



Meera Fickling

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Education

Master of Environmental Management

Duke University – Durham, NC (2013)

Bachelor of Arts Economics

College of William and Mary – Williamsburg, VA (2008)

Work Experience

Senior Manager, Gas Utility Regulation, Current Energy Group (February 2026 – Present)

Manager, Gas Utility Regulation (2024 – 2026)

- Delivers expert testimony and analyses on natural gas and electric utility regulatory issues, including prudence of capital expenditures, long-term gas planning, gas utility regulation, building electrification, energy modeling, and energy efficiency before state public utility commissions.

Building Decarbonization Manager, Western Resource Advocates, (2023 – 2024)

Senior Climate Policy Analyst (2021 – 2023)

- Led WRA's regulatory and legislative work on building electrification and gas transition issues.
- Developed and delivered expert testimony and regulatory comments before public utilities commissions and state legislatures.
- Authored reports and web content, delivered news interviews, and contributed technical expertise to stakeholder discussions.

Economist, U.S. Energy Information Administration (2016 – 2021)

- Led modeling for the Commercial Demand Module (CDM) of the National Energy Modeling System (NEMS), which projects long-term energy consumption and distributed generation in commercial buildings.
- Forecasted consumer responses to regulatory standards, policy incentives, and energy price changes.
- Designed and executed methodological upgrades to the NEMS CDM, including: 1) modeling utility energy efficiency incentives' impact on customer adoption of energy efficient technologies and buildings' energy consumption, 2) updating the model's representation of evolving building codes, and 3) modeling increasing customer adoption of building sensor and control technologies

Clean Energy Specialist/Project Manager, ECODIT (2013 – 2016)

- Led teams to develop and win USAID contract bids worth a total of \$19 million, as well as the \$900 million Power Africa Expansion IDIQ. Wrote technical approaches and monitoring and evaluation plans, edited copy, and coordinated team members to ensure on-time delivery of competitive proposals.

Research Analyst, Peterson Institute for International Economics (2008 – 2011)

- Authored and co-authored 10 policy briefs, articles, working papers, and book chapters on international trade, the environment, and economic development.
- Evaluated the potential for “carbon leakage,” the propensity for businesses to transfer carbon-intensive production to unregulated jurisdictions, as a result of state, provincial, and federal climate change policies and proposals. Analyzed data on GHG emissions and carbon intensity of economic production.

Expert Testimony and Rulemakings

Massachusetts LDCs Climate Compliance Plans (DKT: 25-41 through 25-45) on Behalf of Conservation Law Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund, and Sierra Club (2025)*Direct and Surrebuttal Testimony*

Filed testimony addressing the overall responsiveness of the plans to the DPU’s filing requirements, the LDCs’ proposed non-pipe alternative (NPA) Framework, the LDCs’ study of depreciation and stranded assets, the LDCs’ proposed tariff and cost recovery mechanisms for decarbonization- and NPA-related expenditures, the LDCs’ low-carbon fuels proposals, and the LDCs’ integrated energy planning proposals. The testimony also responded to the DPU’s proposal on line extension allowances.

[Case Details](#)**Xcel Colorado 2025 Gas Infrastructure Plan (DKT: 25A-0220G) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, Natural Resources Defense Council, Rewiring America, and Sierra Club (“Conservation Advocates”)***Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony on Xcel’s cost-benefit analysis of three potential capacity expansion NPA projects, as well as on Xcel’s risk ranking and prioritization of safety projects. Testimony recommended approval of the capacity expansion NPAs, changes to the Company’s cost-benefit analysis methodology, and opening a rulemaking to require analysis of NPAs for system safety and integrity investments.

[Case Details](#)**Liberty Gas Rate Case (DKT: 25-85) on Behalf of Conservation Law Foundation (2025)***Direct and Surrebuttal Testimony*

Filed testimony on Liberty's equal life group depreciation proposal and depreciation study, as well as performance metrics.

