Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts



# 53<sup>rd</sup> FINANCIAL FORUM

April 28 – 29, 2022 plus (April 27<sup>th</sup> \ AFTERNOON SITE VISIT TO THE COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC. SAFETY TRAINING CENTER)



Omni Richmond Hotel Richmond, VA

http://www.surfamembers.com

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**Randy Woolridge, Ph.D.** Penn State University Dear Members & Friends:

I am pleased to announce the 53rd Financial Forum of the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts (SURFA). The Forum provides attendees insight into current cost of capital issues affecting the utility industry and is appropriate for attorneys, utility company staff, investors, regulatory commissioners and staff, consumer advocates and staff, and consultants.

Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts

Our 53rd Forum features an outstanding group of speakers and moderators. The topics to be addressed include:

- The Market Risk Premium: An In-Depth Review;
- Fair Market Value vs. Original Cost; and
- Decarbonization: How Deep? How Fast? What Cost?

We are once again privileged to have John Lonski of Thru the Cycle present an analysis of current & expected economic conditions. Also, a panel of distinguished Wall Street analysts will discuss the condition of, and outlook for, the utility industry. This year's Keynote speaker is Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D. Professor Michelfelder is a well known and highly distinguished expert in the fields of utility regulation and finance. Professor Michelfelder will address Forum attendees at dinner on Thursday, April 28th, following a networking cocktail reception.

For those arriving on Wednesday, April 27th, there will be a site-visit to the Columbia Gas Safety Training Center. The bus will leave at 2:15 PM and return at 4:00 PM, followed by an evening excursion to Scott's Addition, Richmond's restaurant/tavern district with round trip bus transportation provided.

The Certified Rate of Return Analyst (CRRA) exam takes place on Wednesday, April 27th from 12:00 – 5:00 PM, prior to the Forum. Please visit our website <u>http://www.surfamembers.com</u>, for more information.

Attire is business casual and hand sanitizers and masks will be available. Please pass this brochure to any associates whom you think may be interested in joining us in Richmond.

I look forward to seeing everyone April 27-29, 2022.

Very truly yours,

Mark Cicchetti, CRRA President



_	Noon – 5:00 p.m.	CRRA Certification Testing – Roanoke Room (Rusty Maddox / Dave Parcell)
Wednesday, April 27, 2022	AFTERNOON	Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. Safety Training Center Tour Assemble in the main lobby. Transportation will leave the hotel at 2:15 PM Tour will take place from 2:40 – 4:00 PM Casual attire is recommended along with walkable closed-toe shoes and socks. Please note that much of the facility is outside. Please check Richmond weather before arrival in case a rain jacket/umbrella is warranted. Excursion to trendy Scott's Addition Www.scottsaddition.com www.visitrichmond.com Transportation will leave the hotel at 6:15 PM Transportation will leave Scott's Addition at 10:00 PM (Scott's Addition is a short cab/Uber ride from the hotel for those wanting to leave or return at different times)
, 22	7:30 – 8:10 a.m.	SURFA Forum Registration and Breakfast James River Foyer & Salons AB
Thursday April 28, 20	8:10 – 8:30 a.m. James River Salon C	Introduction Mark Cicchetti, CRRA, SURFA President Florida Public Service Commission Welcome Remarks Judge Judith Williams Jagdmann, Commissioner Virginia State Corporation Commission & President, NARUC Judge Jehmal T. Hudson, Chairman, Virginia State Corporation Commission



PANEL 1	Moderator	Ryan Wobbrock, CRRA, VP – Senior Credit Officer Moody's Investors Service
Economic Outlook Course Level: Intermediate 8:30 - 10:15 a.m. James River Salon C	Presenter	John Lonski, President Thru the Cycle
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.		BREAK – James River Foyer
PANEL 2	Moderator	Dylan W. D'Ascendis, CRRA, CVA, Partner ScottMadden, Inc
Fair Market Value vs. Original Cost Course Level: Intermediate 10:30 – 12:15 p.m. James River Salon C	Panelists	Heike Doerr, Principal Analyst Regulatory Research Associates S&P Global Market Intelligence Christine Maloni Hoover, JD, Deputy Consumer Advocate Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate Emily Sears, CRRA, Senior Financial Analyst Public Utility Commission of Texas
WORKING LUNCH 12:15 – 2:00 p.m.		Buffet in James River Foyer Seating in James River Salons AB Luncheon Speaker: Emil Avram, Vice President – Business Development Dominion Energy



	Moderator	Edward Kaufman, CRRA, Principal Utility Specialist Virginia State Corporation Commission
PANEL 3: The Market Risk Premium: An In-Depth Review Course Level: Intermediate 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. James River Salon C	Panelists	Steven Kihm, DBA, CFA Regulatory Strategist, Citizens Utility Board of WI Sr. Fellow-Finance, MI State Univ. Inst. of Pub. Util. Carla Nunes, CFA, ABV, CEIV Managing Director, Office of Professional Practice Global Leader – Valuation Digital Solutions Kroll Institute Fellow John Graham, Ph.D. D. Richard Mead Professor of Finance, Duke University Past President, American Finance Association James M. Coyne, Senior Vice President Concentric Energy Advisors
5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Reception: Potomac Prefunction Dinner: Potomac Room AB	Rutger	RECEPTION & DINNER: Introduction: Mark Cicchetti, CRRA, President Dinner speaker: Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D. Clinical Associate Professor of Finance rs University School of Business – Camden, NJ



