

14TH ANNUAL ADVANCED REGULATORY STUDIES PROGRAM

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



JANICE BEECHER (beecher@msu.edu) Dr. Beecher is the Director of the Institute of Public Utilities at Michigan State University. She brings twenty-five years of experience in public utility regulation to the IPU and is responsible for Institute development, program management, and interdisciplinary research in support of the IPU's mission of service to the regulatory policy community. Her areas of interest include regulatory theory, institutions, and policy; commission organization and strategic planning; and comparative utility industry analysis. She has particular expertise in the structure and regulation of the water industry and has been a faculty member for the NARUC Utility Rate Schools since 1997. Dr. Beecher is a frequent lecturer and the author of several research reports and other publications. Prior to joining the IPU, she was an independent policy consultant and held senior research and adjunct faculty positions at the Ohio State University and Indiana University. She also worked on staff as a policy advisor to the chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission. She has Ph. D. in Political Science from Northwestern University.



TIMOTHY BRENNAN (brennan@rff.org) Tim Brennan is a professor of public policy and economics at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) and a senior fellow with Resources for the Future (RFF) in Washington, DC. With Karen Palmer and others at RFF, he has written two books on competition and deregulation in the electricity sector, *A Shock to the System* and *Alternating Currents: Electricity Markets and Public Policy*. His other publications on electricity have examined the California 2000-01 electricity crisis, capacity markets, residential reluctance to switch suppliers, conservation policy, real-time metering, market power measurement, transmission adequacy, convergence mergers, state/federal relations, stranded costs, and difficulties in implementing competition. His research focuses on are antitrust, regulatory economics, environmental economics, and the methodology and ethics of public policy, with applications to telecommunications, broadcasting, computer software, postal services, and intellectual property as well as electricity. He has served as a staff economist with the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, a staff consultant to the Bureau of Economics of the Federal Trade Commission, and the senior regulatory policy economist on the staff of the White House Council of Economic Advisers. During 2006, he held the T. D. MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics at the Canadian Competition Bureau.



LYNDELL DURR (lyndelldurr@yahoo.com) Lyndell Durr is an independent consultant with twenty-five years of experience in Information Technology Management and Enterprise Project Management with state, local and national non-profit and governmental entities as well as private sector businesses. A primary focus of his work has been in the areas of business process analysis and repurposing enterprise technology resources to become customer facing and properly integrated with company business processes. His clients have included companies in the fields of Energy Conservation, Emergency Energy Assistance, Transportation, Head Start, Transitional Housing and Homelessness Services, State Employment Relations, Community Development and City Planning. These projects have improved operations in areas such as telecommunications, hardware and software systems, mobile and remote training delivery, customer relationship management and organizational change. Lyndell is certified as a Project Management Professional by the Project Management Institute. He is currently adapting a classroom-based project management training course by leveraging new technology to provide a flexible delivery mechanism to meet the challenges of training project managers in the unpredictable landscape of today's business environment.



THOMAS FERRIS (tj Ferris@charter.net). Mr. Ferris is currently serving as a Regulatory Utility Accounting Consultant, working with a team of advisors to the city of New Orleans Common Council. The city of New Orleans Common Council currently regulates Entergy of New Orleans. Mr. Ferris recently retired as an audit manager-consultant in the Gas and Energy Division of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). Prior to this position, Mr. Ferris was an Audit Manager in the PSCW's Telecommunications Division, an Energy Utility Audit Team Leader, and an Energy Holding Company Audit Team Leader. Tom was with the PSCW over twenty-six years. Prior to employment by the PSCW, Tom was Finance Director for the City of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and Chief of the Audit Section for the Bureau of Municipal Audit, Wisconsin Department of Revenue. Tom has a BBA degree in Accounting and a BA degree in Economics, both from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Tom is a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Wisconsin. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and is the prior Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance.



