

41st Annual PURC Conference

Politics & Policy: What is Next for Utilities?

SPEAKER INFORMATION

Dan Aschenbach



Dan is a Senior Vice President and is a member of Moody's Global Project & Infrastructure Finance Group. Dan is lead analyst on 40 of the Nation's largest public power electric and gas utilities. He has been a credit analyst at Moody's for 30 years. Prior assignments included lead analyst for Canadian ratings and as a generalist, public finance ratings in the U.S. Southern Region and GreatPlains region. Dan worked previously as a legislative assistant for a U.S. Congressman, including on matters before the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and the Health and Environment Subcommittee. Dan served on his community's governing board for 18 years and served four terms as mayor of Cranford Township, New Jersey.

Dan holds a bachelor's degree from Boston University and an MPA from Rutgers University. Dan completed the Leadership for the 21st Century Program at the Kennedy School of Government. Dan has given numerous speeches on public power credit quality including before the American Public Power Association, Bond Buyer, Municipal Analysts Group of New York, Bond Market Association and the National Federation of Municipal Analysts.

R. Dean Foreman



Dr. Foreman is responsible for risk management on Sasol's ~\$20 billion U.S. mega projects, including the Lake Charles Chemicals Project (LCCP) and U.S. Gas-to-Liquids (US GTL). He joined Sasol in April 2013 from Talisman Energy, where he was Chief Economist (V.P.) and focused on global economic & energy market assessments, competitive analysis, project risk and corporate strategy. Prior to Talisman, he was with ExxonMobil Corporation and held roles as the Senior Economist in corporate planning and Treasurer for production affiliates throughout the Americas. Before switching to the energy industry, Dr. Foreman was Director of Economics and Competitive Analysis for Verizon Corporation.

Dr. Foreman holds a Ph.D. degree in economics from the University of Florida and has contributed to each major U.S. National Petroleum Council study over the past decade and published articles in several professional journals.

Rishi Garg



Rishi Garg joined the National Regulatory Research Institute in October 2012. He began his career as an attorney for the State of Illinois, serving as Policy Advisor to the Illinois Lieutenant Governor and then as Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. He later worked for the Natural Resources Defense Council's Project for a Sustainable Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Policy. Prior to joining NRRI, he was Assistant People's Counsel in the District of Columbia's Office of the People's Counsel. During his career, he has been involved in various energy-related stakeholder processes and submitted oral and written testimony before regulatory and legislative boards. Rishi received his BA from the University of Illinois and his JD from the University of Minnesota Law School. He is admitted to the bar in the State of Illinois and the District of Columbia.

Julia Hamm



Julia Hamm is the president and CEO of the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA), an educational non-profit organization dedicated to helping utilities integrate solar power into their energy portfolios. With more than 1,000 utility and solar industry members, SEPA provides unbiased utility solar market intelligence, up-to-date information about technologies and business models, peer-to-peer interaction, and advisory services. Julia has strong relationships with individuals at utilities and solar companies worldwide, and is knowledgeable about solar programs, policies, barriers, and trends.

Prior to leading SEPA, Julia worked as a senior associate at ICF International where she supported the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with implementation of its ENERGY STAR program. In 2007 she was named one of the Top 10 Women in Cleantech by earth2tech, and she holds a Bachelors of Science in Business Management from Cornell University. She lives with her husband and two children in a PV-powered energy efficient home that is certified by the Arlington County Green Home Choice Program in Northern Virginia.

Lola Infante



Lola Infante is the director for generation fuels and markets analysis at the Edison Electric Institute, where she focuses mainly on renewable energy, natural gas and other critical fuels for power generation. Previously, she worked at the Center for the Advancement of Energy Markets, a Washington DC think tank, and at GAB-Robins in Paris, France.

She holds a master's degree in international economics and finance, a master's degree in Energy, Environment, Science, and Technology, and a PhD in political economy from the Johns Hopkins University on the subject of the liberalization of the electricity industry in the European Union.

Mark Jamison



Dr. Mark Jamison is PURC's director, as well as its director of Telecommunications Studies. He provides international training and research on business and government policy, focusing primarily on utilities and network industries. His current research topics include leadership and institutional development in regulation, competition and subsidies in telecommunications, and regulation for next generation networks.

