

Travel Report: APPA Legal and Regulatory Conference

Attended by: Peter Montinola, PUC

Conference Details

- **Event:** APPA Legal and Regulatory Conference
 - **Dates:** October 21-23, 2024
 - **Location:** Nashville, Tennessee
-

Purpose of Attendance

The APPA (American Public Power Association) Legal and Regulatory Conference serves as a premier platform to discuss pivotal legal and regulatory issues affecting public power utilities. My attendance aimed to:

- Gain insights into recent developments in the field.
 - Network with industry leaders and professionals.
 - Explore practical solutions to enhance our local operations.
-

Summary of Events

Day 1: October 21, 2024

- **Keynote Address:**
 - Explored the evolving regulatory landscape and its implications for public power utilities.
 - Emphasized adaptability and proactive compliance strategies as essential tools for success.
- **Sessions Attended:**
 - **FERC Updates:** Overview of recent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rulings and their sector-wide impacts.
 - **Environmental Compliance:** Strategies to adhere to new regulations while minimizing operational costs.
- **Networking:** Engaged with peers from utilities and regulatory organizations, exchanging challenges and innovative ideas.

Day 2: October 22, 2024

- **Morning Workshops:**
 - **Cybersecurity Preparedness:** Practical measures to fortify utility infrastructure against emerging cyber threats.
 - **Rate-Setting Strategies:** Innovative approaches to maintaining competitiveness in a dynamic market.
- **Panel Discussion:**
 - **Topic:** "Navigating Legal Risks in Public Utilities"
 - Provided diverse perspectives on mitigating litigation and compliance risks.
- **Evening Networking Event:** An informal gathering fostering meaningful discussions and collaboration opportunities.

Day 3: October 23, 2024

- **Breakout Sessions:**
 - **Labor and Employment Law:** Addressed workforce management challenges, including union negotiations and compliance.
 - **Emerging Technologies and Regulation:** Examined legal considerations in adopting renewable energy and modernizing grids.
- **Closing Remarks:** Reiterated the importance of continuous learning and adaptation to navigate a rapidly evolving regulatory environment.

Key Takeaways

1. **Regulatory Adaptation:** Staying proactive about regulatory changes is vital for compliance and operational success.
 2. **Cybersecurity Focus:** Prioritizing cybersecurity safeguards sensitive data and critical infrastructure.
 3. **Innovation and Collaboration:** Leveraging emerging technologies and partnerships enhances efficiency and opens new growth opportunities.
-

Conclusion

Attending the APPA Legal and Regulatory Conference was a highly rewarding experience. The knowledge acquired and connections established will play a crucial role in enhancing our strategic initiatives and operational resilience. Nashville provided an excellent and welcoming setting for this productive event.