A Discussion of Policy Issues in Regulated Markets

The legal and economic state of public utility environment dramatically affects the ability of agents working in the industry to perform in the workplace. As a result, individuals working in public utility industries must ask themselves several recurring questions. What legislation or public policy initiatives have changed the direction of the industry? Have the changes in regulation been successful or will new changes be forthcoming? Which technological developments will drive changes in production or consumption? For the electricity, natural gas, water and telecommunications industries, the topics of the day change, but these root-questions continue.

At the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies (IRPS), we attempt to answer these questions through an objective, non-biased educational program, several research initiatives, and two annual one-day conferences held every fall and spring. Our Fall 2012 conference focuses on issues of state and regional interest pertaining to the electricity, natural gas, water, and telecommunications industries. Held on October 25, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, the conference’s primary objective is to ensure important issues are recognized in an open, objective, and timely manner.

The regulatory conference is targeted for regulatory & environmental lawyers, energy industry executives, regulators, policymakers, environmental advocates, ICC commissioners & staff, 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.

The IRPS provides the opportunity to hear from industry experts and ask the root-questions in a non-biased and objective forum in order to encourage the understanding and development of the public utility industries that provide for the satisfaction of some of our basic human necessities. 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.