

Coping with Financial Challenges During Periods of Declining Sales

The economic downturn combined with energy conservation programs has reduced electric sales and created a number of financial and rate design challenges for utilities. This session discusses policies that assist in dealing with these challenges: Specific areas discussed include the following:

- 1. Financial policies that help guide utilities during difficult times
- 2. Rate policies that promote financial stability
- 3. How long-term rate tracks and financial projections can guide a utility through difficult times
- 4. Rate structures that promote financial stability and those that need to be closely monitored
- 5. What other utilities are doing to get through these difficult times
- 6. Industry trends that promote financial stability