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Regional Workshop on Uniform System of Accounts and Regulatory Reporting

Agenda

September 17-18, 2007, Tirana

*Co-hosted by
Pierce Atwood*

*National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)
Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA)*

*Sponsored by
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)*

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Objectives:

- 1) To assist regulators to strengthen their capacity to receive and process the information they require from energy companies to fulfill their regulatory duties;
- 2) To identify differences among reporting requirements and approaches to harmonization;
- 3) To identify assistance needs going forward to strengthen reporting.

The first day will focus on regulatory activities and will examine how a Uniform System of Accounts (USoA) is structured, the use of regulatory reporting requirements and identify needs

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and steps forward for implementation. This day will include extensive discussion of the existing reporting requirements in the participating countries, the use of the accounting system at each commission, and the commissions' needs with respect to augmenting their reporting and accounting system. It will provide the opportunity for "line by line" discussion of Accounts.

The second day will provide a detailed ("line by line") discussion of the USoA model implemented in Bulgaria with the objective of harmonizing over time the regulatory reporting requirements among the commissions throughout the region. The day will also involve a discussion of issues relating to the implementation of a regulatory accounting model and to the interactions between regulators and the regulated companies. Finally, the discussions will examine issues concerning confidentiality and the public disclosure of information obtained through the system of accounts.

Monday, September 17

Illyria 3 Room

- 09:00 **Introduction**
Mr. Thomas Welch, Pierce Atwood
Mr. Robert Archer, USAID
- 09:15 **Review of Regional Workshop Presentations/Information**
Mr. Bruce Hutchinson
- Regulatory Needs and Requirements for USoA and Reporting
 - Principles of USoA
 - Data Requirements
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 10:45 **Overview of USoA**
Mr. Hutchinson
- Regulatory Requirements
 - Data Requirements
 - Compliance with Existing Legislation
 - Structure and Elements
- 11:30 **Reporting Requirements**
Mr. Hutchinson
- Regulatory Needs and Uses of Reports
 - Schedule for Reporting
 - Regulatory Format for Reports
- 12:15 Lunch

- 13:15 **Reporting Requirements and Accounting System (Country Reports)**
Country Representatives
- Standard Report Formats
 - Issues Experienced in Getting Requested Data
 - Accounting and categorization of data
- 14:15 **Discussion (Q&A) of Country and Regional Specific Issues**
- 15:15 Coffee break
- 15:30 **Implementation**
Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Welch
- Legislative Requirements
 - Regulatory
 - Software Development
 - Training
 - Transition Plan
 - Full Implementation
- 16:30 **Wrap up**
Mr. Welch
- Discussion (Q&A)
 - Identification of key areas to address
- 17:00 Session concludes

Tuesday, September 18

Illyria 3 Room

- 09:00 **Review of Bulgarian USoA as a Sample USoA**
Mr. Hutchinson
- Overview
 - Instructions Manual
 - Accounting Manuals
- 09:45 **Detailed Discussion of Accounting Structure in Bulgaria**
Mr. Hutchinson
- Focus on distribution company
 - Equity
 - Fixed Assets
 - Inventories
 - Liabilities & Receivables

- Cash
- Expenses
- Income
- Off-Balance Sheet Accounts

10:30 Coffee break

10:45 **Detailed Discussion of Accounting Structure in Bulgaria (Continued)**

12:15 Lunch

13:15 **Discussion (Q&A) of Country Specific Issues**

Discussion led by Mr. Welch and Mr. Hutchinson

- Potential application to each country
- Areas of possible revision to the reporting requirements

14:45 Coffee break

15:00 **Issues Relating to the Interaction between the Regulator and the Companies**

Discussion led by Mr. Welch

16:00 **Issues Relating to Confidentiality and Public Disclosure of Information**

Discussion led by Mr. Welch

17:00 Workshop Concludes