



OCC Attends 2014 NASUCA Water Committee Forum

Friday, May 02, 2014

A representative from the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) joined twenty-five consumer advocates from thirteen states to participate in the 2014 National Association of State Utility Advocates (NASUCA) Water Committee Forum. The Water Committee is NASUCA's only committee that specializes in the field of water utility regulation. Each year it holds four discussion forums dedicated to a wide variety of consumer-related topics. The most recent Water Committee Forum, held in Indianapolis, Indiana on April 22-23, 2014, focused on a series of critical issues facing consumers ranging from decoupling, revenue mechanisms, evaluation of "future test years," and three presentations of particular mention.

First, Jason Anglesmith & Scott Haskins of CH2M Hill – a firm that specializes in consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program-management – presented information regarding the value of benchmarking within the context of water utility regulation.

Second, James Hempstead & Ryan Wobbrock – bond analysts for Moody's that specialize in analyzing financial reports and providing bond ratings for utility companies including Aquarion – presented the salient components of the bond-rating and credit evaluation process within the context of the water utility industry.

Third, Larry McIntosh – a former general manager and superintendent of Stuck Fork Water Conservancy District currently serving with the Jackson County Water Utility – presented information about how to evaluate the reasonableness of estimated construction costs within the water utility industry.

OCC appreciated the open dialogue among the membership and looks forward to exchanging new ideas at the next committee meeting.

For more information please visit the [NASUCA Water Committee Homepage](#).

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