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After working on energy and environment issues for the National Science Foundation, she spent 7 ½ years at the California PUC, ending up as Director of Policy and Planning.

Since 1985, Dr. Barkovich has been a consultant and expert witness on energy (especially electricity) and regulation, including marginal cost, cost allocation and rate design, industry restructuring, and demand response. She has negotiated on behalf of industrial electricity consumers with utilities on pricing and service.

Dr. Barkovich is Chairperson of the Board of the restructured California Power Exchange. She served on the California Independent System Operator Governing Board and the Energy Engineering Board of the National Research Council.