

# Southwest Power Pool

## **Board of Directors/Members Committee Biographies**

### **Board of Directors**



#### **Phyllis E. Bernard**

Phyllis Bernard is a Robert S. Kerr Jr. Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the Center on Alternative Dispute Resolution at the Oklahoma City University School of Law. She is a frequent lecturer and presenter at academic and professional conferences throughout the nation. Professor Bernard's research and teaching interests in mediation derive from practical experience as a litigator, lobbyist and adjudicator in Washington, D.C. during the 1980s. Her scholarly work focuses on system design, ethics and cultural dynamics in dispute resolution. On the international level, Professor Bernard has served as a consultant to the U.N. World Health Organization, advising the Lao People's Democratic Republic on privatization of the health care system and development of a quality of care dispute resolution system. Professor Bernard has begun a continuing *pro bono* consultation with the International Federation of Women Lawyers in the Niger Delta, where she was asked to design an appropriate tribal peacemaking program, using the **Early Settlement** model. In the American Bar Association, Professor Bernard has served on the governing council of two sections: the Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice and the Dispute Resolution Section. She is Dispute Resolution Section Liaison to the ABA Africa Law Initiative. Professor Bernard holds an A.B. degree from Bryn Mawr College, an M.A. from Columbia University, and a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.



#### **Nicholas A. (Nick) Brown, President & CEO**

Nick was elected President & CEO of Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) in January 2004. In his current position he is responsible for ensuring that SPP achieves its mission and goals and serves on the Board of Directors. Prior to this position Nick served SPP members as Senior Vice President & Corporate Secretary from 1999- 2003, Vice President & Corporate Secretary from 1998-99, Director, Engineering & Operations from 1993-96, Manager, Engineering Services from 1989-93, and in several engineering positions since joining the SPP Staff in 1985. Nick began his career working as a planning engineer in the System Planning Section at Southwestern Electric Power Co. Nick received Bachelor of Science degrees in physics and math from Ouachita Baptist University in 1981 and in electrical engineering from Louisiana Tech University in 1982. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi and Eta Kappa Nu engineering honor societies, and IEEE and NSPE technical and professional societies. Nick is a registered Professional Engineer and a Master Electrician in the state of Arkansas.



#### **James E. Eckelberger**

Jim is a supply chain expert and a change manager who iteratively tackles assignments requiring the rapid improvement of a broken supply chain. Most recently he worked for Huttig Building Products, a billion dollar distributor in the wood products industry, where his focus was cutting costs and improving pricing processes. Immediately prior to working for Huttig, Jim was the Chief Executive Officer of netMercury, a newly created, entrepreneurial company providing supply chain services in the semiconductor industry. Previously, Jim was Vice President, Global Integrated Logistics Operations Supply Chain Management for Compaq Computer Corporation. Since leaving the Navy Department in 1991, Jim has also been the Vice President for Logistics at Dal-Tile, BJ's Wholesale Club, and Pace Membership Warehouse. In each case, the requirement was to fix the process and leave behind a smoothly functioning operation. For over 30 years, Jim was a naval logistician, rising to rank of Rear Admiral, and the senior aviation logistician in the Navy. A highlight of his last year on active duty with the Navy was being responsible for the very effective support for all Navy and Marine aircraft in the first Gulf War. Jim has a BS in Business from Northwestern University and a MBA from Harvard Business School.



### **Quentin Jackson**

Quentin Jackson currently is President and Chief Executive Officer of Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited (“NEIL”), which provides property and business interruption insurance to all operating nuclear power stations in the United States as well as many overseas. NEIL is owned by approximately 60 utilities that own or operate the nuclear stations. Quentin has worked in the nuclear insurance business since 1973 when he moved to Bermuda to take a position as Chief Accountant with Marsh & McLennan (Bermuda) Ltd., in their captive insurance company management operations. Quentin was educated in Scotland and has completed the executive program at the University of North Carolina and the Reactor Technology Program for executives at the MIT National Academy for Nuclear Training.



### **Joshua W. Martin, III**

Mr. Martin currently serves as President of Verizon Delaware Inc. and oversees all aspects of Verizon's telecommunications business within Delaware. Mr. Martin first joined the company as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary on January 2, 1990. Prior to joining Verizon, Mr. Martin was a Delaware Superior Court Judge for eight years. Earlier, he served on the Delaware Public Service Commission from 1978 to 1982, including three years as Chairman. After obtaining his law degree, Mr. Martin joined Hercules, Inc., where he was a Patent Attorney until 1982. Mr. Martin began his professional career as a Physicist at DuPont Company in 1966. Mr. Martin is a leader in education as well as professional and community organizations. He holds honorary degrees from Widener University and Goldey Beacom College. He was nominated as Delawarean of the Century, in business, by Wilmington News Journal in November, 1999. He received the Arthur E. Armitage Sr., Distinguished Alumni Award from Rutgers School of Law in 1998 for service to the community and contributions to the legal profession. Born and raised in Columbia, S. Carolina, Mr. Martin holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Case Institute of Technology, is a graduate of the Rutgers University School of Law, and completed the Wharton School Executive Development Program in 1996. Mr. Martin and his wife Cynthia reside in Hockessin, Delaware.



