



Consumer Counsel Katz is a Panelist at New England Energy Efficiency Conference

The focus was on energy efficiency when Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz along with sixteen other New England energy experts participated in the “Energy Efficiency in 2014: An Assessment and Discussion” conference held at The Lyceum in Hartford on April 10, 2014.

The conference, sponsored by the New England non-profit organization [Environment Northeast \(ENE\)](#), opened with remarks by Commissioner Rob Klee of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), followed by a series of three panel discussions.

Consumer Counsel Katz was a member of the first panel, which was moderated by Jamie Howland, the Director of ENE Climate and Energy Analysis Center and Chair of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board (EEB). Consumer Counsel Katz, who focused on consumer impacts, discussed energy efficiency policies in New England and whether savings relating to energy efficiency investments in the electricity grid contribute to consumer benefits. Other panelists included Penni McLean-Conner of Northeast Utilities Customer Group, Tim Woolf of Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., and Scudder Parker of the Vermont Energy Investment Corp.

The second panel, moderated by Abigail Anthony of ENE and comprised of Tim Roughan of National Grid, Jeff Schlegel of Schlegel and Associates, Henry Yosimura of ISO New England, and Charlie Harak of the National Consumer Law Center, discussed the impacts of energy efficiency or other demand-side resources on electric system reliability and on low-income customers.

The third panel analyzed the opportunities for and barriers to energy efficiency programs related to weatherization of residential housing in New England. William Dornbos of ENE moderated the panel discussion between Bryan Garcia of the Clean Energy Finance & Investment Authority (CEFIA), Jane Lano of United Illuminating (UI), Ian Finlayson of Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, Shirley Bergert of the EEB, and Jeremy McDiarmid of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.

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