunications Policy Lead
Communications Workers of America (CWA)

CWA is the largest union of telecommunications industry workers in the United States. Hooman supports CWA locals on federal and state telecommunications policy matters, including proceedings before the Federal Communications Commission and state public utility commissions. CWA also represents workers in news media, broadcast and cable television, the airline industry, public service, manufacturing, and other fields.



Olivia Hemby
Critical Infrastructure Planner
Critical Infrastructure Security & Risk Management Division, PUCT

Olivia Hemby has served as the Critical Infrastructure Planner for the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) since January 2024. Her position supports state and federal planning for energy emergencies in Texas, the State Energy Security Plan and Blackstart initiatives, and other homeland security, all-hazards, and continuity planning for the PUCT. Olivia is a certified Master Continuity Practitioner and 449-certified instructor through FEMA. She supports PUCT's training and exercise program, as well as helps represent the PUCT in the State Operations Center during activations. Prior to joining the PUCT, she worked as the Regional Homeland Security planner for the Capitol Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) for 2.5 years and for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) for 5 years as the Emergency and Continuity Planner. She has responded in support of floods, fires, severe weather incidents, Hurricanes Harvey and Beryl, and Winter Storm Uri.



Scott Hempling
Attorney At Law

Scott Hempling has assisted clients from all sectors of the electric industry, including regulators, utilities, consumer organizations, independent competitors, environmental organizations, and labor unions. As an expert witness, he has testified numerous times before state commissions; also before committees of the United States Congress and the legislatures of Arkansas, California, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia. As a teacher and seminar presenter, he has taught public utility law and policy to a generation of regulators and practitioners, appearing throughout the United States and in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Central America, England, Germany, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, and Vanuatu.

Hempling's legal treatise, *Regulating Public Utility Performance: The Law of Market Structure, Pricing and Jurisdiction* (Amer. Bar Assn. 2d ed. 2021), has been described as a "comprehensive regulatory treatise [that] warrants comparison with Kahn and Phillips." It is used in law school and public policy courses at Stanford, University of California–Berkeley, Vermont Law School, Georgetown, George Washington and Washburn Law, among other graduate schools. His book *Regulating Mergers and Acquisitions of U.S. Electric Utilities: Industry Concentration and Corporate Complication* (Edward Elgar Publishing 2020) was described by an *Energy Law Journal* reviewer as "powerful and persuasive . . . a terrific book." His book of essays, *Preside or Lead? The Attributes and Actions of Effective Regulators*, has been described as "matchless" and "timeless"; a Spanish translation has circulated throughout Latin America through the auspices of the Asociación Iberoamericana de Entidades Reguladoras de la Energía (an association of telecommunications regulators from Europe and Latin America) and the World Energy Forum.

His articles have appeared in the *Energy Law Journal*, the *Electricity Journal, Energy Regulation Quarterly, Public Utilities Fortnightly, ElectricityPolicy.com*, publications of the American Bar Association, and other professional publications. These articles cover such topics as mergers and acquisitions, the introduction of competition into formerly monopolistic markets, corporate restructuring, ratemaking, utility investments in nonutility businesses, transmission planning, renewable energy and state–federal jurisdictional issues. From 2006 to 2011, he was Executive Director of the National Regulatory Research Institute. From 2021 to 2024, he was an Administrative Law Judge at the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Hempling is an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches a Fall course on public utility law and a Spring course on justice in the regulation of infrastructural industries. At Georgetown Law he has also taught regulatory litigation. He received a B.A. *cum laude* in (1) Economics and Political Science and (2) Music from Yale University, where he was awarded a Continental Grain Fellowship and a Patterson research grant. He received a J.D. *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was the recipient of an *American Jurisprudence* award for Constitutional Law. He is a member of the District of Columbia and Maryland Bars. A cellist, Hempling performs at the Jewish High Holy Day services held at the Riderwood Retirement Community.



Dr. Courtney Henderson
Clean Energy Strategist & Founder
Hawks Peak Strategies

Dr. Courtney Henderson is an energy, climate, and health strategist with 20 years of experience in those sectors. Her work has taken her throughout the United States and as far afield as Western Africa and Northern India. She has extensive experience helping utility companies achieve their energy goals to move toward a cleaner, more equitable energy future, and in public health, supporting organizations in the development of health research infrastructure and improving the provision of healthcare. Courtney is the Founder and President of Hawks Peak Strategies, a strategy and consulting firm that provides market strategy, branding and go-to-market services, customer-centric research, policy and regulatory solutioning, and thought leadership in the utility and clean energy sectors. Most recently, she has been supporting the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office to elevate the voice of the customer in regulatory proceedings.

