

Summary

Buck Hagood joined ScottMadden in 2016. Since joining the firm, he has focused on utility operations and clean energy technologies (e.g., electric vehicles, battery energy storage). Projects in these fields have been diverse, with the deepest experience being in design and implementation of utility-led heating and transportation electrification programs. Outside of clean energy technologies, Buck has supported and led projects, conducting workload efficiency analysis for large utilities in the Mid-Atlantic and California and FTE analysis for an international nuclear operator. He has also supported the resulting organizational design, cost-savings identification, and the necessary change management for implementation. Alongside this experience, he has supported utility rate cases, drafting testimony and creating financial-based ROE models. Buck earned an M.B.A. from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. in economics and philosophy from the University of Virginia.

Areas of Specialization

- Electrification Strategy and Implementation
- Clean Energy Transition
- Utility Operations and Technology
- Cost Reduction
- Grid Edge
- Electric Vehicles
- Regulatory Policy

Recent Assignments

- Monitored and analyzed state-level regulatory action in climate-forward jurisdiction to understand utility's operational impacts of transportation and heating electrification proceedings; outlined, drafted, and reviewed associated filings, including programs encouraging off-peak electric vehicle charging, fleet electrification programs, and programs incentivizing clean heat technologies
- Supported development of a large, northeastern utility's long-range plan based on federal and state-level 2050 emissions reductions targets. Analysis included calculating system load and peak impacts given required adoption rates of multiple clean energy technologies across the service territory. Results of analysis informed company budgets and identified ratepayer impacts
- Developed workplans and process maps for multiple new utility project types and functions resulting from state-level regulatory action, including evaluation of nonpipes alternatives, deployment of a utility thermal energy network, and dispatch of an energy storage system into the wholesale market
- Supported development and implementation of utility transportation electrification programs resulting from commission proceedings; developed program tracker for administrative and reporting purposes, designed associated outreach and education programs to amplify program success, and calculated proposed carbon emissions impact of utility actions
- Led stakeholder engagement across group of co-op members understanding the impacts of the electrification of the economy (e.g., transportation and heating electrification); developed electrification strategic road map and member education materials and supported multiple conference presentations and panel discussions
- Supported a northeastern utility in tri-annual rate case filing. Reviewed and drafted testimony focusing on clean energy technologies, associated demonstration projects, and beneficial electrification; example technologies include electric vehicles, heat pumps, and energy storage
- Researched and designed go-to-market strategy for specialty welding company to expand their footprint in the nuclear industry in North America. Developed detailed action list required to win business across nuclear markets (e.g., operational, retiring, decommissioned)
- Performed enterprise-wide governance framework assessment and future state design for large CAISO utility; led multiple functions, including information technology, regulatory and external affairs, and data management. Identified gaps in governance, oversight, and support and recommended operational and organizational changes to improve accountability; designed related processes to enable operational changes
- Led multiple teams from kickoff through final deliverable in workload efficiency study. Acted as main point of contact for client team and led workshops to develop opportunities leading to more than \$250 million in savings identified across the project as a whole
- Updated and audited dozens of ROE testimonies and exhibits in support of expert witness testimony. Rate cases spanned numerous timelines and jurisdictions, both in settled and fully litigated cases. Developed understanding of valuation methodologies, regulatory processes, and commission landscape throughout