

Justin Brant

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## Education

### **Master of Science Soil Science**

Oregon State University – Corvallis, OR (2005)

### **Bachelor of Arts Biology**

Wesleyan University – Middletown, CT (2001)

## Work Experience

### **Senior Manager, Current Energy Group, (July 2025 – Present)**

- Works with consumer advocates and public interest organizations on rate design, virtual power plants, customer programs and other regulatory issues before state public utility commissions.

### **Utility Program Director, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, (September 2020 – June 2025)**

#### **Senior Associate, (2018 – 2020)**

- Led SWEEP's regulatory and legislative work on advanced rate design, building electrification, system planning, and gas transition issues.
- Developed and delivered expert testimony and regulatory comments before public utilities commissions and state legislatures across the Southwest.
- Authored reports and web content, delivered news interviews, and contributed technical expertise to stakeholder discussions.

### **Associate GHG & Sustainability Practice, The Cadmus Group, (2016 – 2018)**

- Consulted with C-suite, universities, and utilities on sustainability initiatives, energy policy, grid modernization, energy efficiency, and renewable energy procurement.
- Developed plans to reach 100% renewable goals for local governments and large corporations.
- Represented the company through public presentations and thought leadership pieces.

### **Assistant Director Electric Power Division, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (2013 – 2016)**

#### **Public Utility Analyst, (2011-2013)**

- Developed state policies to mitigate climate change in the electric and natural gas sectors.
- Removed barriers to deployment of emerging electric grid applications such as electric transportation, energy storage, and building electrification.
- Developed state policies around net metering and interconnection of renewable resources.

### **Climate Change Policy Analyst, Washington Department of Ecology (2008 – 2011)**

- Participated in design of low-carbon fuel standards, cap-and-trade programs, and state regulation of GHGs under the Clean Air Act.
- Worked closely with electric utilities, industry representatives, clean technology industry leaders, state agency staff, and the environmental community on climate change policy development.

## Expert Testimony

### **Xcel Energy Mountain Energy Project (DKT: 25A-0044EG) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2025)**

*Direct Testimony*

Filed testimony critiquing Xcel Energy's proposal for the largest non-pipeline alternative in U.S history to avoid the need for a new gas pipeline through the continental divide to serve portions of the Company's Mountain gas system. Testimony recommended changes to Company's NPA approach, design day methodology, cost-benefit analysis methodology, and cost allocation proposal.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#)

### **New Mexico Gas Company Line Extension Policy Update (DKT: 25-00002-UT) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project and the Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2025)**

*Direct Testimony*

Filed testimony recommending ending line extension allowances for new customers hooking up to the New Mexico Gas Company system. Testimony focused on the fairness of maintaining gas line extension allowances, the alternatives available to customers, and the cost savings available from electric alternatives. In addition, testimony also identified issues with the Company's approach to calculating the benefits of its gas line extension allowance methodology.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

### **Nevada Energy 2024 Integrated Resource Plan (DKT: 24-05041) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2024)**

*Answer Testimony*

Filed answer testimony on the Company's Demand-Side Management Plan and Distribution System Plan, advocating for higher energy efficiency goals, a lower budget per kWh of savings, higher beneficial electrification incentives and savings, and changes to the Company's methodology and process for assessing non-wires alternatives.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#)

### **Black Hills Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan (DKT: 23A-0633G) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2023)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed answer testimony arguing that energy efficiency and electrification are the lowest cost options to reduce greenhouse emissions for a gas-only utility and that the Commission should require the utility to implement beneficial electrification as part of its inaugural Clean Heat Plan. While the initial Commission decision required inclusion of electrification in the Company's portfolio of resources, the case is still under review following an appeal.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan (DKT: 23A-0392EG) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2023)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony and Oral Surrebuttal Testimony*

