What does the Consumer Advocate (WE) need?

- WE need a single financial model that can be used for each of the utilities that is fully transparent and open to enable moving beyond conceptual discussions.

- WE need access to key inputs and assumptions that are foundational to a consensus financial model so that those inputs and assumptions can be understood and validated.

- WE need detailed agenda and background materials sent in advance of workshops and meetings to allow parties to properly prepare for maximum productivity and to allow logistical planning (e.g., out of state resources).

- WE need Commission guidance or a common understanding that: 1) requires parties to have a designated spokesperson that can clearly articulate that party’s position; 2) set milestones that allow parties to move forward instead of re-hashing the same issues.

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What can the Consumer Advocate provide?

- We have significant experience and demonstrated ability to design and implement regulatory modifications and processes including, but not limited to, setting base rates, rate design, current tracking mechanisms, earnings sharing mechanisms, and cost recovery mechanisms.

- We have significant institutional knowledge and experience with the utilities’ past and pending regulatory proceedings before the Commission.

- We have significant experience and appreciation for the administrative challenges and resource constraints that must be addressed in the design and implementation of regulatory processes and mechanisms.

- We have significant experience (through our consultants) with regulatory and alternative regulatory processes in other jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, accounting (regulatory, tax, and financial) issues, regulatory issues, alternative forms of regulation (metrics, scorecards, PIMs, etc.), and lessons learned.

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