[Case Details](#)

National Grid Massachusetts Targeted Electrification Pilot (DKT: 24-194) on Behalf of Conservation Law Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund, and Sierra Club (2025)

Direct and Surrebuttal Testimony

Filed testimony recommending a reduction in the cost of National Grid's inaugural Targeted Electrification Pilot. Testimony also recommended load shifting, demand response, and managed charging to reduce distribution investments required to support electrification.

[Case Details](#)

National Grid and Eversource NSTAR Massachusetts 2025 Gas System Enhancement Plans (GSEPs) (DKT: 24-GSEP-03 and 24-GSEP-06) on Behalf of Sierra Club (2025)

Direct and Surrebuttal Testimony

Filed testimony recommending a phase-down in the revenue requirement cap for accelerated cost recovery of GSEP expenditures, from the current 3% to the statutory minimum of 1.5%, with an exception for NPAs. Recommended ending the gas local distribution companies' (LDCs) collection of carrying charges on spending above the revenue requirement cap. Recommended directing the LDCs to provide a detailed explanation of the process and criteria they use to prioritize pipeline repairs vs. more expensive replacements in future GSEPs. The Department of Public Utilities largely adopted these recommendations, indicating its intention to "substantially reform the GSEP process" to ensure more efficient spending of ratepayer dollars.

[Case Details](#)

Nevada Energy 2024 Integrated Resource Plan (DKT: 24-05041) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2024)

Answer Testimony

Filed answer testimony on the Company's Demand-Side Management Plan recommending higher energy efficiency goals, a lower budget per kWh of savings, and higher building electrification incentives and savings.

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

Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan (DKT: 23A-0392EG) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2024)

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 WRA testimony several times in their deliberations and decision.

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

Nevada Public Utilities Commission Gas Integrated Resource Planning Rulemaking (DKT: 23-07024) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2024)*Comments*

Filed multiple rounds of comments and represented WRA in a May 2024 hearing on new gas integrated resource planning rules pursuant to Nevada Senate Bill 23-281, in favor of robust comparative evaluations of different resources to meet customer demand under a range of scenarios.

[Case Details](#) | [Comment 1](#) | [Comment 2](#) | [Comment 3](#) | [Comment 4](#)

Public Service Company of Colorado 2024-2027 Demand-Side Management-Beneficial Electrification Strategic Issues Plan (DKT: 22A-0309EG) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2023)*Answer and Cross-Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony recommending an increase in the Company's proposed building electrification targets and changes to the modeling methodology used in the Company's potential study.

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

Colorado Public Utilities Commission Clean Heat and Gas Infrastructure Planning Rulemaking (DKT: 21R-0449G) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Sierra Club ("Conservation Advocates") (2022)*Comments*

Filed multiple rounds of comments and represented WRA in hearings on new Clean Heat Plan, Gas Infrastructure Plan, and Gas Demand-Side Management rules pursuant to Colorado Senate Bill 21-264 and House Bill 21-1238. Provided comment on Commission proposals on clean heat, NPAs, and line extension allowances.

[Case Details](#)

Public Service Company of Colorado Phase I Distribution System Plan (DKT: 22A-0189E) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2022)*Answer Testimony*

Filed testimony recommending changes to the Company's modeling of beneficial electrification in its Distribution System Plan.

[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 viability of the Company's "Net-Zero Vision" proposal, including cost, resource potential, and the potential for stranded pipeline assets. The testimony also addressed the Company's proposal for a multi-year rate plan and its proposal to increase residential gas line extension allowances.

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

Public Service Company of Colorado 2021 Electric Resource Plan and Clean Energy Plan (DKT: 21A-0141E) on Behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2021)

Answer, Cross-Answer, and Settlement Testimony

Filed testimony on the Company's methodology for modeling beneficial electrification in its load forecast, and on the Company's greenhouse gas emissions proposals.