	7:30 – 8:15 a.m.		SURFA Forum Registration and Breakfast James River Foyer & Salons AB
	PANEL 4 Decarbon-	Moderator	Barbara Chapman, Senior Director FitchRatings
ay, 2022	ization: How Deep? How Fast? What Cost? Course Level: Intermediate	Panelists	Bernard L. McNamee, Partner McGuireWoods LLP Former FERC Commissoner Chris Beam, President & Chief Operating Officer Appalachian Power
Frida pril 29, 2	8:15 – 10:00 a.m. James River Salon C		Jim Kibler, Executive Director ONE Future
Ap	10:00 – 10:15 a.m.		BREAK – James River Foyer
		Moderator	Tommy Oliver, CRRA, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Strategy, Roanoke Gas Company
	PANEL 5:		Shaan Goswami, Senior Vice President, Investment

Wall Street's Perspective	Panelists	Shaan Goswami, Senior Vice President, Investment Banking Group Goldman Sachs
Course Level: Intermediate		Greg Gordon, Principal Zimmer Partners, LP
10:15 – 12:00 p.m. James River Salon C		Michael Gaugler, Managing Director, Utilities & Infrastructure Janney Montgomery Scott's Equity Research Group John Gunnells, Manager, State Affairs American Gas Association



### Who Should Attend the 53<sup>rd</sup> Financial Forum?

SURFA's Financial Forum will interest accounting, finance and non-finance professionals with an interest in utility regulation, electric, natural gas, and water issues including:

Utility Personnel Investment Analysts Public Advocates Consultants Commissioners Commission Staff Accountants Attorneys

A corporate financial background and working knowledge of utility ratemaking are prerequisites in order to receive CPE credit. There is no advanced preparation required. After completion of this conference you should be able to:

- Identify key issues affecting the utility industry;
- Understand how certain cost of capital estimation methods work;
- How a utility's cost of capital affects investor perceptions;
- Identify recent developments in utility consolidation; and
- List current regulatory issues impacting the utility industry.

### **SURFA's History**

The Society was founded in 1977 by a cross-section of financial analysts who recognized the need for increased dialogue on the subject of rate of return. SURFA, originally organized to study public utilities and their cost of capital, is now broader in scope. The Society focuses on the general concept of risk and its impact on the financial viability and market cost of capital for regulated entities. SURFA also sponsors the Certified Rate of Return Analyst (CRRA) program, an educational service covering cost of capital concepts. The objectives of the Society are:

- To discuss and disseminate concepts and practices in the application of utility financial issues;
- To promote the education and understanding of rate of return analysis;
- To promote the highest level of ethics in the discharge of members' duties; and
- To develop fellowship among members.

### **Membership Information**

Financial Forums are held annually in the spring. Our membership includes regulators, regulated utility personnel, consultants, attorneys, academicians as well as other members of the financial community. Refer to the next page for further information on how to become a member of SURFA.

### **Hotel Information**

Omni Richmond Hotel 100 South 12th Street Richmond, VA 23219 804-344-7000 (direct) or 800-443-6664 (toll free)

Daily Rates: \$169 (single) - \$169 (double) plus tax

(for the dates of April 25-28)

Prevailing Federal Per Diem rate will apply

Reserved rate cut-off date is March 29, 2022

https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/richmond/meetings/surfa-53rd-financial-forum-04262022

#### SURFA Forum Refund and Complaint Resolution Policy

Forum fees are fully refundable if registration is cancelled by April 6<sup>th</sup>. A \$50 fee will be charged for cancellations received April 6<sup>th</sup> through April 20<sup>th</sup>. No refunds will be made for cancellations received after April 20<sup>th</sup>. It is SURFA's policy to resolve questions and complaints with its members on a case-by-case basis. For more information on the refund policy, or if you have a complaint, please contact Mark Cicchetti, President, at **850.508.4141** or Mark.Cicchetti@PSC.state.fl.us.



SURFA 53 <sup>rd</sup> Financial Forum April 28 – 29, 2022 REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP DUES		
Registration for the 53 <sup>rd</sup> Financial For	um & Memberships is <u>online</u> only*	
*** PLEASE PURCHASE / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP *** *** BEFORE REGISTERING FOR THE FORUM ***		
Please visit <u>http://www.surfamembers.com</u> to	register for the 53 <sup>rd</sup> Financial Forum.	
Registratio	n Fees	
SURFA Government Members	\$450 (Plus membership dues)	
If registering prior to March 30, 2022:	\$420 (Plus membership dues)	
SURFA Corporate Members	\$550 (Plus membership dues)	
If registering prior to March 30, 2022:	\$520 (Plus membership dues)	
Nonmembers	\$750	
<ul> <li>Multiple Registration Discount for Members (please contact <u>pahern@comcast.net</u>)</li> <li>Two SURFA members from the same organization may take a \$50 discount per person.</li> </ul>		
Three or more SURFA members from the same	ne organization may take a \$100 discount per	

person.

