

## Experience of Billie S. LaConte

Ms. LaConte joined Drazen Consulting Group, Inc. in May 1995. Her work has focused on cost allocation, rate design, sales and price forecasts, power cost forecasting, electric restructuring issues, cost of capital issues and contract interpretation.

Ms. LaConte has advised clients on economic and strategic issues concerning the natural gas pipeline, oil pipeline, electric, waste water and water industries. She has prepared cost allocation and rate design studies to provide timely support to clients engaged in settlement negotiations in electric and gas utility proceedings. Ms. LaConte has prepared cost of service studies for wastewater utilities. She has provided power cost forecasting studies to assist clients in project planning, negotiating contracts with electric utilities for standby services and interruptible rates. She has prepared studies on electric and gas utilities' performance-based rates (PBR) and benchmarking programs to evaluate their success and to provide recommendations on methods to be used. Ms. LaConte has worked on contract interpretation to resolve contract disputes for several clients.

Ms. LaConte has provided economic and strategic analysis and contract interpretation for clients located in several jurisdictions, including Georgia, Maine, Iowa, Virginia, Alberta, Québec and Nova Scotia. She has provided financial and cost of service analysis for natural gas pipelines certificate approval from the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the Canadian National Energy Board (NEB). Ms. LaConte submitted and delivered expert testimony before the Missouri Public Service Commission on cost allocation, rate design, cost of capital and other matters. She testified before the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board on power cost forecasting issues, electric restructuring issues, sales and price forecasts and cost allocation issues. She has similarly testified before the Iowa Utilities Board, the St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District Commission and the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

In 1989, Ms. LaConte received a B.A. in mathematics from Boston University, in Boston, Massachusetts. She has a M.B.A. in finance (1995) from the John M. Olin School of Business, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri.

Drazen Consulting Group offers economic, strategic planning and regulatory

consulting services to clients that include industrial utility users, municipalities, schools, hospitals, utilities and government agencies. The founding firm (Michael Drazen and Associates) was established in 1937.

The firm's work covers all aspects of utility regulation (and deregulation), including revenue requirements, cost of capital, cost analysis, pricing, valuation, performance-based regulation and industry restructuring.