



## ***Drivers, Implications and Solutions:***

### **Understanding the Changing Business and Regulatory Models of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Public Utility**

Wednesday, September 29, 2010  
University of Missouri • Columbia, Missouri



Robert J. Trulaske, Sr.  
College of Business  
University of Missouri



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FINANCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## Mission Statement

Under the academic leadership of the Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business at the University of Missouri, the Financial Research Institute, through its Public Utilities Division, serves as a neutral environment for the comprehensive examination of sound regulatory policy. The FRI provides interactive forums for consumers, regulators, industry and educators to facilitate innovation, understanding, and education in public utility policy issues.

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# Table of Contents

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Welcome by Dr. Stephen Ferris .....	4
Program at a Glance.....	5
Welcome .....	6
Morning Address, Commissioner Tony Clark.....	7
Panel Discussion I	
Challenges & Opportunities of Federal Legislation.....	8
Late Morning Address, James Rogers.....	9
Panel Discussion II	
State & Regional Regulatory Response.....	10
Panel Discussion III	
Capital Markets: Cause & Effect .....	11
Financial Research Institute Staff .....	12
About the FRI .....	12
Hot Topic Hotline.....	13
FRI Advisory Board Members .....	14
FRI Advisory Board Members .....	15

CLE, CPA and CPE Credit: The 2010 FRI Symposium is eligible for professional credits. To obtain credits send the symposium certificate of attendance along with the symposium program booklet to the appropriate authority. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the FRI on 573.882.3800.

Welcome to the University of Missouri and the 2010 FRI Public Utility Symposium. We have titled our symposium as "Drivers, Implications and Solutions: Understanding the Changing Business and Regulatory Models of the 21st Century Public Utility. We believe that today's symposium's focus is especially relevant and will be useful to you in your professional activities.

Today's program was facilitated by the symposium planning committee. The committee this year was chaired by Glenn Jennings, President & CEO, Delta Natural Gas, Inc. The other members of this committee were: Chuck Harder, CenterPoint Energy (FRI Advisory Board Chair); Commissioner Sherman Elliott of Illinois; Vice Chair James Gardner of Kentucky; Commissioner Larry Landis of Indiana (FRI Advisory Board Vice Chair); Kimberly Joyce, Aqua America; Jim Jenkins, American Water; Jennifer Easler, Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate; Tim Rush, Kansas City Power & Light; David Sprunge, Kansas Citizen's Utility Ratepayer Board. This committee provides guidance to the FRI in its efforts to design a symposium that is timely, interesting and valuable to our membership.

This year's topic was selected in response to both new and proposed federal legislation that have spurred the development of innovative strategies to address the many issues facing the public utility industry. Further, individual state, regional and federal initiatives are shaping new regulatory responses for the delivery of energy and water. The nation's capital markets are also exerting a critical influence as utilities continue to face high capital costs and a challenging environment for the acquisition of investment capital. This convergence of legislative, regulatory, and market forces is changing the way that utilities, regulators, and consumers interface while simultaneously influencing the design of new regulatory frameworks.

The first panel of today's symposium will explore how federal legislation affects the regulatory compact. Our second panel addresses state and regional regulatory response by analyzing state and regional initiatives and how they are reshaping the regulatory interface. The last panel will examine how capital markets have responded to recent legislation and discuss the two-year financial outlook for public utilities.

In addition to our three panel discussions, we welcome Commissioner Tony Clark and Mr. Jim Rogers as our symposium's featured keynote speakers.