Courtney brings a unique lens to the energy landscape, in that she is also an elected official. In 2020, she was elected to the Truckee Town Council, immediately nominated to Vice Mayor, and subsequently, to Mayor. She is re-running for election this year, and serves on multiple committees, including the Legislative Correspondence Committee, League of California Cities, Truckee Chamber of Commerce, Nevada County Economic Resources Council, Sierra Business Council's Climate Action and Mitigation Partnership, and boards of local non-profits working on climate solutions.

She holds a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University, Master of Public Health from Brown University, and Doctorate in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley. Courtney lives in Truckee, California where she is also a pro-level mountain bike racer, all-around adventure seeker, and mom to a thrill-seeking seven-year-old boy.



The Honorable Catherine (Katie) Jereza
Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity

The Honorable Catherine Jereza was sworn in as Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity (OE) on October 14, 2025. She leads the Department's research, development and demonstration programs to strengthen and modernize our nation's power grid.

Assistant Secretary Jereza returned to OE in 2025 after serving as OE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transmission Permitting and Technical Assistance from 2017-2019. During that time, she led Department efforts to promote the reliability, security and affordability of electricity infrastructure. In between her positions at OE, she served as a Corporate Vice President for the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), providing strategic leadership for government and external engagement.

Assistant Secretary Jereza has more than 30 years of experience in the energy, water, and manufacturing industries, where she led multiple startups, turnaround and major problem-solving initiatives. Specifically, she was the Director for Infrastructure Resilience at the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), Program Director at Energetics Incorporated, and Environmental Specialist at the Maryland

Department of the Environment's Water Supply Program. She also worked as a sales engineer for GE Water and Process Technologies and the Lincoln Electric Company.
Assistant Secretary Jereza grew up in West Virginia and currently lives in Maryland with her husband. She holds an MBA from the Loyola University Maryland and a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



Clark Kaml
Financial Analyst
Consumer Advocate Division
Office of the Tennessee Attorney General.

Clark Kaml has more than 30 years of experience in public utility regulation, with extensive work across the electric, natural gas, water, wastewater, and telecommunications industries.

Mr. Kaml specializes in the application of economic and financial principles to utility regulation, including revenue requirement analysis, cost of capital, cost-of-service studies, rate design, utility mergers and acquisitions, power purchase agreements, and affiliated-interest transactions. His experience also includes utility restructuring, market design, and corporate governance issues affecting regulated entities.

He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Economics with a concentration in Finance. Mr. Kaml is an active participant in national regulatory and consumer advocacy organizations. He serves as Co-Chair of the Gas Committee for the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), is a member of the Consumer Advocates of the PJM States (CAPS), represents consumer advocates on the GTI Energy Public Interest Advisory Committee, and previously served as Co-Chair of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Strategic Issues.

Mr. Kaml is also the author of Don't Fear the Cost Study, a book written to make utility regulation and cost-of-service concepts accessible to readers without a technical or regulatory background.



Davante Lewis
Commissioner
Louisiana Public Service Commission

Davante Lewis, born and raised in Lake Charles, LA, is a social justice activist who has dedicated his life to building people power throughout civic participation. Davante's history of civic engagement dates back to his youth. As a high school student, he served as one of the first members of the Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council, including as Vice-Chair. He also served as President Barack Obama's 2008 campaign Louisiana High School Coordinator. Davante's belief that the younger generation needed to have a seat at the table to build a better future led him to run for Calcasieu Parish School Board at 18-years-old. While Davante's campaign fell short, that run for office ignited a lifelong passion for serving his community that continues to grow today. Davante was elected as one of the youngest members of the Louisiana Democratic Party State Central Committee and was a delegate to the Democratic Party National Convention in 2012, 2016, and 2020.

Davante graduated from McNeese State University with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Communications. While at McNeese, Davante served as a two-term Student Body President, chair of the

Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents and a member of the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors. After graduation, Davante continued to be a champion for young people as a public school teacher who led programs to enhance positive behavior systems and promote positive relationships between teachers and students.

