

# FCC 101 FOR ELECTRIC UTILITIES

**October 16-17, 2017**  
**Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor**  
**Baltimore, MD**



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EUCI is authorized  
by IACET to offer  
1.0 CEUs for the  
course

## OVERVIEW

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This course is designed to give professionals who work with or for electric utilities an understanding of how electric utilities use communications facilities and services that are regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). It identifies how those regulations impact electric utilities, both as a user of communication facilities and when applicable, as a provider of those services. It provides critical guidance on how to comply with applicable FCC regulations.

The course is intended for attorneys, telecom and IT managers or technicians, outside plant managers, government affairs professionals, procurement specialists, and others whose scope of work includes at least some involvement with communications assets or services used in support of utility operations. The course will help in-house counsel better understand and manage regulatory and commercial risks, and will help others in the organization better understand how the FCC works and how to comply with FCC regulations.

The course will discuss the importance of communications to the modern electric utility, the types of systems that are used, how FCC regulations can significantly impact utility operations, and the issues that can arise when negotiating agreements with third-party providers. It will cover the basics of FCC compliance, spectrum acquisition and radio licensing, tower management, pole attachment regulations, and the unique transactional issues in procuring telecom or IT services from commercial service providers. The course will also identify current regulatory issues and trends in telecommunications that could impact utility operations.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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- Explain the interdependence between energy and communications
- Describe how FCC regulations can significantly impact utility operations
- Identify key FCC compliance issues facing electric utilities
- Practice strategies for negotiating agreements with telecom and IT service providers
- Discuss how to identify and mitigate regulatory and financial risks related to communications systems and services

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

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- In-house counsel
- Directors and managers in telecom and IT departments
- Telecom and IT technicians
- Procurement specialists
- Government affairs specialists

# COURSE TIMING

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017

**8:00 - 8:30 am**            **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 am – 5:00 pm**        **Course Timing**

**12:00 - 1:00 pm**         **Group Luncheon**

# AGENDA

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**A. Welcome and Course Overview**

**B. How and Why Electric Utilities Use Communications**

- Non-technical description of utility communications systems, including
  - o Land Mobile Radio
  - o Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)
  - o Advanced Metering Infrastructure
  - o Microwave Radio
  - o Fiber Optics
  - o Wide Area Networks (WANs), including Multi-Protocol Labeling Services (MPLS) and Software Defined Networks (SDNs)
  - o SIP Trunking (Voice over Internet)
- Internal communications systems vs. use of public networks

**C. Introduction to the Federal Communications Commission**

- Scope of FCC jurisdiction
- Statutory basis for FCC authority
- Agency organization
- Development of FCC rules and policy
- FCC enforcement
- Researching FCC rules

**D. Regulation of Radio Spectrum Used in Utility Operations**

- Fundamental terminology used in managing radio spectrum
- Spectrum allocation and assignment process
- Licensed vs. unlicensed spectrum
- Types of authorizations issued by FCC
- General conditions of FCC licensing authority

**E. Obtaining Radio Spectrum for Utility Operations**

- Direct FCC licensing of site-based systems
- FCC auctions of radio spectrum
- Buying or leasing spectrum on the secondary market
  - o Regulatory requirements
  - o Contract considerations

**F. Regulatory Conditions Associated with FCC Licenses**

- Eligibility for licensing
- Permissible uses
- Modifications of license
- License assignments and corporate transfers of control

# AGENDA

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017 (CONTINUED)

**G. Ancillary Issues in Radio Licensing**

- FCC regulation of antenna structures
- Notice to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- Environmental rules applicable to tower construction
  - o Environmental protection (NEPA)
  - o RF radiation
  - o Historic preservation

# COURSE TIMING

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017

**8:00 - 8:30 am**            **Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 am – 12:00 pm**    **Course Timing**

# AGENDA

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**H. Utilities as Consumers of Telecom and IT Services**