In closing, I would like to thank our advisory board members for their continued dedication and support of the FRI. Their involvement has allowed the FRI to achieve its success. I would also like to thank each of you for your attendance. I hope you find today's symposium to be professionally rewarding and intellectually enriching.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Steve Ferris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Ferris  
Director

# Program At A Glance

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**REGISTRATION: 8:00 am – 9:00 am**

## **Welcome** **9:00 am – 9:15 am**

### **Dr. Stephen Ferris**

James Harvey Rogers Chair of Money, Credit and Banking, Director, FRI, Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business, University of Missouri

### **Dr. Brian Foster**

Provost, University of Missouri

## **Morning Address** **9:15 am – 9:45 am**

### **Understanding, Balancing & Communicating the “Public Interest” in a Time of Uncertainty.**

#### **Commissioner Tony Clark**

North Dakota Public Service Commission

## **Panel I Discussion** **10:00 am – 11:15 am**

### **The Challenges and Opportunities of Federal Legislation**

Panel I Moderator:

#### **Chairman Robert M. Clayton, III**

Missouri Public Service Commission

Panel I Members:

#### **Chairman Thomas E. Wright**

Kansas Corporation Commission

**Dr. John A. Anderson**, President & CEO  
ELCON

**Ralph Cavanagh**, Co-Director, Energy Program  
Natural Resources Defense Council

**Joseph Power**, Vice President,  
Federal Legislative & Regulatory Affairs  
Ameren Services

## **Late Morning Address** **11:30 am – 12:00 pm**

### **The Electric Industry’s Coming Transformation.**

**James E. Rogers**, Chairman, President & CEO  
Duke Energy

## **Lunch** **12:00 pm – 1:15 pm**

## **Panel Discussion II** **1:30 pm – 2:45 pm**

### **State and Regional Regulatory Response**

Panel II Moderator:

#### **Commissioner Valerie A. Lemmie**

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Panel II Members:

#### **Commissioner Sherman J. Elliott**

Illinois Commerce Commission

#### **Commissioner Olan W. Reeves**

Arkansas Public Service Commission

#### **Kansas Representative Carl Holmes**

Immediate Past Chair, National Conference of State  
Legislators Advisory Council on Energy

#### **Lewis Mills**

Missouri Public Counsel

Missouri Office of the Public Counsel

## **Panel Discussion III** **3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

### **Capital Markets: Cause & Effect**

Panel III Moderator:

#### **Commissioner Darrell Hanson**

Iowa Utilities Board

Panel III Members:

#### **Commissioner Jeff Davis**

Missouri Public Service Commission

#### **Jim Jenkins**

Vice President, Finance

American Water Western Division

#### **Ellen Lapson**

Managing Director, Corporate Ratings

Fitch Ratings

#### **David Springe**

Consumer Counsel

Kansas Citizens’ Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB)

## **Closing Comments** **4:15 pm – 4:30 pm**

### **Dr. Stephen Ferris**

James Harvey Rogers Chair of Money, Credit and Banking, Director, FRI, Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business, University of Missouri



**Dr. Stephen Ferris** is the James Harvey Rogers Chair of Money, Credit and Banking, University of Missouri, and was appointed by the dean of the Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business as the director of the FRI in December, 2002. Dr. Ferris started at the University of Missouri as chairman of the Department of Finance in 1993. Previous to his appointment at MU, he was a member of the finance faculty at Virginia Tech. Dr. Ferris received his undergraduate degree from Duquesne University and his MBA and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. He also holds a MSS from the U.S. Army War College and serves as a Commander in the U.S. Navy.



**Dr. Brian Foster** joined MU as the Chief Academic Officer in August of 2005. Prior to that, he served as Provost at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. His previous academic appointments include Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Graduate Dean at Arizona State University, where he also served as Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology.

Foster has served as President of the Western Association of Graduate Schools, member of the Board of Directors of the Council of Graduate Schools, Chair of the GRE Board, member of the TOEFL Policy Council, and a member of the Executive Committees of two NASULGC Councils: the Council of Research and Graduate Education and the Council on Academic Affairs. He was Chair of the Executive Committee of the Council on Academic Affairs, NASULGC, and currently serves as an ad hoc member of that committee.

Provost Foster works closely with constituents both on and off campus focusing on MU’s contributions to the economic development of Missouri and access to higher education for all Missourians.

Dr. Foster earned his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Michigan.



The citizens of North Dakota first elected Tony Clark to the Public Service Commission in November 2000. He was re-elected in 2006.