Previously, Dr. Jamison was a manager of regulatory policy at Sprint, head of research for the Iowa Utilities Board, and communications economist for the Kansas Corporation Commission. He has served as chair of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Communications, chair of the State Staff for the Federal/State Joint Conference on Open Network Architecture, and member of the State Staff for the Federal/State Joint Board on Separations. He also served on the faculty of the NARUC Annual Regulatory Studies Program and other education programs. He earned a Ph.D. in Economics from UF.

Ronald L. Lehr



Ronald L. Lehr practices law and consults clients about energy regulation and business matters. Current assignments include work for the American Wind Energy Association on public policy and transmission issues for wind energy, and for Western Grid Group on western grid-level system and transmission planning. He also works for private firms and foundations on renewable energy policies and commercialization strategies. He has appeared as an expert witness, sponsoring testimony in administrative venues on utility planning and mergers, and in anti-trust, employment, and government claim litigation.

He served for seven years from 1984 to 1991 as Chairman and Commissioner of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission. He serves on corporate and foundation boards of directors and boards of advisors. He completed terms as an appointed member of panels charged to make recommendations on electric industry restructuring, renewable energy resources, and transmission needs to the Colorado General Assembly, and as President and Commissioner of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners, the water utility for Denver and surrounding suburban areas.

Thomas M. McCabe

Tom joined TDS TELECOM in December 1995 as an external relations manager for State Government Affairs. Tom is responsible for managing regulatory, legislative, and industry relations for the TDS Telecom companies in the states of Florida, Georgia, and Virginia. He has an extensive background in the area of utility regulation. Additionally, Tom serves on the Board of the Florida Telecommunications Relay System, the Georgia Telephone Association, and the Virginia Telecommunications Industry Association.

Prior to joining TDS, he was employed by the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) as an economic analyst in the Division of Communications. During that time, he had an active role in developing telecommunications policy at the Florida PSC. In addition to developing state telecommunications policy, he was also active on the national level, representing the Florida PSC on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Staff Subcommittee on Communications, the FCC Federal/State Joint Board on Separations and Settlements, and the Joint Conference on Open Network Architecture.

Karl A. McDermott



Karl A. McDermott, received a B.A. in Economics from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, an M.A. in Economics from the University of Wyoming, and A Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. McDermott has served as a commissioner at the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1992-98, as Vice President of the National Economic Research Associates from 1999-2008, and President and Co-Founder of the Center for Regulatory Studies from 1985-92. His primary field of interest is public utility regulation. Other research interests include antitrust economics, monetary economics, environmental economics and economic history.

Roger G. Noll



Roger G. Noll is professor of economics emeritus at Stanford University and a Senior Fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, where he directs the Program in Regulatory Policy. Noll also is a Senior Fellow and member of the Advisory Board at the American Antitrust Institute, and a member of the Advisory Board of the AEI-Brookings Joint Center on Regulation. Noll received a B.S. with honors in mathematics from the California Institute of Technology and a Ph. D.

Noll is the author or co-author of twelve books and over three hundred articles and reviews. Noll's primary research interests include technology policy; antitrust, regulation and privatization policies in both advanced and developing economies; the economic approach to public law (administrative law, the judiciary, and statutory interpretation); and the economics of sports and entertainment. Noll has been a member of the advisory boards of the U.S. Department of Energy, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and National Science Foundation. He also has been a member of the Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and the Board on Science, Technology and Economic Policy of the National Research Council, and of the California Council on Science and Technology.

Stephen Reilly



Stephen Reilly is Associate Public Counsel for the Florida Office of Public Counsel since 1986, focusing on water and wastewater cases. Prior to his work with the Office of Public Counsel, Stephen worked with private firms in addition to serving on the Florida Joint Administrative Procedures Committee from 1079 – 1984. Stephen received his Juris Doctor degree from Florida State University Law School in 1975.

David Springe



David Springe was named Consumer Counsel of the Kansas Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) in 2002. Prior to becoming the Consumer Counsel, Mr. Springe served as CURB's Chief Economist, managing the agency's electric, natural gas and telecommunications dockets, including providing expert testimony in numerous cases before the Kansas Corporation Commission. Mr. Springe spent six years on the Economic Policy and Planning staff of the Kansas Corporation Commission prior to joining CURB.