### **Robert G. Schoenberger**

Mr. Schoenberger is currently serving as Chairman, CEO and President of Unitil Corporation, which he joined in 1997. In addition to operation of its utility companies, Unitil is emerging as a leader in the business to business e-commerce sector of the energy industry via its Usource subsidiary and investment in Enermetrix.com. Mr. Schoenberger began his career in 1974 working for the New York State Division of the Budget and the Governor's office. He later joined the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and served in a variety of executive positions, including CFO and President and COO. Among his achievements were the successful restructuring of NYPA's nuclear operations and the significant improvement of its customer focus. Mr. Schoenberger received his BA from LaSalle University, his Masters Degree in History from the University of Delaware and completed the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School.



### **Harry I. Skilton**

Harry most recently has been President and CEO of American Meter Company, which manufactures and markets metering and regulation equipment and systems for gas distribution companies (founded in the 1830s). Harry has over 25 years of senior executive and general management experience in Fortune 500 manufacturing companies. Specific industry experience in engineered products includes building components, material handling equipment/systems and electronic/computer components. He began his business career in financial management with Celanese Corporation becoming its Corporate Vice President and Treasurer. Harry has a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University and a MBA from Harvard Business School.

## Members Committee

### Investor Owned Utilities



#### **Michael D. Desselle**

Michael D. Desselle is Director of Public Policy for American Electric Power. He is responsible for the development and advocacy of AEP's corporate policies and positions.

Desselle has over 22 years experience in the energy industry having served in a variety of analytical and advocacy positions with utility companies and consulting firms throughout his career. He began his career as a planning analyst for Cajun Electric Power Cooperative. From 1985 until 1992, while at Price Waterhouse, Desselle managed and performed utility regulatory, financial and general consulting engagements for clients in the gas, electric, water and wastewater industries. He joined Central and South West Services, Inc. in 1992 and rose to positions responsible for supporting corporate initiatives, strategies and positions. He was named to his current position following the AEP-CSW merger in 2000. Desselle is a member of the SPP Finance Committee and Strategic Planning Committee. Desselle is also the current Chairman and CEO of the North American Energy Standards Board. Desselle holds a bachelor's degree in operations research from Louisiana State University.



#### **Doug Henry**

Doug Henry is Vice President, Power Delivery with Westar Energy, Inc. He began his career in 1975 as an Engineer for Oklahoma Gas and Electric. In 1977, Henry joined his present company as a Junior Engineer. Since then he has held many positions including: Assistant Line Supervisor; Supervisor, Division Engineering; Superintendent of Meters; Chief Engineer; Director, Wichita Operations, and Executive Director, T&D Engineering and Operations; Executive Director, Power Delivery. Henry has a BS in Electrical Engineering from University of Missouri-Rolla. He is a member of the SPP Membership Committee and the SPP Finance Committee. Henry also serves on the Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America and the Board of Directors of the Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas. He serves as a Deacon in his church and Director of the Young Adult Ministry.



#### **Michael Palmer**

Michael E. Palmer, Vice President - Commercial Operations, joined The Empire District Electric Company in June 1986 as a Customer Service Consultant. He was named District Manager for the Aurora area in 1994 and Director of Operations in Branson in March 1997. In February 2001, he was named General Manager - Commercial Operations and, at the April 25, 2001 meeting of the Board of Directors, he was elected Vice President - Commercial Operations. A native of Pierce City, Missouri, Palmer graduated from Pittsburg State University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management. Mr. Palmer is an active participant in the community having served on the Branson City Council, Branson Lake Area Chamber Board, Skaggs Community Hospital Board of Trustees, and Taney Economic Partners Board. Currently, Mr. Palmer serves on the City Council of Carl Junction, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Committee, and is a member of the Rotary Club.



#### **Richard Spring**

Richard is Vice President, Transmission Services for Kansas City Power & Light Company. Richard has over 22 years of experience in electric production for two investor-owned utilities. Mr. Spring joined KCPL I 1978 and has held various positions in power plant operations, maintenance, and engineering. In 1994 he was promoted to Vice President – Power Production. He was named to his current position in 1999. He has a bachelor degree in mechanical engineering from Wichita State University and a master of business administration from Rockhurst College.