Since joining the PSC, he has been an advocate for North Dakota's interests in some of the state's most important industries.

Clark holds the PSC portfolio on electric generation and transmission. As such, he is active in state and regional efforts to develop North Dakota's vast energy exporting potential and provide affordable, reliable energy to consumers. Since joining the Commission, Clark has overseen regulatory proceedings that have facilitated hundreds of millions of dollars in new investment in North Dakota through expanded wind, coal and petroleum infrastructure.

Clark is a recognized leader in telecommunications policy. He works to strengthen North Dakota's future by supporting policies that benefit consumers and promote investment in a world-class telecommunications infrastructure. He has made encouraging expansion of wireless service throughout North Dakota a priority in his time on the PSC.

He is the 2nd Vice President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and is the immediate past Chairman of the Telecommunications Committee of NARUC. He has testified multiple times before committees of both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives on matters related to telecommunications and energy.

Clark holds the PSC rail and grain elevator portfolios and has been a leader in North Dakota's efforts to seek rail rate relief for the state's agricultural producers. These actions have led to millions in savings for North Dakota farmers. He has actively lobbied for better rail service, both in-state and before federal officials.

Prior to his election he was Labor Commissioner, serving in the cabinet of former Gov. Ed Schafer. From 1997-99 he was Administrative Officer for the state Tax Department. He is a former state legislator, representing District 44 (Fargo) in the state House from 1994-97.

In 1998, the Council of State Governments named him a "Toll Fellow" for his achievement and service to state government. In 1996, he was selected for and completed the Program for Emerging Political Leaders at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

He is a graduate of Fargo North High School. He holds bachelor's degrees, with honor, from North Dakota State University (NDSU). He holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Dakota.

Clark is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Regulatory Research Institute and the Advisory Councils of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute at NDSU, The Institute for Public Utilities at Michigan State University, and the New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities. He is a past Chairman of the Regional Oversight Committee, which is comprised of regulators in the 14 states where Qwest is the dominant local phone carrier.

Having earned the Eagle Scout award as a youth, he maintains his involvement with and support of the Scouting program. He is a past Chairman of the Frontier Trails District of the Northern Lights Council Boy Scouts of America. He currently serves as the Cubmaster of Pack 180 in Bismarck, and is a member of the Northern Lights Council Executive Board.

Tony and his wife, Amy, have three children.



**Panel Discussion I — The Challenges and Opportunities of Federal Legislation 10:00 am – 11:15 am**



Panel I Moderator, **Chairman Robert M. Clayton III**, Missouri Public Service Commission  
Clayton was appointed to the MPSC in 2003 and became chairman in 2009. Previously, he was a partner in the law firm, Clayton & Curl and served four terms as a State Representative. He serves as a member of the Washington Action Committee; the NARUC Subcommittee on Education; the NARUC/FERC Smart Grid Collaborative; and on the advisory board at the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri. Clayton earned a BA in history from Southern Methodist University and a juris doctor from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.



**Chairman Thomas E. Wright**, Kansas Corporation Commission  
Wright was appointed to the KCC and elected chair in 2007. He was appointed for a second term in 2010. Previously, he was chair of the Governor's Gaming Committee; the Consolidation Commission of Topeka - Shawnee County (2005); and Washburn Board of Regents. He is a member of the NARUC Committees for International Relations and Electricity and on the advisory board of the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri. He holds a degree in mathematics from Wichita State University and is a graduate from Washburn University where he earned a BA in German and a juris doctor.



**Dr. John A. Anderson**, President & CEO, Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON)  
Anderson joined ELCON in 1980 and was named executive director in 1984. He has presented papers and spoken extensively on electricity issues. Anderson holds a MS and PhD from the University of Florida with a concentration in public utility economics and industrial organization. ELCON is the national association representing the largest industrial electricity consumers.