Mr. Springe received his M.A. in Economics and Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas. Mr. Springe is the Vice-Chair of the EPRI Energy Efficiency and Grid Modernization Public Advisory Board, and serves on the Advisory Boards of the Edison Foundation's Institute for Electric Efficiency, the University of Missouri Financial Research Institute and the New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities. He also serves on the Energy Board of the Keystone Center. Mr. Springe was the President of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates from 2007-2009.

Scott Wallsten



Scott Wallsten is an economist with expertise in industrial organization and public policy. His research focuses on telecommunications, regulation, competition, and technology policy. His research, often based on assembling and analyzing datasets with hundreds of thousands of observations, has been published in numerous academic journals and his commentaries have appeared in newspapers and newsmagazines around the world. He holds a PhD in economics from Stanford University.

Wallsten is currently Vice President for Research and a Senior Fellow at the Technology Policy Institute and also a Senior Fellow at the Georgetown Center for Business and Public Policy. He served as economics director of the Federal Communications Commission's Broadband Task Force. He has been a lecturer in Public Policy at Stanford University, director of communications policy studies and senior fellow at The Progress & Freedom Foundation, a senior fellow at the AEI - Brookings Joint Center for Regulatory Studies and a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, an economist at The World Bank, a scholar at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, and a staff economist at the U.S. President's Council of Economic Advisers.

John D. Williams



John D. Williams is currently the Director of Governmental Affairs at Utilities, Inc. Prior to joining UI, he was a Bureau Chief and Senior Analyst at the Florida Public Service Commission. During his 30 years at the Florida Commission, he testified and made recommendations in hundreds of utility rate cases. He was also responsible for the Commission's water legislation program and frequently made presentations at the Florida Legislature on behalf of the Commission.

Since joining UI in 2007, John has testified as an expert witness on behalf of the company at the Virginia, South Carolina, Kentucky and Nevada Commissions in rate cases and in rulemaking dockets. He is currently an active member of the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) Government Relations Committee, and monitors water utility related legislation at the US Congress, as well as at key State Capitals where UI operates. He also coordinates UI's participation in State and Regional Chapters of the NAWC where the key focus is in innovative regulatory reforms.

John is a graduate of the University of Florida with a BS Degree in Business. He has been active in many profession Associations among which are the American Waterworks Associations' Rates Subcommittee and was the chairman of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (NAWC) Water Subcommittee. He has also served on the faculty on the NARUC Utility Rate Schools in California and Florida each year.

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MODERATOR INFORMATION

Sanford Berg



Dr. Sanford Berg is director of Water Studies at PURC and a distinguished service professor in the UF Warrington College of Business Administration. He is also the Florida Public Utilities Professor at UF.

Dr. Berg is responsible for promoting research and outreach activities in the field of regulatory economics. His current research examines a variety of regulatory issues facing infrastructure providers. He has served on the launch committee for the UF Water Institute and is a current member of its faculty advisory committee. His research has focused on infrastructure industries: the role of research and development in determining the basic industry conditions and the role of public policy in determining sector performance.

Ronald A. Brisé



Ronald A. Brisé was appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Governor Charlie Crist in July 2010 and was reappointed by Governor Rick Scott for a term through January 2018. He served as Commission Chairman in 2012-2013. Commissioner Brisé is also an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).

Before this appointment, he represented District 108 in the Florida House of Representatives for four years. During his tenure, Commissioner Brisé was named Democratic Whip and served as Vice Chairman of the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators. He gained membership on several committees which produced significant legislation that tackled many of Florida's most relevant issues including energy, telecommunications, redistricting, appropriations and Medicaid reform. Commissioner Brisé also sponsored successful legislation expanding broadband deployment in Florida to address digital divide as well as legislation improving consumer protection for Floridian families.

Upon graduation from college, Commissioner Brisé taught science at his alma mater, Miami Union Academy. He eventually became responsible for the school's development and fundraising operations. In 2005, he became the Chief Operating Officer at a VoIP telecommunications carrier.

Commissioner Brisé began his career in public service in North Miami as a member of the North Miami Planning Commission. His civic engagements include Board Member of the North Shore Hospital and past president of the Albert C. Pierre Community Center. He is a member of the NAACP, Leadership Florida and serves on the Board of Directors of the Haitian-American Chamber of Commerce of Florida.

