

## Consumer Counsel Participates in Gee Strategies Group's "Utility Commissioners/Wall Street Dialogue"

On May 7-8, 2014, Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz joined ten utility commissioners and their staff from around the country as well as experts from the energy industry and financial community to participate in the "Utility Commissioners/Wall Street Dialogue" sponsored by Gee Strategies Group, LLC. The dialogue ranged from the challenges and opportunities facing the energy industry, to the projected future of the industry.

The event featured candid exchanges among state and federal energy officials, industry experts, officers from several utility companies, and representatives from numerous Wall Street financial institutions about a wide range of energy topics. "It was a very interesting, intense two days," Consumer Counsel Katz reported. "There was a free flow of information between all of the participants, and an opportunity to ask some tough questions about the current and future state of the energy markets, and Wall Street's view of the challenges in that area. As the only consumer advocate invited to participate, I appreciated the opportunity very much, and tried to bring the consumer perspective to the table in all of these discussions."