

Shankar Rajagopalan

Shankar is a partner at Reckon LLP with over 10 years of professional experience as a regulatory economist and consultant.

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Career summary

- 2005–** **Consultant (partner since July 2010)**
Reckon LLP, London
- 1999–2002** **Product development and sales manager**
Usha International Ltd, New Delhi, India

Recent professional experience

- 2015** **Utility Regulator, Northern Ireland: Assistance with price control determination for the electricity system operator (SONI)**
Shankar advised the Utility Regulator on a number of aspects of the price control for SONI, including financeability and cost of capital. He developed a financial model that calculated the price control building blocks, cash flow positions and financial ratios.
- 2010–2015** **Development and maintenance of electricity distribution charging methodologies and models**
Between 2010 and 2012, Shankar was the lead consultant to the industry project set up by the Energy Networks Association to develop methodologies for setting charges for the use of electricity networks by users at higher voltages in Great Britain. He drafted the methodology statements and associated regulatory submissions, and supported the stakeholder engagement process by speaking at industry meetings and workshops organised by the network operators. Since 2013, he has managed Reckon's contract with DCUSA Ltd, an industry code governance body, to maintain the models that implement the methodologies to calculate distribution charges for all users in Great Britain.
- 2014** **Review of draft methodologies for setting wholesale water and sewerage charges in England**
Working for a large water and sewerage company in England, Shankar reviewed drafts of methodologies and spreadsheet models to calculate wholesale charges for sewerage services. The review focused on identifying risks that wholesale charges resulting from the methodology cannot be justified by reference to costs.

- 2014** **CCWater: Investigation into the allocation and recovery of retail market implementation costs in England**
Shankar led a study for the Consumer Council for Water that considered methods for the treatment and recovery of costs associated with the Open Water programme, which was set up to manage the implementation of retail market reforms for business customers in England. He examined the potential impact of such costs on different customer groups, and suggested steps to mitigate the risk that households would bear some of these costs under Ofwat’s price control arrangements.
- 2013–2014** **Ofgem: Assessment of competition in new connections to GB electricity distribution networks**
Shankar led Reckon’s support to Ofgem in its assessment of competition in the market for new connections to electricity distribution networks in Great Britain. The assessments were based on competition notices submitted by distribution network operators and consultation responses and other representations submitted by independent network operators, connections providers and customers.
- 2012–2014** **Ofgem: Electricity theft policy development and impact assessment**
Shankar helped Ofgem develop and assess the impact of its policy towards tackling electricity theft in Great Britain. He provided advice on options for regulatory change, including new licence obligations for electricity suppliers, and changes to the current electricity settlement arrangements to encourage electricity suppliers to take steps prevent and detect theft.
- 2011** **Ofwat: Reform of water industry charges in England and Wales**
Shankar supported Ofwat with the development of new approaches to the regulation of charges set by water companies in the context of the legislative change to promote competition, and an assessment the problems with the current charging arrangements for new connections and how these might be tackled, and provided input to the Government impact assessment accompanying the draft Water Bill.

Qualifications

- 2005** **MSc Economics (with merit)**
London School of Economics and Political Science, London
- 1999** **Post graduate diploma in management**
Symbiosis International University, India
- 1996** **Bachelor of Technology (Mechanical Engineering)**
University of Kerala, India