Taking his advocacy beyond the classroom, Davante joined the Louisiana Budget Project as Director of Public Affairs and Outreach, where he focuses on higher education policy, consumer protection policies, monitoring legislative developments and working with advocacy groups and coalition partners to forge a common agenda and action plan for advancing policies that benefit Louisianans with low and moderate incomes. At LBP, Davante has become a leading voice in Louisiana for economic and racial justice, consumer protections, equity in education, and financial aid & student loans reforms for students. Davante's policy advocacy has been recognized at the national level. Davante served as the Co-Chair of the Outreach and Campaigns Advisory committee for the State Priorities Partnership - a network of state advocacy organizations advancing policies that benefit people with low-income - and was elected the Chair of the SPP's Steering Committee. He is a sought-after speaker and consultant on policy advocacy and community engagement.

Davante has been a volunteer and youth tutor at the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition, a LYFE Line Teen Summit speaker and facilitator, and a Dialogue of Race facilitator. He is currently a board member of the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault, New Leaders Council of Louisiana, LIFT Louisiana and the Friends of the Capitol Park Museum.

Davante was elected in 2022 to serve as Public Service Commissioner for Louisiana's Third District, representing constituents from 10 Louisiana parishes, including the Baton Rouge and New Orleans greater metropolitan areas. He resides in Baton Rouge with his beloved dog Sera Harper. Assumed Commissionership January 1, 2023; current term ends December 31, 2028.



Odogwu Obi Linton
Commissioner
Maryland Public Service Commission

Odogwu Obi Linton was appointed to the Maryland Public Service Commission in 2017, reappointed in 2022, and again in 2025 by Governor Wes Moore. He brings over two decades of leadership experience in energy policy, utility regulation, consumer protection, and regulatory law, with a strong focus on ensuring reliable, affordable, and equitable utility service for Maryland residents.

Commissioner Linton has served in multiple capacities at the Commission, including Director of the Consumer Affairs Division, where he led the development of comprehensive consumer protection regulations for Maryland's competitive energy markets and managed the state's Supplier Diversity Program to expand participation in utility supply chains. He previously served as Deputy Staff Counsel for the Commission, handling complex regulatory matters involving rate design, market oversight, and service quality standards.

Commissioner Linton was appointed by Governor Moore as the Commission's representative on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission (WMATC). Nationally, Commissioner Linton has held leadership roles with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), including Chair of the Consumers and the Public Interest Committee, member of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force, and founding Chair of the Supplier and Workforce Diversity Staff Subcommittee. Throughout his career, he has moderated or participated in more than one hundred national and regional panel

discussions, addressing a broad range of topics including ratepayer protections, energy affordability, climate policy, and small business market access.

Prior to his public service roles, Commissioner Linton practiced regulatory and energy law representing consumers, small businesses, and competitive suppliers. Earlier in his career, he served as regulatory counsel for Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Evelyn Omega Cannon of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

Commissioner Linton holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, where he served as Founding Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Health Care Law and Policy. He earned dual bachelor's degrees in Administration of Justice and Africana Studies from Rutgers University. Commissioner Linton resides with his family in Catonsville, Maryland.



Katrina McMurrian
Executive Director
Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF)

A former Florida Public Service Commissioner (2006–2009), Katrina McMurrian draws upon extensive regulatory experience to organize and facilitate relevant policy forums and to advise an array of entities on key regulatory and policy issues in the energy arena.

McMurrian currently serves as the Executive Director of the Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF), a unique national forum in which state utility regulators, consumer advocates, and electric companies—via a series of facilitated, interactive dialogues—engage in productive debate and often develop consensus on key issues of importance to consumers and policymakers. CCIF has produced reports on a range of energy topics including resource adequacy, demand growth, risk management, rate design, the clean energy transition, smart communities, electric transportation, resilience, and supporting electricity customers through times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 global pandemic.

McMurrian also serves as the Executive Director of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, an ad hoc organization representing the collective interests of member state utility regulators, state consumer advocates, other state officials, tribal governments, local governments, electric companies, and other experts on nuclear waste policy matters.

McMurrian serves on the American Nuclear Society (ANS) Nuclear Waste Policy Task Force and ExchangeMonitor's Radwaste Summit Advisory Committee. She also is a member of ANS, the Institute for Nuclear Materials Management, and U.S. Women in Nuclear.

A Northwest Florida native currently residing near Nashville, Tenn., McMurrian received a Bachelor's degree in finance and an MBA from Florida State University.



