

Eric P. Cody President, Cody Energy Group

Eric Cody is founder and president of Cody Energy Group, a consulting practice that focuses on managing technology change and enabling new business processes within electric utilities.

Mr. Cody launched his consulting practice in 2003 after a twenty-three year utility career that included a dozen years as vice president of several National Grid USA (formerly known as New England Electric System) companies. His direct management experience encompasses information technology (IT), electric load forecasting, statistical load research, integrated resource planning and demand side management, business and economic development, advanced metering applications, and restructured utility operations. He has been a frequent speaker on strategic business and technology issues at national utility conferences.

Mr. Cody has consulted to investor-owned utilities, electric cooperatives and national utility associations on a variety of technologies, business practices and policies over the past decade. He co-authored NRECA's *Operational Guide to Electricity Competition* for electric cooperatives nationwide in 2000. He has also contributed chapters on the operational infrastructure requirements of electricity markets to two books. In 2005, Mr. Cody was the primary author of *Harnessing the Power of Information Technology* for the Cooperative Research Network of NRECA. He currently teaches NRECA's course, *Enhancing IT Effectiveness: Managing and Planning the IT Function (#781.3)*.

Prior to April 2003, Mr. Cody was Vice President of the Wayfinder Group, Inc., a subsidiary of National Grid USA. As founder and lead executive for this unregulated consulting practice, he helped utilities worldwide to manage complex change, particularly the implementation of the IT infrastructure for restructured utility operations. Wayfinder Group's utility clients served more than 30 million electric customers in 32 states and four foreign countries. Mr. Cody was retained by the Edison Electric Institute in 1999-2000 to be lead facilitator for the nationwide consensus-building effort for uniform business practices (UBP) in the competitive retail electricity market.

From 1991-2003, Mr. Cody was a Vice President of National Grid USA Service Company. During this period he served for five years as Vice President and Director, Information Services, for all New England Electric System companies. In this role, he managed an IT department of more than 200 professionals and oversaw a \$55 million, multi-year IT Plan that revamped the IT organization and the corporate information network across three states. Under the IT Plan, nine of the System's core software applications were replaced in less than three years. Mr. Cody was named to the *CIO 100* list by CIO Magazine and to the *Information Week 500* list of major companies that use IT most effectively.

Mr. Cody received the Bachelor of Arts (cum laude) from Amherst College in 1972 and the Masters in City and Regional Planning (specializing in Energy Planning & Policy Analysis) from Harvard University in 1980, which named him a Department Scholar and awarded him a Knox Traveling Fellowship to conduct field research into consumer energy behavior in the UK. He also completed the *Managing the Information Services Resource* program at Harvard Business School in 1991.

He has presented testimony before utility commissions in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and the Province of Alberta, and before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Mr. Cody is a former Naval officer. He can be reached by email at: CodyEnergy1@verizon.net