

PATRICIA K. PROFETA, Director

Pat Profeta advises electric utility clients on strategic planning issues, including resource planning, wholesale market participation, and changes in regulatory environments. She has extensive experience in wholesale power market design and transition to competition.

Recent engagements include:

- On behalf of a large multi-state holding company, she helped develop and coordinate the strategy of a transformational initiative to integrate vertically integrated utilities into an RTO. As part of this effort, she helped negotiate various “entry provisions” and execute a plan to obtain state and federal regulatory approvals.
- She designed an innovative short-term power procurement process for a major utility, which allowed substitution of non-utility resources into the utility’s daily operations which had previously been infeasible.
- She helped design and guide a major retirement study involving multiple generation units that assessed the economic tradeoffs between investing in modernization versus retirement and replacement with new generation.
- For two utilities with large reliance on gas-fired generation, she evaluated a range of options for managing electric customers’ commodity risk exposure, including long term hedging contracts. The work included an assessment of the regulatory and ratemaking implications of margining requirements.
- For a utility outside of an RTO, she evaluated the advantages and disadvantages of various options for RTO membership, including the alternative of starting a new, small RTO.
- She has advised several utilities about resource adequacy under retail competition and alternative methods for supporting new entry and retention of generation sufficient to achieve desired reliability levels.
- She has advised clients about several aspects of greenhouse gas mitigation, including evaluating cap-and-trade approaches versus a carbon tax; rate-based versus mass-based compliance with the Clean Power Plan, and strategies for fleetwide reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- She has advised clients about incorporating solar generation into resource planning, including procurement options, economic comparisons of grid scale versus distributed solar, and related rate design issues.

She was one of the founding partners of NorthBridge in 1992. Previously, Ms. Profeta was with Putnam, Hayes & Bartlett, Inc., and earlier with Bain & Company. She received a B.A. in mathematics from Wells College and a J.D. from Yale Law School.