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

Selection of Relevant Experience

Colorado Public Utilities Commission Miscellaneous Proceeding on Public Service Company Gas Infrastructure Plan (DKT: 24M-0261G) (2024)

Workshop and Comments

Delivered a workshop presentation on cost-benefit analysis of non-pipeline alternatives and gas system mapping at the invitation of Commissioner Megan Gilman, as part of a miscellaneous docket on unresolved analytical issues from Public Service's 2023 Gas Infrastructure Plan. Co-authored and filed joint follow-up comments in this docket on cost-benefit analysis, gas demand forecasting, and system mapping on behalf of Western Resource Advocates and Advanced Energy United.

[Case Details](#) | [Presentation](#) | [Comments](#)

Black Hills Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan (DKT: 23A-0633G) on behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2024)

Comments

Filed comments on behalf of Western Resource Advocates identifying deficiencies in Black Hills' Clean Heat Plan and recommending that the Commission adopt an alternative portfolio presented by the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project. The comments also recommended third-party implementation of future gas-only utility clean heat plans.

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

Atmos Colorado 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan (DKT: 23A-0632G) on behalf of Western Resource Advocates (2024)

Comments

Filed comments on behalf of Western Resource Advocates identifying deficiencies in Atmos' Clean Heat Plan, including the Company's cost-benefit assumptions about electrification and alternative fuels like renewable natural gas. The comments also recommended third-party implementation of future gas-only utility clean heat plans.

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

Atmos Energy of Colorado Gas Infrastructure Plan (DKT: 24M-0061G) on behalf of Western Resource Advocates, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (2024)

Comments

Co-authored and filed joint comments arguing for improved gas load forecasting, lower project thresholds for inclusion in the gas infrastructure plan, analysis of non-pipeline alternatives to pipeline replacement projects, and improved system mapping.

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

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

Lead-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](#)

Testimony and Technical Assistance on Colorado House Bill 24-1370 and Colorado Senate Bill 24-214 (2023)

Committee Hearing Testimony and Technical Assistance

Provided technical assistance and lobbying support for House Bill 24-1370, a bill establishing an appliance standard requiring air conditioners to have two-way heat pump capability. Although this bill did not pass, a portion of the bill requiring investor-owned electric utilities to propose a voluntary rate for winter heating customers was successfully enacted in Senate Bill 24-214.

Testified in support of both bills in House and Senate committees.

[Final Bill Text, S.B. 24-214](#)

Testimony and Technical Assistance on Colorado Senate Bill 23-291 (2023)

Committee Hearing Testimony and Technical Assistance

Provided technical assistance and lobbying support for Senate Bill 23-291 on utility regulation and consumer protection, which was signed into law in June 2023, with a particular focus on the section of the bill eliminating gas line extension allowances in Colorado by the end of 2023. Testified in support of the bill in House and Senate committees.

[Final Bill Text, S.B. 23-291](#)

Presentation to the Colorado Legislature Joint Select Committee on Rising Utility Rates (2023)

Committee Hearing Testimony

Delivered a presentation at the invitation of the Colorado Senate President on the causes of rising gas rates and the future of the natural gas system in Colorado. This presentation and the Select Committee hearings informed the development of Senate Bill 23-291.

[Presentation](#)

Colorado Clean Heat Technical Working Group (2022)

Technical Assistance

Appointed to the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division's [Clean Heat Technical Working Group](#), which assisted the Division to develop [emissions accounting guidance](#) and a Clean Heat Plan Calculation Workbook for gas utility filings. The Working Group met on a monthly basis from January to August 2022.

Colorado Environmental Justice Action Task Force (2022)*Technical Assistance*

Appointed by the Senate President to Colorado's Environmental Justice Action Task Force, which developed [recommendations](#) for the Colorado legislature and agencies to incorporate environmental justice considerations into agency actions. Negotiated language in section 2 of the report on how agencies should use environmental justice findings in permitting, rulemaking, and funding decisions.