Filed answer testimony on the design and modeling of the Company's Clean Heat Portfolios, including assumptions about beneficial electrification, demand-side management, renewable natural gas, hydrogen, and certified natural gas. Answer testimony and an attached report presented an alternative "Pollution-Free Buildings" (PFB) portfolio that achieved more emissions reductions at lower cost than the Company's portfolios. The Commission decision adopted a portfolio similar to the PFB portfolio, and the Commission referenced the PFB portfolio and SWEEP testimony numerous times in their deliberations and decision.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2026 DSM and BE Plan (DKT: 23A-0589EG) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2023)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony that advocated for great incentives and focus on beneficial electrification as well as new program designs to leverage federal home energy rebate programs. The Commission decision adopted many of these recommendations

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2027 Demand-Side Management-Beneficial Electrification Strategic Issues Plan (DKT: 22A-0309EG) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2023)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony advocating for higher beneficial electrification targets in line with state policy goals and recommending modeling improvements to the Company's potential study. The Commission decision adopted electrification targets that were significantly higher than the Company's initial proposal.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2023 Phase II Electric Rate Case (DKT: 23AL-0243E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2023)**

*Answer Testimony*

Advocated for adoption of a residential electric heating rate option. While the Commission declined to approve this proposal, the concept was later required through legislation.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2023 DSM and BE Plan (DKT: 22A-0315EG) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2022)**

*Settlement Testimony*

Negotiated a settlement to expand DSM and BE funding, including expanded programing for income-qualified customers.

[Case Details](#) | [Settlement Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado Phase I Distribution System Plan (DKT: 22A-0189E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2022)**

*Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony recommending improvements to the Company's modeling of non-wires alternatives in its Distribution System Plan and also recommending changes to the Company's benefit-cost methodology.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2022 Gas Rate Case (DKT: 22AL-0046G) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, and Natural Resources Defense Council ("Conservation Advocates") (2022)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony on the Company's proposal to implement a decoupling mechanism, the design day criteria, residential rate design, and proposed changes to transportation customer tariffs.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience for the West Metro Gas System Expansion Project (DKT: 21A-0472G) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2021)**

*Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony arguing that the Company failed to consider state policy and decarbonization goals when assessing alternatives to a \$25 million gas system expansion project. While the Commission ultimately approved this project, it laid the groundwork for much of Colorado's work around non-pipeline alternatives and efforts to limit investments in gas system expansion in future years.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#)

**Southwestern Public Service 2021-2025 Energy Efficiency Goals (DKT: 21-00186-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2021)**

*Direct Testimony*

Proceeding to establish minimum demand-side management savings goals and budgets for a utility experiencing rapid load growth. Argued for increased goals and budgets, as well as performance incentives designed to incentivize the Company to surpass the minimum targets.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

**El Paso Electric 2022-2024 DSM Plan (DKT: 21-00114-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2021)**

*Direct Testimony*

Argued for increased focus on electrification programs and development of a new construction and residential demand response portfolio. Successfully added these new programs to the utility's portfolio, increasing energy and demand savings, while also improving overall cost-effectiveness.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

**Black Hills Colorado Electric 2022-2024 DSM Plan (DKT: 21A-0166E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2021)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Argued for increased energy efficiency goals and expansion of programs available to customers.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Southwest Gas Rate Case (DKT: G-01551A-21-0368) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2020)***Direct and Rebuttal Testimony*

Developed testimony showing that the Company is over-investing in maintaining its gas distribution system, despite exceptional performance of its infrastructure and the economics of electrification within its service territory. In light of these changes proposed development of a transparent gas planning process, removing of gas line extension allowances, and changes to the customer-owned yard line replacement program. In addition, supported expansion of the Company's low-income assistance program.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#) | [Rebuttal Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of New Mexico Decoupling (DKT: 20-00121-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2020)***Direct and Rebuttal Testimony*

Supported approval of a decoupling mechanism proposed by the Company. Proposed changes to the Company's proposal to better protect customers and align utility incentives with state policy objectives.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#) | [Rebuttal Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of New Mexico San Juan Generating Station Demand Response Replacement Resources (DKT: 20-00218-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2020)***Direct Testimony*

Proceeding to procure incremental demand response resources required to help replace a retiring coal unit. Testimony argued against Company solicitation for additional resources as not being competitive and in the best interests of customers. Commission approved our recommendations and required the Company to conduct additional solicitation of resources.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

