
■ The Prime Group ■

Priority Cost of Service, Rate & Regulatory Support



The Prime Group, LLC, is committed to providing our electric, gas and water utility customers with specialized support in the areas of cost of service studies, rate design, statistical and economic analyses, strategic planning, regulatory support and training that are essential for sustained success.

The Prime Group, LLC is a utility consulting firm whose economists, engineers and accountants provide rate and regulatory support for electric, gas and water utilities all over the country. Our team of experts has helped investor-owned utilities, cooperatives, and municipal utilities to achieve their regulatory and financial objectives. We have testified at the FERC and at state regulatory commissions, and we frequently make presentations to utility executives, Boards of Directors, City Councils, and policymakers on utility rate and regulatory matters.

The Prime Group has performed cost of service and rate studies for over 150 utilities throughout the U.S. and Canada. Unlike many of our competitors, who mainly provide engineering services but also offer rate support essentially as a side business, our focus as a consulting firm is to provide rate and financial analysis support for utilities. This specialization explains why we have performed cost of service and rate studies for so many diverse utility companies.

The Prime Group, LLC was formed in 1996 by Steve Seelye and Marty Blake, who recognized that there was a strong market for specialized professional rate and regulatory services for utilities.

The Prime Group takes great pride in being easy to work with while providing consulting support that is unsurpassed in the industry. We tailor our models to meet your needs rather than force your needs to meet the requirements of a standard, off-the-shelf model.

The Prime Group does not try to be everything to everybody. We stick closely to what we are good at – performing cost of service studies, designing rates, preparing economic evaluations, and addressing complex regulatory issues.

The Prime Group has the intellectual power, depth, and experience to manage rate cases and other regulatory proceedings of any size and scope.

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CONSULTING SERVICES

Cost of Service & Rates

- Cost of Service Studies
- Time of Use / Time of Day Rates
- Service Unbundling
- Optimized Demand & Energy Rates
- Cost Recovery Mechanisms
 - Fuel Adjust-ment Clauses
 - Purchased Gas Adjustment Clauses
 - Purchased Power Adjustment Clauses
 - Environmental Cost Recovery Tariffs
 - DSM Cost Recovery Tariffs
 - Weather Normalization Adjustments
- Special Rate Designs
 - Economic Development
 - Electric Vehicle Rates
 - Interruptible Service
 - Real Time Pricing
 - Straight-Fixed Variable Rate Designs
 - Excess Facility Charges
 - Prepaid Metering
 - Rates for Unique Customer Segments
- Formula Rates
- Open Access Transmission Tariffs
- Independent Rate Reviews

Regulatory & Rate Filing Support

- Expert Testimony
- State Regulatory Filings
- FERC Filings
- Case Management & Technical Support for Complex Litigation
- Rate Settlement Negotiations
- Affiliate Transactions & Code of Conduct
- Prudence Determinations

Demand Response & Energy Efficiency

- Program Development & Rate Formulation
- Collaborative Facilitation

Financial & Economic Analysis

- Revenue Requirement Analysis
- Lead/Lag Studies
- Return on Equity Analysis
- Financial Forecasts
- Strategic Financial Modeling
- Depreciation Studies
- Evaluation of Investment Alternatives
- Merger and Acquisition Analysis
- Economic Valuation Studies
- Individual Customer Profitability
- Benchmark Studies

Optimization & Statistical Analysis

- Least Cost Planning
- Load Research Program Development
- Random Sample Design
- Multivariate Statistical Analysis
- Nonlinear Programming and Optimization
- Weather Modeling for System Design

RTO Membership

- Cost-Benefit Analysis of RTO Membership
- Review of RTO Alternatives
- Representation in RTO Stakeholder Processes

Strategic Planning

- Strategic Planning Facilitation
- Financial Modeling of Energy Policy Issues

Education & Training

- Rate Design & Pricing Seminars
- Industry Issues & Trends
- Account Executive Training
- Risk Management Seminars
- Customer Presentations

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