



# NARUC

*Serving the consumer interest  
by seeking to improve the  
quality and effectiveness  
of public utility regulation  
in America.*

## The Economic Regulator's Role in Ensuring Electric Infrastructure Resilience

***President Colette D. Honorable,***  
**NARUC**

**11<sup>th</sup> EU-US Energy Regulators Roundtable**  
**May 13-14, 2014**  
**Boston, MA, USA**



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- NARUC: Equipped to Lead
  - Pipeline Safety
  - Resilience and Reliability
  - Fuel and Workforce Diversity



# Utility Infrastructure: Only as strong as its weakest link

- Hurricane Sandy
- 2012 Derecho
- Polar Vortex
- Pipeline Safety
- 
- Cyber and Physical Attacks



# NARUC: Equipped to Lead

- Resiliency: Robustness and recovery characteristics of utility infrastructure and operations, which avoid or minimize interruptions of service during an extraordinary and hazardous event
- Reliability: The ability of the power system components to deliver electricity to all points of consumption, in the quantity and with the quality demanded by the customer in 'Blue Sky' events



# Ensuring Resilience in Electric Infrastructure



14th EERC Energy Regulators Roundtable  
May 13-14, 2014, Boston, MA



# NARUC: Equipped to Lead

## Critical Infrastructure Committee:

- Leadership on Cybersecurity
- Papers, workshops, trainings
- NARUC staff onsite seminars in more than 30 States



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## Resilience in Regulated Utilities:

- Conversation starter: Utilities seeking to recover “resilience” investments
- Investments seek to minimize damage from: severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, ice storms, cyber attacks, physical attacks





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## Risk-based Approaches:

- To underground power lines or not?
- Spend money where system is most vulnerable—utilities need to show leadership
- Cost concerns: Weather patterns differ across the country, put ratepayer money where it is most needed first





# NARUC: Equipped to Lead

## What's Been Done Already?

- 38 States with accelerated infrastructure replacement plans
- NY: Broad climate-change adaption plan
- MD: Grid resilience surcharge
- CT: Resilience report



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## Where Do We Go from Here?

- Engagement with stakeholder groups
- Staff-led workshops
- National Academy of Sciences roundtable
- NERC Standards for Physical Security
- Do we need new tools? New Partnerships?



# NARUC: Equipped to Lead

- Questions? Comments?
  - Thank you!
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- Arkansas Public Service Commission
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