- Types of services used to support utility operations
- Negotiating agreements to save money and reduce risks
- Suggested RFI and RFP processes
- Crafting service agreements for telecom, IT, and cloud services, and the unique structure of these deals
- Service level agreements
- Dispute resolution

**I. Utilities as Providers of Telecom, Infrastructure and Related Services**

- FCC regulation of utility poles, conduits and rights-of-way
- Dark-fiber and indefeasible rights of use (IRUs)
- Strategies to minimize telecom regulation and regulatory fees
- Leasing of utility facilities for wireless collocations
- State regulatory issues

**J. Current Issues and Trends in Telecom**

- Current issues:
  - o Telecom transitions (from circuit-switched networks to IP-based networks)
  - o Broadband deployment
  - o Net neutrality
- Current trends:
  - o Universal Service Fund
  - o The “Internet of Things”
  - o SDN networks
  - o Network security

**K. Top 5 FCC Compliance Issues for Energy Utilities**

## INSTRUCTORS

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### Jeffrey Sheldon

**Partner, Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP**

Jeffrey L. Sheldon is a partner in the law firm of Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP, where he advises clients on a wide range of telecommunications regulatory and transactional issues, with an emphasis on the use of wireless technologies and the development of telecom infrastructure.

Mr. Sheldon has advised clients with interests in wireless devices and systems, broadband deployment, pole attachments, and universal service. He has assisted clients in obtaining FCC authority for the operation of radio systems in a variety of frequency bands and radio services, including private and commercial mobile radio systems, point-to-point and point-to-multipoint microwave systems, satellite earth stations, and experimental radio systems. Mr. Sheldon has also represented companies in FCC enforcement proceedings, including the negotiation of consent decrees to resolve such cases.

After beginning his career as an associate with a boutique communications law firm, Mr. Sheldon served as vice president and general counsel of the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC), where he represented the telecom and IT interests of electric, gas, and water utilities before the FCC, NTIA, Congress, and the courts.



### Laura McDonald

**Partner, Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP**

Laura F.H. McDonald is a partner in the firm of Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP. Ms. McDonald represents large enterprise users in a variety of telecom matters focusing on the negotiation of custom and complicated network service agreements and helping customers transition to new services, data center environments, and/or providers.

Ms. McDonald works closely with all members of the enterprise client team—legal, procurement, engineering, and operations—to enable clients to create comprehensive solutions and contracts, assess their needs and risks, and help streamline the procurement of telecom and data services. On an ongoing basis, she works with clients to strengthen their procurement processes, maximize their contract leverage, and identify risks that can reduce savings. She helps enterprises navigate the complex regulatory structure surrounding their transactions, and frequently speaks on demystifying the myths customers encounter in negotiations. She also assists users in resolving disputes with carriers and, when necessary, arbitrating, and mediating disputes before the FCC and other forums. And she has been involved in several regulatory proceedings representing large users.

In addition, Ms. McDonald organizes and runs intra-corporate training sessions on telecommunications, has represented entities interested in investing in telecommunications firms and advised them on the regulatory proceedings that affect entry into the field and the changing regulatory environment. She also has worked with newer entrants into the market in negotiating their deals with carriers.

# INSTRUCTORS

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## Colleen Boothby

**Partner, Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP**

Colleen Boothby is a partner in the firm of Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP, where she provides counsel and strategic advice on a wide variety of regulatory, business, and litigation matters to enterprise customers and providers of communications and information technology products and services.

Ms. Boothby joined Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP after ten years with the Federal Communications Commission where she served as the legal advisor to the Common Carrier Bureau Chief, legal advisor to the Deputy Bureau Chief for Policy, Deputy and Associate Chief of the Tariff Division, and staff and senior supervising attorney in the Tariff and International Facilities Divisions of the Common Carrier Bureau. Ms. Boothby's expertise covers a broad range of subjects, including the rules and policies affecting prices and contract flexibility for users of communications services; information technology products, information services, the Internet, and public or private intranets; the deployment of broadband technologies; the management and assignment of numbers in the North American Numbering Plan; the 1996 Telecommunications Act and the regulatory proceedings implementing it; universal service funding mechanisms and surcharges; and the regulation (and deregulation) of international, interstate, and local exchange services.