DOUGLAS GOTHAM (gotham@purdue.edu) Mr. Gotham has been the Director of the State Utility Forecasting Group at Purdue University since July 2005. He has worked for the group in various capacities since arriving at Purdue University in 1992, initially as a graduate research assistant before becoming a full-time research analyst in 1994. Working under Dr. Gerald T. Heydt., Dr. Gotham's doctoral research involved the modeling of FACTS devices in power systems analyses and the application of FACTS devices for controlling power flows. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and has served as a paper reviewer for IEEE. After a six-year stint in the United States Navy as a nuclear operator, he attended Michigan Technological University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1992. He received his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University in 1993 and completed his Doctor of Philosophy in 1996.



RICK HORNBY (rhornby@synapse-energy.com) Rick Hornby is a Senior Consultant at Synapse Energy Economics. He has worked in the energy industry since 1976 as a regulatory consultant, senior civil servant, and project engineer. Mr. Hornby's primary areas of focus are planning, market structure, ratemaking and contracting in the electricity and natural gas industries. He has provided expert testimony and litigation support on these issues in approximately 100 proceedings on behalf of utility regulators, consumer advocates, energy marketers, gas producers, and utilities. Prior to joining Synapse, Mr. Hornby was a Principal with CRA International, formerly Tabors Caramanis & Associates. There he provided expert testimony and litigation support in several energy contract price arbitration proceedings, as well as in ratemaking proceedings in Ontario, New York, Nova Scotia, and New Jersey. He also managed a major productivity improvement and planning project for two electric distribution companies within the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority. Prior to 1986, Mr. Hornby held several positions in the Nova Scotia Department of Mines and Energy. Mr. Hornby has a Master of Science in Technology and Policy from MIT and a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering from Dalhousie University.



DANNY KERMODE (dkermode@wutc.wa.gov) Mr. Kermode is a regulatory analyst at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and has been a faculty member at NARUC's Annual Regulatory Studies Program. He is a Certified Public Accountant holding certificates in Arizona, Colorado and Washington. Mr. Kermode has over twenty-five years of accounting experience within private practice and in government. He has worked with electric, gas, telephone, and water utilities and regulated gas pipeline, passenger ferry and ambulance companies. Mr. Kermode has prepared testimony and appeared as an expert witness in numerous contested cases presenting financial, income tax and accounting issues. He has published papers in the NRRJ Journal of Applied Regulation and the American Water Works Association's Water Journal. He was also the controller for the Rocky Mountain Institute, an environmental non-profit organization. Mr. Kermode holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Arizona State University.



KARL MCDERMOTT (kmcde3@uis.edu) Karl McDermott is currently the Vice President of National Economic Research Associates. In addition, he has recently been named the Ameren Endowed Professor in Business and Government at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Dr. McDermott specializes in public utility regulation and served as Commissioner (1992-1998) on the Illinois Commerce Commission during the negotiation of the Illinois restructuring law. As a Commissioner, Dr. McDermott lectured extensively in Eastern Europe and South America on regulatory reform. During the six years that he served as Commissioner, he had an opportunity to evaluate alternative regulation proposals and the economic and social impacts of a number of new policies presented to the Commission. Dr. McDermott initiated the Commission's investigation into alternative restructuring options and has made a number of presentations on restructuring issues. Since leaving the Commission, Dr. McDermott has advised various companies on restructuring issues. He is the author of "Is There a Rational Path to Implementing Competition?" appearing in The Electricity Journal. Dr. McDermott received a B.A. in Economics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, his M.A. in Public Utility Economics at the University of Wyoming, and his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Illinois.



JOYDEEP MITRA (mitraj@msu.edu) Joydeep Mitra, Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Joydeep Mitra joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering as an Associate Professor. Prior to this appointment he held academic positions at New Mexico State University and North Dakota State University, and was a senior consulting engineer with LCG Consulting, Los Altos, Calif. He acquired his PhD in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University, College Station, and his bachelor's degree, also in electrical engineering, from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. His research interests include power system reliability and security, and distributed and renewable energy resource planning. He has received research support from electric utilities, Sandia National Laboratories, the Department of Energy, and the National Science Foundation, including an NSF CAREER Award. He is a senior member of the IEEE and contributes to the Power and Energy Society, the Industrial Applications Society, and the Standards Association.