Commissioner Brisé received a bachelor's degree in biology education from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama and received MBA degrees in management and marketing from American Intercontinental University in Illinois. He and his wife, JoAn, have two children, Ronald Brisé II and Elizabeth Christiane Brisé, and together are faithful members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Julie Imanuel Brown



Julie Imanuel Brown was appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Governor Charlie Crist and reappointed by Governor Rick Scott for a four-year term beginning January 2, 2011. Prior to her appointment, she was Associate Legal Counsel of First American Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, where she handled a variety of legal issues in the Eastern, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic Regions, including corporate compliance with regulatory authorities.

Previously an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Tampa, Commissioner Brown specialized in contract, regulatory and administrative law while acting as legal advisor to the City of Tampa for wastewater, stormwater, land development coordination, and other matters. Commissioner Brown also worked as a corporate attorney at Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP in Tampa, Florida, specializing in mergers and acquisitions and securities law.

Commissioner Brown is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and serves on the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and the Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues – Waste Disposal. She serves by appointment as Chair of the Florida Legislature's Study Committee on Investor-Owned Water and Wastewater Utility Systems, and on the New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities Advisory Council. Her civic affiliations have included the

City of Tampa's Architectural Review Commission, the Board of Directors for the Tampa Firefighters Museum, the Florida Bar's 13th Judicial Circuit Bar Grievance Committee, and acting as Vice Chair of the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Judicial Campaign Practices Committee.

Commissioner Brown graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Florida, where she was the recipient of the Outstanding Female Leader award, President of Florida Blue Key, inducted into the Hall of Fame, and received the Dean's Cup for the College of Journalism and Communications. She earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida Levin College of Law and is a member of the Florida Bar. Her graduate education included study abroad at the University of Montpellier College of Law in France.

Commissioner Brown and her husband have two children.

Lisa Polak Edgar



Lisa Polak Edgar was appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) by Governor Jeb Bush for a four-year term beginning January 2005. Governor Charlie Crist reappointed Commissioner Edgar to a second four-year term in 2008, and Governor Rick Scott reappointed her to a third four-year term in 2012. From January 2006 to January 2008, she served as Chairman and participated as a member of the Florida Energy Commission and the Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change.

Commissioner Edgar is a member and First Vice President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). She serves on NARUC's Executive Committee, Board of Directors, the Committees on Electricity and Consumer Affairs, and the Task Force on Environmental Regulation and Generation. From 2005 through 2009, she served on the Federal Communications Commission Universal Service Joint Board working for efficient, accountable and fiscally responsible use of universal service funds.

Commissioner Edgar has worked to develop policies to strengthen the state's electric infrastructure to better prepare for, and withstand, storm events; to establish net metering and interconnection rules that encourage customer participation and renewable energy development; to further the diversification of Florida's fuel supply; to effectively reform the collection and distribution of universal service funds; and to improve customer satisfaction and broaden stakeholder participation.

Prior to joining the PSC, Commissioner Edgar served as Deputy Secretary for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Her responsibilities at DEP included executive management oversight of the agency's \$2.1 billion budget, fiscal and strategic planning, accountability measures, information technology, administrative services, Florida Geological Survey, and coordination between the state and federal government on environmental issues, including proposed and existing oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf. Commissioner Edgar represented the State of Florida on the Minerals Management Service Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Policy Committee from 1993-2004, and on the Subcommittees on Environmental Studies in OCS Areas under Moratoria and OCS Hard Minerals.

Commissioner Edgar received her Bachelor of Science and Juris Doctorate degrees from Florida State University and is a member of the Florida Bar. She is a member of Leadership Florida and the Capital Tiger Bay Club, and serves on the Board of Directors of Sustainable Florida.

Commissioner Edgar and her husband are members of Killearn United Methodist Church and are raising their two active children in Tallahassee.

Ted Kury



Ted Kury is director of Energy Studies at PURC. He is responsible for promoting research and outreach activities in energy regulation and policy. He develops research strategies that inform the academic community and practitioners on emerging issues and best practices and serves as an expert resource for regulatory professionals, policymakers, and service providers in Florida and around the world.

Mr. Kury conducts interdisciplinary research related to Florida's energy and climate change policies and collaborates with faculty at UF's Florida Institute for Sustainable Energy and other universities around the state as part of the Florida Energy Systems Consortium, a consortium recently created by the governor to leverage the expertise of Florida's research community. He also assists in the coordination of Florida's hurricane hardening efforts.

Mr. Kury earned an M.A. in Economics from the State University of New York at Buffalo and is a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Florida.