Michael Moody
Division Chief, Special Litigation Division,
Michigan Department of the Attorney General

Michael was appointed an assistant attorney general with the Michigan Department of Attorney General in October of 1995. Prior to accepting the appointment, he worked at the Michigan Court of Appeals. At the Attorney General's Office, Michael handled criminal prosecution and employment discrimination for a few years before joining the Special Litigation Division which handles the utility consumer advocacy for the state as well as special assignments by the Attorney General such as his appointment by then Governor Synder as the State Public Administrator for eight years that he held concurrently with his position in the Special Litigation Division. He has litigated utility cases at the Attorney General's Office for over 20+ years and has been the Division Chief for over 6 years.



Sean Murphy
Energy Policy Researcher
Energy Markets and Planning Department
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Sean conducts research and provides technical assistance to states and utilities. Sean's work includes regulatory and techno-economic analysis and covers topics that include demand flexibility, load growth, rate design, energy affordability, and distribution system planning. Sean holds a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Public Policy from U.C. Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy.



Shamus O'Brien
Director, Voice of the Customer & Customer Experience Strategy
Eversource

Shamus O'Brien is the director of the Voice of the Customer and Customer Experience Strategy Organization at Eversource. Eversource is New England's largest energy delivery company with more than 4 million electric and natural gas customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Shamus has been a part of the Eversource team for over thirty years. Throughout his career with the company, he has led a diverse range of projects to enhance the customer experience in areas related to Voice of the Customer research, email communications, analytics, customer satisfaction and best-practice research, survey design, business strategy, utility benchmarking and root-cause analysis.

In 2020, his team won CS Week's Best Data Analytics Project Award for their Voice of the Customer analytics and research. He has a Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Leadership Essentials from Southern New Hampshire University. Shamus has also obtained a Business Analyst Certification from the Boston University Corporate Education Center, Six Sigma Green Belt Certification from the Institute of Technology & Business at Central Connecticut State University and is a member of the Customer Experience Professionals Association.



David Porter
Vice President, AI Power & Data Center Innovation
EPRI

David Porter is EPRI's Vice President, AI Power & Data Center Innovation providing executive oversight and leadership to the teams responsible for EPRI's research, development, and demonstration dedicated to meeting load growth challenges associated with the digitization of greater sectors of the economy. Previously, he was VP Electrification & Sustainable Energy Strategy focused on electrification and customer solutions, sustainability, and environmental health and safety. EPRI's work in these areas is key to a decarbonized economy-wide energy future including emphasis on affordability and community engagement as part of the development and deployment of technology.

With more than 30 years of energy industry and executive leadership experience, Porter has worked across a variety of utility operations including power marketing, transmission, distribution, energy efficiency, customer programs and sustainability. Prior to his current role at EPRI, Porter held a variety of executive and management positions in the energy field at Florida Power Corporation and Duke Power, as well as in telecommunications and management consulting.

Porter holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University and is a Licensed Professional Engineer.



Carina Rosenbach
Manager, Electricity Program
RMI

Carina is a manager with RMI's Electricity Program, where she works with consumer advocates, public interest intervenors, and other regulatory stakeholders to advance an affordable energy transition. Her work focuses on helping advocates evaluate utility investments and policies, understand their implications for customer rates and affordability, and advance effective regulatory strategies. She leads RMI's Ratepayer Lab and related technical assistance, analytical resources, and peer learning for consumer advocates. Prior to joining RMI, Carina worked across energy and climate policy, public affairs, and political communications.



Heather Sanborn
Maine Public Advocate

Heather Sanborn has served as Maine Public Advocate since she was appointed by Governor Mills in January 2025. Sanborn is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and the Advisory Committee for the Critical Consumer Issues Forum.

From 2016 to 2022, Sanborn represented parts of Falmouth, Portland, and Westbrook as a member of the Maine House of Representatives and the Maine State Senate. During her service, Sanborn successfully championed legislation to reduce energy costs for Maine people and small businesses and to help the state reach its energy efficiency goals.

Prior to joining the OPA, Sanborn spent 14 years as Director of Business Operations at Rising Tide Brewing, a craft brewery she co-founded with her husband Nathan.

Earlier in her career, Sanborn practiced law at Brann & Isaacson in Lewiston and Ropes & Gray in Boston, served as a Law Clerk to U.S. First Circuit Court Appeals Judge Kermit V. Lipez, and taught at Cape Elizabeth High School.

Sanborn holds a law degree from the University of Maine School of Law and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern Maine. She graduated summa cum laude from Middlebury College, where she was salutatorian.