**Tri-State Generation and Transmission 2020 Electric Resource Plan (DKT: 20A-0528E) on Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, and Natural Resources Defense Council (2020)***Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony advocating for greater investments in energy efficiency and demand response. Negotiated a settlement in which the Company agreed to adopt its first-ever energy efficiency and demand response goals.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#) | [Settlement Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado 2019 Phase I Electric Rate Case (DKT: 19AL-0268E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2019)***Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Advocated for approval of a decoupling mechanism for residential and small commercial customers. The Commission adopted SWEEP's recommendations in this proceeding and required the Company to implement a decoupling mechanism.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of New Mexico San Juan Generating Station Abandonment and Replacement (DKT: 19-00195-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2019)**

*Direct Testimony*

Proposed replacing generation from a retiring coal plant with solar, storage, and demand response as opposed to adding seven gas peak plants, as proposed by the Company. Conducted modeling around reasonable expansion of demand response resources. The Commission ultimately approved the portfolio of replacement resources proposed by CCAE.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of Colorado Residential Time of Use Proposal (DKT: 19AL-0687E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2019)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Advocated for approval of default time-of-use rates for all residential customers. Testimony focused on customer education and outreach and rate design. Negotiated a settlement with all parties that contained many of SWEEP's recommendations and began one of the largest default time-of-use rate roll-outs in the country.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Black Hills Colorado Electric 2019-2021 DSM Plan (DKT: 18A-0279E) on Behalf of Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2018)**

*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Argued for increased energy efficiency goals and expansion of programs available to customers. Negotiated a settlement that increased existing DSM goals and budget by over 50%.

[Case Details](#) | [Answer Testimony](#) | [Cross-Answer Testimony](#)

**Public Service Company of New Mexico Lost-Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (DKT: 18-00043-UT) on Behalf of Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (2018)**

*Direct Testimony*

Supported approval of a decoupling mechanism instead of a lost-revenue adjustment mechanism proposed by the Company. Also proposed changes to the Company's proposal to better protect customers from utility over-earning and ensure that any mechanism approved would incentivize the utility to maximize energy reductions from all sources.

[Case Details](#) | [Direct Testimony](#)

## Selected Publications

### **“Colorado On-Bill Financing Opportunity” (2025)**

*Report*

Co-authored a report laying out benefits of a robust on-bill financing program in Colorado and calculating the potential un-met financing need required for the state to meet its electrification goals. The findings from this report were used to advocate for legislation to establish a statewide on-bill financing program and also withing a PUC proceeding to establish an on-bill financing program for Public Service Company of Colorado.

[Report](#)

### **“A Path to Pollution-Free Buildings: Meeting Xcel's 2030 Gas Decarbonization Goals” (2023)**

*Report*

Authored a report presenting a least-cost portfolio for meeting Public Service Company of Colorado’s 2030 Clean Heat target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 22% from 2015 levels. Western Resource Advocates, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, and Natural Resources Defense Council/Sierra Club each attached this report to testimony filed in Colorado PUC Proceeding No. 23A-0392EG (Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan), and other intervenors such as the City of Boulder supported this portfolio in cross-answer testimony. The Commission decision in this proceeding adopted a portfolio largely similar to the portfolio presented in this report.

[Case Details](#) | [Report](#)

### **“Utility Energy Efficiency Programs in Southwest: Generating Big Benefits for Customers, the Climate, and the Environment” (2021)**

*Report*

Authored a report quantifying benefits from energy efficiency programs in the Southwest U.S.

[Report](#)

### **“Grid-Interactive Efficiency Buildings: Providing Energy and Demand Flexibility for Utilities in the Southwest” (2019)**

*Report*

Authored a report that provided a summary of the residential and small commercial grid-interactive building demand-side management programs at the major utilities in the Southwest, highlighting existing programs in the region that are using grid-interactive buildings as a resource to help with the integration of variable renewable generation and to provide other grid services that create value for customers.

[Report](#)