**Ralph Cavanagh**, Co-Director, Energy Program, National Resource Defense Council (NRDC)  
Cavanagh is a senior attorney and co-director of NRDC's Energy Program. He has been with the NRDC since 1979. Previously, he was a Visiting Professor of Law at Stanford and UC Berkeley and served as a member of the U.S. Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board. He is a board member of many organizations including the Bonneville Environmental Foundation; the California Clean Energy Fund; the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies; the Renewable Northwest Project; and the Northwest Energy Coalition; to name just a few. He is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School.



**Joseph M. Power**, Vice President, Federal Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Ameren Services  
Power has over 25 years of experience in the energy industry, both as a regulator and as a representative of industry. Before joining Ameren in July of 2005, he was the Vice President of Federal Regulatory Affairs at Reliant Energy. Prior to joining Reliant in 2001, Power worked at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for 17 years as an expert witness on litigation and as an advisor. He has a BA in economics from George Mason University.





**James E. Rogers**, Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer, Duke Energy

Rogers has more than 21 years of experience as a chief executive officer in the electric utility industry. He was named president and chief executive officer of Duke Energy following the merger of Duke Energy and Cinergy in April 2006. Before the merger, Rogers served as Cinergy's chairman and chief executive officer for more than 11 years.

Rogers has served as deputy general counsel for litigation and enforcement for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); executive vice president of interstate pipelines for the Enron Gas Pipeline Group; and as a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld. Prior to those appointments, he served as assistant to the chief trial counsel at FERC; as a law clerk for the Supreme Court of Kentucky; and as assistant attorney general for the

Commonwealth of Kentucky. He was also a reporter for the Lexington (Kentucky) Herald-Leader.

In the course of his career, Rogers has served more than 50 cumulative years on the boards of Fortune 500 companies. He is currently a director of Cigna Corp. and Applied Materials Inc. He has served as a director of Duke Realty Corporation, Cinergy Corp., PSI Energy, Bankers Life Holding Corporation, Irkutskenergo AO, Indiana National Bank and Fifth Third Bancorp.

He is past chairman and ex officio member of the Executive Committee of the Edison Electric Institute; and current chairman of the Institute for Electric Efficiency. He serves as a member of the board of directors and the Executive Committee of the Nuclear Energy Institute, and is a board member of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations and the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO). Rogers also serves on the boards of the Business Roundtable, the National Coal Council, the National Petroleum Council, and the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions. Rogers is co-chair of the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency and a board member of the Alliance to Save Energy, having served as co-chair. He serves as a member of the board of directors and vice chairman of the Executive Committee of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. He is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a member of the Honorary Committee of the Joint U.S.-China Collaboration on Clean Energy (JUCCCE) and the Club of Madrid President's Circle. Rogers also serves on an advisory board for the Aspen Institute's Business and Society Program and is past chairman of the Edison Foundation. He has testified 22 times on energy, environmental and other policy matters before congressional committees.

Rogers has been honored with various awards and recognition: In 2010, the World Affairs Council of Charlotte honored Rogers with its World Citizen Award for his efforts to raise the profile of both Duke Energy and Charlotte on the international stage. The Jan. 5, 2009, edition of Newsweek named Rogers to The Global Elite list, "The 50 Most Powerful People in the World. He was as honored with EnergyBiz magazine's 2009 CEO of the Year EnergyBiz KITE Award (Knowledge, Innovation, Technology, Excellence). He received the 1996 Energy Daily Corporate Leadership Award; the 1998 Hebrew Union College Cincinnati Associates Tribute Honoree; the 2004 National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) Distinguished Service Citation; the 2005 Keystone Center Leadership in Industry Award; the 2005 Ronald McDonald House Lifetime Achievement Award; the 2006 Human Relations Award from the American Jewish Committee, Cincinnati Chapter; and the 2007 Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Rogers also serves on numerous civic boards and has published numerous articles on energy and environmental issues. He is a board member of Foundation for the Carolinas and co-chair of an Arts & Science Council (ASC) initiative to enrich cultural resources in the Charlotte area.

Rogers attended Emory University and earned a bachelor of business administration and a juris doctor degree from the University of Kentucky.