Tyson Slocum
Director
Public Citizen's Energy Program

Tyson covers the regulation of petroleum, natural gas and power markets. Tyson promotes an equitable energy transition that provides distributed renewable energy generation and sustainable transportation solutions for working families. Tyson serves on the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission's Energy & Environmental Markets Advisory Committee and frequently intervenes before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission representing the interests of household consumers. Tyson presents his research in congressional testimony and appears regularly in the media. Tyson is a member of the faculty at the University of Maryland Honors College, where he teaches energy and climate policy. Prior to joining Public Citizen in 2000, Tyson served as an analyst with the Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy. Tyson is an expert in issues dealing with regulation and deregulation of energy markets, the impact of mergers and lax regulations over electricity, petroleum and natural gas and federal energy legislation.

Tyson has appeared on CNN, CNBC, MSNBC, Fox News and Comedy Central's "Colbert Report," and has been quoted in publications such as *Forbes, CNNMoney.com, The Hill, The New York Times, The San Francisco Chronicle,* The Associated Press *and Los Angeles Times.*



Josh Srago, CBP – Cross-Industry Policy & Spatial Analysis
Public Advocates Office
California Public Utilities Commission

Josh Srago, JD | CIPP/US, is an award-winning technology professional and lawyer currently working at the California Public Utility Commission's Public Advocates Office. His decades of designing communications and smart building systems help inform his policy recommendation and ground them in how technology works. Srago is known for his writing and speaking on tech policy issues including wireless regulation, network neutrality, privacy, and cyber security. He left his engineering career in order to serve as the bridge between technologists and regulators and help them better understand each other. As part of the Public Advocates Office, he has spearheaded wireless service quality regulation and led research on subjects such as Carrier of Last Resort, wireline service quality rules, mergers, and digital discrimination.



Karen H. Stachowski
Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Advocate Division
Office of Tennessee Attorney General

Karen is the Deputy Attorney General with the Tennessee Office of the Attorney General, Division of Consumer Protection and Advocate. In this role, she focuses on proceedings before the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (TPUC), which is responsible for regulating Tennessee's investor-owned utility companies. The Consumer Advocate seeks to enforce laws applicable to public utilities, to remove barriers to competition in public utilities markets, and to seek a healthy balance between regulation, competition, and the public interest. It participates in regulatory proceedings before the Tennessee Public Utility Commission and monitors complaints filed against various utilities in the state.

Karen began her legal career with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation where she held various titles and job responsibilities including Deputy Commissioner of Environment, Assistant Commissioner, Managing Legal Counsel and Deputy General Counsel. She also previously worked in the Attorney General's Office in the Law Enforcement and Prosecution Division.

Karen is a graduate of Mississippi University for Women, where she majored in Biology. She attended law school at the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis.

Karen is currently the Chair to the Water Committee of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA). She is a member of the Advisory Board for the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri. Karen is also a member of the Tennessee Bar Association, the American Water Works Association, and the Energy Bar Association.



Dr. Michael Sykuta
Executive Director
The Financial Research Institute
University of Misouri

Dr. Michael Sykuta is an economist and Associate Professor in the Division of Applied Social Sciences at the University of Missouri. He was appointed Executive Director of FRI effective January 1, 2021.

Dr. Sykuta's research focuses on contracting practices, firm organization, organizational governance, and the implications of regulation and government programs for firm and industry behavior. He has published articles in such peer-reviewed journals as *Journal of Law and Economics, Financial Review, Journal of Corporate Finance, Antitrust Bulletin, Managerial and Decision Economics;* and book chapters on econometrics of contracting and organizational economics research. He co-edited and published *The Elgar Companion to Transaction Cost Economics* with Peter G. Klein.

He is an affiliate scholar with the International Center for Law & Economics and is co-editor of the Social Science Research Network (SSRN)'s New Institutional Economics eJournal. He is Co-founder and Director of the Contracting and Organizations Research Institute (CORI), an interdisciplinary research program at the University of Missouri focused on the economics and law of contracting, organization, and corporate governance.

He earned a PhD in economics from Washington University in St. Louis and a BS in economics from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Prior to joining the faculty at Missouri in 1998, he was on faculty at the University of Pittsburgh's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business.



