



Regulation, Compliance & Safety

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 • The Lodge At Mauston

Utilities are highly regulated businesses and there are more than 100 specific rules utilities must follow to retain the “right to serve” electric customers. Understanding why the rules exist and how to navigate the complexities of compliance is fundamental to success as a utility manager. Like any employer, utilities are also required to comply with laws that protect workers and keep them safe on the job. This course will explore the wide array of rules and regulations utilities are required to follow and offer insights to make compliance easier.

Training topics include:

- A brief history of utility regulation and how Wisconsin differs from other states
- Overview of utility service rules detailed in Wisconsin Admin Code Chapter 113 — on topics ranging from tree trimming and deferred payment agreements to meter testing and service extensions
- High-level explanation of the rate-making process and PSC dockets
- Fundamentals of labor laws and personnel management, including recruiting, hiring, and disciplining employees
- Discussion of exempt and non-exempt employees, as well as disability, workers’ compensation and family medical leave
- Workplace safety rules and leading practices to engage workers to develop a strong safety culture

About the instructors

John Andres is an expert on utility regulation who frequently testified in proceedings before the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) during his nearly 35-year career with the Baker Tilly Virchow Krause accounting firm, where he was a Partner in the Energy and Utilities Team. John is a retired certified public accountant and serves on the seven-member Sun Prairie Utilities Commission that governs the municipal electric and water utility serving 35,000 residents.



Melissa Barnes is Human Resources Manager for Marshfield Utilities, where she functions as a team of one and also manages the utility’s public relations team. She started her career in the resort industry, focused on event planning and convention services, before shifting her career to Human Resources. Melissa earned a Bachelor’s degree from Eastern Washington University and a Master’s of Management in Human Resources Management from the University of Phoenix.



The day’s schedule

- Registration and continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m.
- Training begins at 9 a.m. and concludes by 3:30 p.m.
- Lunch and afternoon refreshments are provided

Training is designed for municipal workers of all skill levels and backgrounds and is intended as a foundation for understanding the public power industry (especially helpful for newcomers and those who aspire to expanded responsibilities).

Training Location

The Lodge At Mauston
104 Lodge Lane, Mauston
Phone: (608) 747-2200

A room block has been reserved for the seminar. Please reference the MEUW Training Program and reserve no later than September 15 to receive the special rate.

Register online at
[meuw.org](https://www.meuw.org)

Deadline: October 9

\$295 for MEUW members

Cancelations are subject to MEUW Policy.