Panel II Moderator, **Commissioner Valerie A. Lemmie**, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
A career public servant and city manager, Lemmie serves on the boards for the Organization of MISO States, NRRI, and the Financial Research Institute at MU and is an Inclusive Management Fellow at Virginia Tech's Center for Public Administration and Policy. She is also serves as President of OMS. Previously, she was a scholar-in-residence at the Kettering Foundation, a senior fellow at the Center for Excellence in Municipal Management at George Washington University and past president of the National Academy of Public Administration. She has a BA from the University of Missouri and an MA from Washington University.



**Commissioner Sherman J. Elliott**, Illinois Commerce Commission  
Elliott was appointed in 2008 and serves on the NARUC Energy Resources and Environment Committee; the FERC/ NARUC Smart Grid Collaborative; the National Institute of Standards and Technology Energy Infrastructure; Security Act Business and Policy Domain Expert Working Group; the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri; and the Solar Electric Power Association Advisory Council. Previously, he was the manager of state regulatory affairs for MISO; a senior energy policy advisor to Commissioners at the ICC; and a senior economist. He received both a bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from the University of Illinois at Springfield.



**Commissioner Olan Reeves**, Arkansas Public Service Commission  
Reeves was appointed to the Arkansas Public Service Commission in 2009. Previously, he was chairman of the Workers Compensation Commission; chief legal counsel to the Governor; State Drug Director; a lawyer in the Governor's office; Senior Assistant Attorney General and Assistant Attorney General; and law clerk to Arkansas Supreme Court Associate Justice David Newbern. Reeves is on the Energy Resources and the Environment Committee at NARUC and an advisory board member at the Financial Research Institute at MU. He has a BA, MSE and a juris doctor.



**Kansas Representative Carl Holmes**

Holmes has served as a state representative since 1985. He is chairman of the Kansas Legislature House Energy and Utilities Committee and Electric Transmission Authority. Holmes serves as vice chairman on the Joint Committees of Administrative Rules and Regulation and Energy and Environmental Policy. He is a member of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee. He is the past chairman of the National Conference of State Legislatures Energy and Electric Committee and Advisory Council on Energy. He has a BS in business administration from Colorado State University.



**Lewis Mills**, Missouri Public Counsel, Missouri Office of the Public Counsel

Mills received his undergraduate degree in geology from St. Lawrence University and his law degree from the University of Utah. He first came to the Missouri Office of the Public Counsel in 1988, was promoted to Deputy Public Counsel in 1989 and served in that capacity until 1998. From 1998 to 2005, Mr. Mills was the deputy chief administrative law judge at the Missouri Public Service Commission. In May 2005 he was appointed Public Counsel. He serves on the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, the Missouri Universal Service Board, the Relay Missouri Advisory Committee, the Missouri Energy Task Force, and the the advisory board at the Financial Research Institute at the University of Missouri.



Panel Moderator **Commissioner Darrell Hanson**, Iowa Utilities Board

Hanson was appointed in 2007 and serves on the NARUC Energy Resources and Environment Committee, the advisory council of the Iowa Energy Center and the advisory board for the Financial Research Institute. Previously, he served in the State Legislature for eight terms and was senior director of Transportation and Economic Development for the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments. Prior to his appointment at the IUB, he served as chair of the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission. He graduated from the University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa where he earned a master's degree in political science.



**Commissioner Jeff Davis**, Missouri Public Service Commission

Davis was appointed to the MPSC in 2004, serving as Chairman from 2005 to 2009. Prior to his appointment Davis was the General Counsel and Chief of Staff for Missouri Senate President Pro Tem, Peter Kinder. He serves as a member of the Missouri Universal Board, NARUC subcommittee on Electricity, the advisory board at the Financial Research Institute. He is the immediate past President of the Mid-America Association of Regulatory Commissioners (MARC) and President of the Regional State Committee for Southwest Power Pool. Davis earned a BS in political science from Southeast Missouri State University and a juris doctor from Washington University.