Carrie Templeton
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Alliant Energy

Carrie is the Director of Regulatory Affairs for Alliant Energy's Wisconsin utility, Wisconsin Power and Light. In this role since 2023, Carrie advises senior executives on regulatory policy and strategy as well as managing the WPL Regulatory Team who is responsible for all regulatory filings and compliance activities in Wisconsin. Prior to joining Alliant, Carrie worked for the State of Wisconsin for nearly 25 years in a variety of leadership roles in the Legislature, Governor's Office, Department of Financial Institutions, Department of Revenue, and the Department of Corrections. Her last thirteen years of state service were at the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin where she started as the bureau director of Consumer Affairs and then became a bureau director in the Energy Division overseeing the work of the rates, finance, audit, and environmental teams. In her last four years at the PSC, she was the Chief of Staff to the Chairperson, acting as the agency's Chief Operating Officer and advising the Chairperson on matters before the Commission. Carrie currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Greater Madison. She previously served on the Boards of the Wisconsin Public Utility Institute, Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts, Wisconsin Low Income Energy Advisory Council, Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Fund, and Friends of McFarland Parks. She received her B.A. and M.P.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Joseph Terry
Policy Analyst,
Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Joe Terry has spent fifteen years at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, progressing from an entry-level auditor to Staff's return on equity witness, training new auditors, and now serving as a Policy Strategist directly advising the Commissioners. His experience spans utility financial analysis, rate regulation, and the policy considerations that shape regulatory decisions. He likes to say that in fifteen years at the Commission, there is very little he hasn't seen. Outside of work, Joe enjoys painting tiny figurines and attempting to identify every plant in his community.



Tim Tessier
Utility Administrator
Office of Consumer Advocate of Iowa

Tim Tessier brings extensive expertise in energy economics, public utility regulation, and financial analysis, with a focus on rate proceedings and regulatory mechanism design. Having collaborated closely with consumer advocate organizations, commissions, and utilities, Tim offers a grounded understanding of how novel regulatory models translate into real-world rate impacts. His technical focus includes evaluating performance metrics, revenue decoupling, capital tracking mechanisms, and incentive ratemaking frameworks to ensure utility incentives directly align with customer reliability, equity, and cost-effectiveness, balancing ratepayer affordability with evolving grid investments. As a moderator, Tim leverages this interdisciplinary background to bridge the legal, economic, and accounting perspectives essential to evaluating performance-based ratemaking.



Kristen van de Biezenbos
Professor of Law
California Western School of Law

Prof. van de Biezenbos teaches and writes on energy law, environmental law, and sustainability. Her research has two streams: the first is centered on community-level impacts of energy projects and issues of environmental justice, and the second is concerned with electricity law and the legal dimensions of deep decarbonization. Before joining the faculty, she was an Associate Professor at the University of Calgary Faculty of Law and Haskayne School of Business. She has also taught at the University of Oklahoma College of Law and Texas Tech University School of Law.

Her work has been published in both U.S. and Canadian law journals, including Washington University Law Review, Fordham Law Review, Tulane Law Review, Osgoode Hall Law Journal, and the McGill Journal of Sustainable Development Law, among others. While at the University of Calgary, Prof. van de Biezenbos was a regulator contributor on energy and environmental matters on CBC radio, has presented her work to both provincial and federal energy regulators, and was awarded the 2023 teaching excellence award by the Energy & Environmental Engineering Students Society. She regularly appears in print, radio, and broadcast media to discuss developments in U.S. and Canadian energy policy.

Before joining academia, Prof. van de Biezenbos had a mixed transactional and litigation practice in New Orleans, focused on offshore energy, maritime law, and international law. She received her J.D., magna cumlaude, from Tulane University Law School and interned for the honorable Judge Lance Africk at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. From 2013 to 2015, she was a Westerfield Fellow at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. She also holds a B.A. from the University of Tennessee and an M.F.A. from the University of New Orleans.



Kiera Zitelman
Senior Director, State Regulatory Engagement and Partnerships
Edison Electric Institute (EEI)

Kiera supports and manages relationships between EEI members and state regulatory commissions, state energy offices, state utility consumer advocates, and other key state-level and regional regulatory and policy organizations. Prior to joining EEI, Kiera was a Technical Director at the Center for Partnerships and Innovation at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where she managed cooperative agreements with the U.S. Department of Energy on nuclear energy, coal-fired power, natural gas distribution, and microgrids. Before joining NARUC, Kiera was an analyst with ICF, providing regulatory support, research, and economic analysis to federal rulemaking efforts. Kiera has a Master's degree in Public Policy from Georgetown University and a Bachelor's degree in environmental economics from the University of Maryland.