

Russell D. Wasson

Russ received his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1980 and after graduation went to work for Arthur Young & Co. in New Orleans. He became a CPA in Louisiana in 1980. After two years with Arthur Young, Russ went to work for Ernst & Whinney in Baton Rouge.

One year later, he was hired by his client, Cajun Electric Power Cooperative, as their first tax manager. Russ worked at Cajun from 1983 until their assets were sold to an affiliate of XCEL Energy of Minneapolis in 2000. At the time of his promotion to Vice President and Corporate Controller, Russ had forty four individuals in his division. At the conclusion of the Cajun bankruptcy, his division had decreased to a total staff of twenty one. Rather than go to work for NRG, the entity that acquired the Cajun assets, Russ started a consulting firm that provided consulting services to cooperatives and an RTO. He eventually went into partnership with Tom Strait. Russ and Tom provided consulting services to cooperatives as well as other nonpublic utilities. In 2001, Russ began teaching at Penn State's Advanced School of Power Engineering.

Russ started at NRECA on January 10, 2005. In addition to his tax, accounting and finance duties at NRECA, Russ is a member of the NRECA restructure and renewables groups, the NRECA corporate governance task force, the NRECA climate change task force and occasionally devotes time to proceedings at the FERC. Russ and his wife Diane are the proud parents of two daughters that live in Florida and New York.