**Jim Jenkins**, Vice President, Finance, American Water Western Division

With over 25 years in the utility industry, Jenkins' primary focus is directing and supporting American Water's finance, accounting, budgeting and rate functions within the Western Division. He is a CPA and has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign. Jenkins earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Illinois at Springfield. His previous roles include, Director of Accounting for the Illinois Commerce Commission and finance positions with National Enterprises Inc. and American Water that supported state operations.



**Ellen Lapson**, Managing Director, Corporate Ratings, Fitch Ratings

Lapson joined Fitch in 1994 and is a leader in developing Fitch's policies and sector research for U.S. and international electric utilities, energy marketers, project finance transactions, and structured finance based on utility tariffs or contracts. She has played a key role in Fitch's credit assessments of projects in innovative energy technologies. She is Chair of Fitch's Corporate Finance Criteria Committee and Chair of the Electric Power Research Institute's Advisory Council. Lapson is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the Wall Street Utility Group and the Fixed Income Analysts' Society. She earned a BA in literature from Barnard College and an MBA in accounting from New York University.



**David Springe**, Consumer Counsel, Kansas Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB)

Springe was named Consumer Counsel of CURB in December 2002. Prior to that, he served as CURB's chief economist, managing the agency's electric, natural gas and telecommunications dockets. Springe also spent six years on the Economic Policy and Planning staff of the Kansas Corporation Commission. He received his MA in economics and a juris doctor from the University of Kansas. Springe is the Immediate Past President of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates. He is a member of the EPRI Energy Efficiency/Smart Grid Public Advisory Board, the Advisory Committee for the Edison Foundation's Institute for Electric Efficiency and the Advisory Board of the Financial Research Institute.

## Financial Research Institute Staff

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**Dr. Stephen Ferris** is the J.H. Rogers Chair of Money, Credit, and Banking and the director of the FRI. Previously, Dr. Ferris was the chairman of the Department of Finance at MU and a faculty member at Virginia Tech. He has held visiting appointments at Duquesne University, the University of Memphis, and the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Ferris earned a BA from Duquesne University and a MBA and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. He also holds a MSS from the US Army War College and serves as a Commander in the U.S. Navy.  
Email: ferriss@missouri.edu Phone: 573.882.9905



**Sarah M. Gott** is the manager of board programs for the FRI. She is responsible for FRI marketing and communications, board management, and developing FRI education programs. She directs the hot topic program and the annual symposium. Sarah recently joined the FRI team after spending several years with GE Energy as a marketing communications professional. She holds a BS in organizational communication and in the course of her career, has received continued training in core leadership and project management programs.  
Email: gotts@missouri.edu Phone: 573.882.2155.



**Angela Bruno** is the administrative assistant and the symposium coordinator for the FRI. In addition, she is a graphic designer assisting the FRI and the Advancement Office in the Trulaske College of Business. Angela earned a BA from the University of Missouri.

## About the FRI

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### Background

The Financial Research Institute (FRI) was established in 1988 within the Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business at the University of Missouri to promote education, research and service across various areas of finance. Today, the FRI, through its public utility division, provides a neutral environment for stakeholders in the regulated public utility industry to come together to examine, understand, and debate current issues relating to public utility policy.

### Advisory Board

The FRI advisory board was established in 1988 as an essential component of the FRI. The advisory board includes regulators, industry executives, and consumer representatives, and operates under the leadership of Dr. Stephen Ferris. The advisory board provides financial assistance, professional advice, and identifies FRI's strategic direction.

