

A message from Illinois State University

Public utility regulation is continually changing. As a result, several questions are repeatedly asked across a number of industries. How is the industry changing today? Have the changes in regulation been successful? How will the industry develop in the future? For the electricity, natural gas, water and telecommunications industries, the topic of the day changes, but these root-questions continue to occur.

At the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies (IRPS), we attempt to answer these questions through an objective, nonbiased educational program, several research initiatives, and two annual one-day conferences held every fall and spring. Our conference this fall focuses on specific issues of statelevel and regional interest to uniquely examine current regulatory issues in the electricity, natural gas, water, and telecommunications industries. Held on October 20, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, the conference has a primary objective to help ensure that important issues are addressed in an open, objective, and timely manner.

The regulatory conference is targeted for lawyers concerned with energy policy and regulatory issues. Attendees often include regulators, policymakers, environmental advocates, regulatory & environmental lawyers, ICC commissioners & staff, energy industry executives, and concerned citizens.

Our live conference benefits lawyers in two important ways. First, the "Live" conference creates an environment that allows lawyers to actively participate in regulatory discussions across several different industries, meet top decision makers in the field, and enhance their knowledge and understanding of the current problems face by each industry. Second, our conference provides 5 CLE credits to lawyers needing to update and continue their legal education.

Because the topic of the day may change, the IRPS provides the opportunity to discuss these topics and ask the rootquestions in a non-biased and objective forum. The Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies seeks to be the premier institution for research and education in regulatory economics and public policy in the State of Illinois and has a national reputation for excellence in Midwestern regulatory issues. At our fall conference, lawyers and policymakers have a chance to contribute to the discussion.