## **Cooperatives**



### **Stephen Parr**

Stephen has worked for Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (KEPCo) as Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer since 1996. Prior to KEPCo, he worked for Cajun Electric Power Cooperative as Senior Vice President & CEO and before that at Soyland Power Cooperative as Director of Engineering and Operations. He is a registered Professional Engineer and earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Nevada.



### **Gary Ray Roulet**

Gary Ray Roulet is an employee of Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, a Generation and Transmission Cooperative made up of twenty members primarily in Oklahoma, but serving parts of Kansas, and Texas. He was promoted to Chief Executive Officer on July 30, 2003. Roulet has almost 29 years of executive, managerial, supervisory, and technical experience with WFEC, most recently serving as general manager of Corporate Strategies. He began his career with WFEC in 1974. Roulet currently serves on the Southwest Power Pool Board of Directors, the ACES Power Marketing Board of Managers, the Southwestern Power Resources Board, and the Board of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives. In the past, he has served on numerous boards and committees, both industry-related and with the Anadarko community. Roulet holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, with a minor in Computer Science, from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He also served in the U. S. Army.



### **Rick Tyler**

Rick became General Manager of Northeast Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NTEC) in February 1999. Prior to joining NTEC, Rick served as the Director of Finance and Accounting at Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. from 1981 and brings 28 years of electric utility experience with him to the SPP Members Committee. He has a BSB Degree from Emporia State University with an emphasis in Accounting.



### **Gary Voigt**

Gary became Chief Executive officer of Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation and Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., Little Rock, AR, on April 1, 1996. He is a Certified Public Accountant and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University.

## **Municipals**



### **David Christiano**

Dave is Manager of System Planning for City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri. Dave is responsible for Forecasting, Planning and Conceptual Design of Electric, Gas and Water Systems. Prior to that he was Senior Engineer at Consolidated Edison Company of New York where he was responsible for transmission planning and worked extensively on the analysis of the 1977 New York Blackout.





### **Roland "Harry" Dawson**

Harry has served as the General Manager of the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority since January 1983. He will serve on the Board of Directors through 2003. Since joining Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, he has managed OMPA from a paper organization in 1983 to an operating generating and transmission power supplier for 35 municipal systems in Oklahoma and one in Kansas. Prior to accepting the position with OMPA, Dawson served as General Manager of Grand Haven, Michigan Board of Power and Light. He also served in various management capacities for two public utilities and an investor-owned utility in Kansas from 1970 to 1978.

## **IPP/Marketers**



### **Trudy Harper**

Trudy is Vice President and General Manager of Tenaska Power Services Company where she leads the power marketing affiliate of Tenaska. Trudy joined the Tenaska Power Services Company in June 1992 as general manager of business development for Tenaska's independent power development efforts. Prior to joining Tenaska she held various transmission planning, generation planning, and state and federal regulatory affairs positions with Texas Utilities Electric Co. (TU Electric) in Dallas.



### **Jim Stanton**

Jim is Director of Market Design for Calpine's Midwest Power Region. He has been in the electric power industry for twenty-two years, with experience in power plant operations, contract administration, system operations, power marketing and Government/Regulatory affairs. Jim is currently a member of the NERC Standards Authorization Committee and participates in various other NERC forums. He is a certified System Operator holding both a NERC and an SPP certificate. He also had extensive involvement with the deregulation activities in ERCOT, and was one of the earliest market representatives in the formative years of the Midwest ISO. Jim's Midwest ISO activities included membership on the Advisory Committee, Market Working Group, various task forces, and he is a past Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee. He has a BS in Management and numerous operational and training certifications.



### **Walt Yeager**

Walt is Managing Director, Market Development for Cinergy Services, Inc. Walt began his career in the electric industry with PSI Energy in 1975. PSI merged with The Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company to form Cinergy in 1994. He has held various staff and management positions in System Planning, Energy Management, Operations Planning, Trading Operations, and Regulatory Policy. Walt is a Registered Professional Engineer and holds both a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Louisville.

## **State/Federal Agencies**



### **Michael A. Deihl (Mike)**

Mike is Administrator of the Southwestern Power Administration since September 10, 1995. Mike will serve on the Board of Directors through 2005. Prior to joining SWPA, Mike was Administrator of the Alaska Power Administration from 1992 to 1995. He began his federal career in 1976 with the Bureau of Reclamation in Colorado. SWPA markets wholesale hydroelectric power from 24 dams owned and operated by the U. S. Corps of Engineers. SWPA serves approximately 95 municipal utilities, rural electric generation, transmission cooperatives and military bases in the states of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and eastern Texas.