## David Lee

**Technology Director, TechCaliber Consulting, LLC**

David Lee is the Technology Director at TC2 with over 20 years of technical and management experience in technology infrastructure, networking services and telecommunications. He manages large multidisciplinary and international teams, and has developed solutions which apply procurement strategies and networking technologies to solve business problems and reduce costs for his Fortune 100 clients.

David's work at TC2 derives from a unique combination of professional engineering credentials and deep experience in telecommunications procurement. He focuses on global wide-area network infrastructure design issues and service level requirements critical to successful MPLS and IP Telephony procurements. David also assists clients in the project management and resolution of technical issues during their MPLS deployments.

As a result, David has led or contributed to several global data and telephony managed services benchmarking, design, and procurement projects across several industries. He is regularly quoted in publications such as Network World, Internet Week, Insurance & Technology, and Crain's New York Business, and is a frequent industry speaker on network services, procurement and outsourcing.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

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Participants must sign in/out each day and be in attendance for the entirety of the course to be eligible for continuing education credit.

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

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Power Point presentations and open discussion will be used in the program.

## PROCEEDINGS

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The proceedings of the course will be published, and one copy will be distributed to each registrant at the course.

## EVENT LOCATION

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A room block has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor, 300 Light St, Baltimore, MD 21202, for the nights of October 15-16, 2017. Room rates are \$225 plus applicable tax. Call **1-410-528-1234** for reservations and mention the EUCI event to get the group rate. The cutoff date to receive the group rate is September 29, 2017 but as there are a limited number of rooms available at this rate, the room block may close sooner. ***Please make your reservations early.***

## IACET CREDITS

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EUCI has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). In obtaining this accreditation, EUCI has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard which is recognized internationally as a standard of good practice. As a result of their Authorized Provider status, EUCI is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/IACET Standard.

**EUCI is authorized by IACET to offer 1.0 CEUs for this course.**

## REGISTER 3, SEND THE 4TH FREE

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Any organization wishing to send multiple attendees to these courses may send 1 FREE for every 3 delegates registered. Please note that all registrations must be made at the same time to qualify.

**REGISTRATION**  
*to register [CLICK HERE](#) or*

**Call: 201 871 0474**  
**fax: 253 663 7224**  
**email: [register@pmaconference.com](mailto:register@pmaconference.com)**  
**web: <http://pmaconference.com/>**  
**Mail: POB 2303 Falls Church Va 22042**

Please make checks payable to: "PMA"

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## PLEASE REGISTER

**FCC 101 FOR ELECTRIC UTILITIES COURSE**  
 OCTOBER 16-17, 2017: US \$1395,  
 Early bird on or before September 29, 2017: US \$1195

How did you hear about this event? (direct e-mail, colleague, speaker(s), etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

What name do you prefer on your name badge? \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

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List any dietary or accessibility needs here \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD INFORMATION**

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Billing City \_\_\_\_\_ Billing State \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code (last 3 digits on the back of Visa and MC or 4 digits on front of AmEx) \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

**OR** Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover \_\_\_\_\_ registrations.

**Substitutions & Cancellations**  
 Your registration may be transferred to a member of your organization up to 24 hours in advance of the event. Cancellations must be received on or before September 15, 2017 in order to be refunded and will be subject to a US \$195.00 processing fee per registrant. No refunds will be made after this date. Cancellations received after this date will create a credit of the tuition (less processing fee) good toward any other EUCI event. This credit will be good for six months from the cancellation date. In the event of non-attendance, all registration fees will be forfeited. In case of course cancellation, EUCI's liability is limited to refund of the event registration fee only. For more information regarding administrative policies, such as complaints and refunds, please contact our offices at (201) 871-0474.