## Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

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## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - February 24, 2016 – (Topeka, Kansas)

CURB is pleased to announce the hiring of its new Consumer Counsel, David Nickel. David brings a wealth of experience with a background in energy law covering government service and decades of private practice. Kansas residential and small business ratepayers will be well served by the efficiency and innovation which David's private practice experience brings to CURB.

David Nickel served as legal counsel with the Kansas Corporation Commission for four years prior to joining the firm of Depew Gillen Rathbun & McInteer LC in Wichita. He specializes in oil and gas law and represents numerous companies and clients in complex energy-related matters. His expertise in title examination of oil and gas leasehold estate interests is an invaluable service to these companies. David has also co-authored the oil and gas chapter of the Kansas Bar Association Annual Survey.

David is a member of the Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA) and has served in several capacities, currently as Chairman of the Legislative Standing Committee. He has testified before the Kansas Legislature on oil and gas matters. David is a member of the Wichita Association of Petroleum Landmen, Kansas and Wichita Bar Associations.

David was born in Independence, Kansas, receiving his B.A. degree in English in 1979 from Benedictine College and a Juris Doctor degree in 1982 from the University of Kansas. He also earned a Master's degree in public administration from the University of Kansas in 1983. He earned his Master's degree in Business Administration from Friends University in 2015. David and his wife Kathleen have three sons and currently reside in Wichita.

CURB received numerous applications from experienced attorneys practicing in Kansas and other states. Interviews were conducted during the February 12, 2016, CURB meeting in Wichita, Kansas.

CURB will continue to work hard to efficiently and effectively advocate for residential and small business ratepayers in Kansas.