	Membership Renewals & New Me	emberships	
Please vi	sit <u>http://www.surfamembers.com</u> to ren	ew or become a member	
	Membership Dues:	\$100	
	Student Membership Dues:	\$25	
	http://www.surfamembers	s.com	



### **Continuing Education Credits**

For public and nonprofit sector employees, full attendance at the program will earn 20 credits toward a Certificate of Continuing Regulatory Education (CCRE) sponsored by the Institute of Public Utilities at Michigan State University and endorsed by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. Credits may be earned for up to two programs hosted by the same professional organization and past attendance may be eligible. For program details, please visit <u>www.ipu.msu.edu/CCRE</u> or contact ipu@msu.edu.

#### **CPE** Credits

This conference provides a general overview of financial, accounting and economic issues impacting regulated utilities and their cost of capital. The conference presentation is group-live, and the course level is intermediate. Perquisite: Previous experience in utility ratemaking and regulatory proceedings or an understanding of the ratemaking process from an accounting, economic or financial perspective. There is no advanced preparation required. Conference participants can earn up to 10 CPE credits in fields of Regulatory Ethics, Finance and Economics.

The individual sessions CPE Credits, prerequisites and format are as listed on the next page. In accordance with the standards of the NASBA, CPE credits are granted based on a 50 minute hour and active participation in the course.

SURFA is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have the final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: <a href="https://www.learningmarket.org">www.learningmarket.org</a>

Bente Villadsen, Ph.D. Past President - SURFA c/o The Brattle Group One Beacon St., Suite 2600 Boston, MA 02108 617.234.5608 Bente.Villadsen@brattle.com



### **CPE Credits for the SURFA Conference:**

#### Panel 1: Outlook 2022-2023: 1970s Redux Minus the Disco?

Level:	Intermediate
Time:	105 minutes (2 Credits)
Prerequisite:	None
Field of Study:	Economics - Technical
Delivery Method:	Group Live

After the session, the participants are expected to know recent trends in interest rates and equity markets, as well as to be able to articulate the impact of interest rate changes on utilities' cash flow and cost of capital. The session will also enhance the participants' understanding of current and anticipated economic growth, of labor productivity, and of their impact on upcoming monetary policy decisions.

#### Panel 2: Full Market Value vs. Original Cost

Level:	Intermediate
Time:	105 minutes (2 Credits)
Prerequisite:	A basic understanding of finance and regulation
Field of Study:	Finance and regulation
Delivery Method:	Group Live

After the session, participants should be familiar with the difference between the determination of rate base using fair market value versus original cost. Participants will also learn about the impact of the methodologies on the return earned by utilities and how to determine such return

#### Panel 3: The Market Risk Premium: An In-Depth Review

Level:	Intermediate
Time:	120 minutes (2 Credits)
Prerequisite:	A basic understanding of finance and regulation
Field of Study:	Finance
Delivery Method:	Group Live

After the session, participants should understand various approaches to the determination of the market risk premium (MRP); the pros and cons of each method; as well as the degree to which the methods are used in practice. The session will also discuss how the magnitude of the MRP is impacted by the approach and the relative stability of each result.

#### Panel 4: Decarbonization: How Deep? How Fast? What Cost?

Level:	Intermediate
Time:	105 minutes (2 Credits)
Prerequisite:	A basic understanding of finance and regulation
Field of Study:	Finance
Delivery Method:	Group Live



After the session, participants should understand some of the key issues and challenges that decarbonization pose to the utility industry. Participants should also be familiar with potential operational, legislative, and regulatory issues, which are expected to arise from the shift to a less carbon intensive economy.

#### Panel 5: Wall Street's Perspective

Level:	Intermediate
Time:	105 minutes (2 Credits)
Prerequisite:	None
Field of Study:	Finance
Delivery Method:	Group Live

After the session, the participants will understand the risk and rewards in the utility sector. In addition, participants will understand investors' views of the risks facing the utility sector and how such risks may impact the ratings and cost of capital for utilities.

Total Credits available for completing all sessions is 10 (Economics 2 and Finance 8).

In accordance with the standards of the National Registry of CPE Sponsors, CPE credits will be granted based on a 50-minute hour.

CPE Credit eligibility requires you to sign-in and sign-out for each session. This must be done at the administrative table, which is monitored. Additionally, individuals who seek CPR credit must fill out the evaluation form for each session.

Following successful participation in the SURFA Financial Forum that is properly documented, you will be issued a certificate of completion.