CARL PETERSON (cpeter8@uis.edu) Carl is currently a Visiting Professor of Accountancy at the University of Illinois Springfield. In addition to his work at NERA Economic Consulting, Dr. Peterson has held senior positions with the Illinois Commerce Commission where he advised the Commission on specific energy issues including electric restructuring and performance-based regulation. He has taught economics at Illinois Central College and Eureka College and has written on energy pricing, performance-based regulation, access pricing and electric

restructuring. Dr. Peterson holds B.S. and M.Sc. degrees in economics from Illinois State University, and a Ph. D. in economics from the University of Illinois.



KENNETH ROSE (ken@kenrose.us) Dr. Rose is an independent consultant and a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Public Utilities at Michigan State University. Dr. Rose is a nationally recognized expert with more than twenty years of research experience in the structure, economics, and regulation of U.S. electricity markets. Dr. Rose's areas of expertise include electricity wholesale and retail market restructuring, market power, and market monitoring. Other research topics have included competitive bidding for power supply, regulatory treatment of uneconomic costs, Clean Air Act implementation, environmental externalities associated with electricity production, and other issues associated with the electricity industry and its regulation. Dr. Rose has directed or contributed to many reports, papers, articles, and books and has testified or presented at many legislative and public utility commission hearings, proceedings, conferences, and workshops. Dr. Rose previously was a Senior Institute Economist at The National Regulatory Research Institute at Ohio State University from 1989 to 2002 and also a lecturer for the School of Public Policy and Management at OSU. Prior to NRRI, Dr. Rose worked on many energy related issues at Argonne National Laboratory from 1984 to 1989. Dr. Rose received his B.S. (1981), M.A. (1983), and Ph.D. (1988) in Economics from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



BILL SMITH (bill@misostates.org) William H. Smith, Jr., has served as Executive Director of the Organization of MISO States since January 2004. Previously, he was Government Relations Manager for the Iowa Utilities Board, coordinating the Board's legislative positions and its representation before FERC and other federal agencies. He earlier directed the Board's rate and safety staff. Before 1986, Smith served as a legal advisor to two commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and practiced energy law in a Washington, D.C., firm. He is a member of the Energy Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar. Smith is Vice-Chair of the Midwest ISO Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and has served on the Boards of several community non-profit organizations. He holds a B.A. degree in Economics from Yale University and a J.D. degree from Cornell University.



MATT SYAL (syalm@msu.edu) Dr. Matt Syal serves as a professor and the graduate advisor of Construction Management in the School of Planning, Design and Construction and in the Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Michigan State University. He is a LEED® accredited professional and received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Construction Engineering and Management) from Penn State University. Prior to joining academic world in 1988, he worked in the construction industry in U.S., India, Middle East and Africa. Dr Syal has conducted research projects and published extensively in the areas of Construction Project Management, Housing, and Sustainable Built Environment. He has been involved in over 45 research projects funded by the industry, U.S. state and national government agencies, foundations and international agencies. He has published over 75 refereed/professional papers and 42 project reports/monographs. In addition, he has served as an advisor or consultant to over 25 industry and government organizations worldwide.



JOHN THORTON (john@thortonfinancial.org) John Thornton is a certified rate of return analyst, as well as a member of the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts. He has testified on utility finance for over sixteen years and has successfully prosecuted cases ranging from utility rates to the first foreign purchase of a U.S. utility. John Thornton received his B.A. in economics from Willamette University (1984), his Graduate diploma in economics from the London School of Economics (1985), and completed his Master of Science from The London School of Economics and Political Science where he specialized in corporate finance and financial economics (1986).



THOMAS VESELKA (tdveselka@anl.gov) Mr. Veselka is an Energy Systems Engineer at the National and International Studies Section at Argonne National Laboratory. For over 24 years, he has managed and provided technical support for both domestic and international projects related to electric utility systems and the environment. His work includes extensive hydropower systems analyses as it relates to power markets. Mr. Veselka builds optimization and simulation tools and is currently a member of a multi-disciplinary team developed an agent based modeling system that simulates the complex adaptive behavior of participants in deregulated electricity markets.