### Annual Public Utility Symposium

The FRI's flagship event is its annual public utility symposium. Held in the fall, this one day event examines issues relevant to the Midwest region that impact consumers, industry, and regulators. The symposium is targeted to state regulators, legislators, commission staff, utility managers, policy analysts, attorneys, consumer advocates, and academics. The event is accredited for both continuing legal and professional education (CLE, CPE). Recent symposia include:

- Utility Infrastructure: Current Condition, Solutions, Who Pays? (2009)
- Managing Public Utility Affordability (2008)
- The Good, The Bad, and The Future: A Review of the Rate-Making Process (2007)
- Understanding and Managing the New Reality of Utility Costs (2006)
- Future of State Regulation in an Increasingly Inter-state (Federalized?) Environment (2005)
- Can Utilities Play on the Street? Issues in Return On Equity and Capital Structure (2004)

## FRI Hot Topic Hotline

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The Hot Topic Hotline is a monthly program for advisory board members and their staff to discuss relevant issues via a bi-monthly teleconference call. Previous topics include:

- **Dynamic Pricing.** Commissioner Valerie Lemmie, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.
- **Smart Grid - SmartStar Lawrence.** Sponsor: Dick Rohlf, director, retail rates, Westar Energy.
- **The New Regulatory Compact.** Sponsor: Tim Rush, director, regulatory affairs, Kansas City Power & Light.
- **Energy Efficiency Investment Recovery.** Sponsor: Dick Rohlf, director, retail rates, Westar Energy.
- **The Relationship Between Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency.** Sponsor: Diane Munns, vice president, regulatory relations & energy efficiency, MidAmerican Energy.
- **Smart Grid: What is it? Why do we need it? And how do we pay for it?** Sponsor: Commissioner Sherman Elliott, Illinois Commerce Commission.
- **The Cost of Capital in Today's Market.** Sponsor: Commissioner Jeff Davis, Missouri Public Service Commission.
- **Is it reasonable to strive to be BBB or can we do better?** A discussion on utility ratings. Sponsor: Dick Rohlf, director, retail rates, Westar Energy.
- **Aging, Obsolescent and Inadequate Infrastructure: Is it a crisis?** What should utilities, consumers and regulators do? Sponsor: Lewis Mills, Missouri Public Counsel.
- **Financial Risks of Declining Usage.** Sponsor: Jim Jenkins, vice president, finance, American Water Western Division.
- **Decoupling – Panel Discussion:** Reviewing decoupling and discussion what other alternatives exist (other than annual rate cases) that would allow utilities to implement energy efficiency program without diminishing their ability to recover fixed system delivery costs. Sponsor: Bob Mill, director regulatory department, AmerenUE.
- **Decoupling – A Review of a recent IURC order which packaged a decoupling approach and a program encouraging energy conservation between the Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) and the petitioner, Vectren South.** Sponsor: Commissioner Larry Landis, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.
- **Successful and Practical Methods of Dealing with High Winter Energy Bills.** Sponsor: Alan Stewart, president, Arkansas Western Gas.
- **Regulatory Relief in Response to the Proposed FASB's Project for Reporting Pension Liability.** Sponsor: Barry Cooper, chief financial officer, Laclede Group.
- **Rate Surcharges of Adders for Recovery of Specific Costs: What Factors Should Be Considered in Deciding Whether to Allow Such Mechanisms.** Sponsor: Commissioner Michael Moffet, Kansas Corporation Commission.
- **Methods By Which the Rate Case Process Has Been Streamlined and the Resulting Benefits.** Sponsor: Chuck Harder, executive director, regulatory policy & rates CenterPoint Energy.
- **Construction While in Progress.** Sponsor: Chairman Jeff Davis, Missouri Public Service Commission.
- **Energy Efficiency: An Overview of Programs and Policies in the Midwest.** Sponsor: Tim Rush, director, regulatory affairs, Kansas City Power & Light.
- **Update on FASB's Project for Changes to Pension Liability Reporting and Impact on the Current Regulatory Treatment.** Sponsor: Barry Cooper, chief financial officer, Laclede Group.
- **Opportunities for utilities to cooperate in the delivery of energy conservation programs (e.g. joint delivery of efficiency programs for building shell measures and appliances) and how could consumers and utilities benefit from this cooperation (coordination)?** Sponsor: Lewis Mills, Missouri Public Counsel.



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**Tim Rush**  
Director,  
Regulatory Affairs  
Kansas City Power & Light



**SourceGas**



**Oklahoma  
Corporation  
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