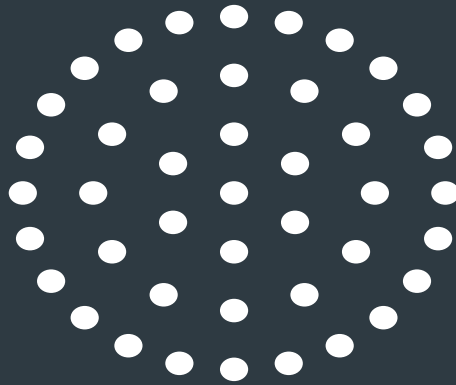


Annual Report 2021



National Association of Regulatory Utility
Commissioners



NARUC
National Association of Regulatory
Utility Commissioners

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Data as of October 18 and November 6, 2021.



— About NARUC

Founded in 1889, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to representing the state public service commissions who regulate the utilities that provide essential services such as energy, telecommunications, power, water, and transportation.

— Our Mission

Our mission is to serve the public interest by improving the quality and effectiveness of public utility regulation. Under state law, NARUC's members have an obligation to ensure the establishment and maintenance of utility services as may be required by law and to ensure that such services are provided at rates and conditions that are fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory for all consumers.

Based in our nation's Capital, NARUC is the national association representing the state public service commissioners who regulate essential utility services in each state and U.S. territory. NARUC members are responsible for assuring reliable utility service at fair, just, and reasonable rates.

NARUC's members include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Most state commissioners are appointed to their positions by their governor or legislature, whereas commissioners in 14 states are elected.

From the Executive Director

— Greg White

Dear Members,

Last year, organizations were busy mastering the art of pivoting to remote, online work and communications. NARUC was certainly no exception. After learning to pivot, we were hopeful that by the end of this year, we would be back to normal operations. However, **hybrid** quickly became our new normal.

Despite these challenges, I am pleased that the NARUC staff mastered another term: **momentum**. Our teams continued to excel, engaging in new partnerships and developing additional programming to benefit our members and the regulatory community. NARUC has certainly demonstrated that whether virtual, hybrid, or in person, we are able to provide exceptional results that get attention.

Activities in our International Programs continued to excel, with new infographics, toolkits, partnerships, and webinars. The gender-based program has grown to the extent that we recently graduated our first class in the Advancing Women Leaders in Energy program. We now have even created a new Gender Program Manager position in the department.

The Center for Partnerships and Innovation remains on the cutting edge of making necessary and important connections through ongoing webinars, surge calls, and providing much-needed support and coordination for our Presidential Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Resilience, and Recovery and the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, among others. CPI even hosted its first virtual press conference in February, with the help of our Communications Department and the National Press Club.

Of course, nothing ever slows down for our Policy and Advocacy Department.

Federal policies, shifts in agency personnel, and a new Administration always demand our attention. We are pleased to help lead the call toward collaborative solutions regarding the state of electric transmission across the country. The Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission will be one that will be watched for some time to come. We appreciate the hard work of our staff and commissioners on this first-of-its-kind initiative.

The Meetings Department never disappoints. We were able to produce three quality national meetings, two rate schools, and assist with regional meetings. We exceeded our expectations in sponsorships, which brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars, which enable us to deliver seamless, high-level programming.

Finally, our Communications Department continues to share our important news and announcements, facilitate press calls, and deliver the newsletter. This year, we saw an uptick in social media and even more quotes in the press, including *The New York Times*. This year, the team also launched a new podcast, the NARUC Power Walk. Although still in its nascent stage, we look forward to it really taking off in the coming year.

I can honestly say that 2021 was a year full of challenges, but we still forged ahead *doing more* and *making more* connections.



“NARUC has certainly demonstrated that whether virtual, hybrid, or in person, we are able to provide exceptional results that get attention.”

Center for Partnerships and Innovation

Building on the momentum of the previous year, CPI continues to connect state utility commissions and stakeholder groups to the critical resources necessary to help meet the formidable challenges of utility regulation.

COLLABORATIONS THAT WORK

The CPI team and the National Association of State Energy Officials have dramatically increased NARUC's collaborations and connections since 2019 to the point where the partnership is operating multiple joint working groups, co-authoring papers, and co-hosting roundtables for members of both associations.

Other partnerships, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and others, also support our ability to connect public utility commissions with resources.

\$2 MILLION
FY21 Grant Funding

Presidential Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency (EPRR Task Force)



Chair: Commissioner Kimberly O'Guinn
Arkansas Public Service Commission
Established: April 2020

The EPRR Task Force is a response to recent extreme weather events, natural disasters, and the national emergency from the COVID-19 pandemic. These events have heightened the nation's collective awareness of the need for access to energy and the importance of ensuring the continued delivery of essential energy services. Exceptional levels of collaboration are necessary to effectively respond to these extreme events. The EPRR Task Force is comprised of a balanced, diverse group of NARUC members, NASEO and NGA staff, federal leaders, external experts, and private-sector representatives that form an invaluable partnership to address these critical resiliency issues.

The EPRR Task Force is divided into three separate working groups with different primary areas of focus and responsibility. They are 1) **Black Sky**: responsible for developing resources that support NARUC member preparedness during a catastrophic, multi-regional event affecting multiple critical infrastructure sectors over an extended period; 2) **COVID-19**: developing a lessons learned report analyzing the ongoing response to the COVID-19 crisis and extrapolating key findings to better prepare state public utility commissions for future public health crises; and 3) **Federal Funding Opportunities & Construction Standards (FFOCS)**: documenting federal funding opportunities and assessing the impact of construction standards on federal funding eligibility.

FFOCS completed a Federal Funding Opportunities Guidebook detailing eight priority federal funding opportunities, key takeaways for state utility regulators concerning those funding opportunities, and program eligibility requirements. The **COVID-19** group drafted a final report on lessons learned from the ongoing response to the pandemic, workforce issues, changing business practices, customer impacts, regulatory responses, utility financial approaches, and other challenges. **Black Sky** produced a content outline for a Black Sky Technical Playbook to clearly detail how state public utility commissions and other state government officials involved in energy regulation and policy should respond to a Black Sky event.

Joint Initiatives

These joint initiatives inform critical decision makers at the state level. Because each state government is structured differently, CPI sees tremendous value in incorporating perspectives from and providing information about decisions and actions that either PUC or SEO leaders might be able to take in their respective states, depending on their organizations' purviews. In some states, SEOs play more of a policy-forming role; in others, more of a convening role. In other states, PUCs have more or less of a purview over policymaking vs. adjudicating. See mini guide on PUCs-SEO for more information:



**NARUC-NASEO Task Force
on Comprehensive
Electricity Planning**

Released in February 2021 after two years of intensive work by staff and members. Both procedural and policy lenses were incorporated into the visioning around new, idealized comprehensive planning processes. The final visions reflect diverse perspectives and unique opportunities for action steps to translate the visions into new efforts at the state level. **Participating states:** <https://www.naruc.org/taskforce/participating-states/>.

Final products: <https://www.naruc.org/taskforce/resources-for-action/>



**NARUC-NASEO Microgrids
State Working Group**

Established to improve the ability of states to plan for and develop microgrid projects, regulations, and policies. The Working Group convenes state regulators, state energy officials, and other stakeholders to explore the costs and benefits of microgrids, understand the value of resilience from microgrids, and identify and address barriers to microgrid development.

<https://www.naruc.org/cpi-1/critical-infrastructure-cybersecurity-and-resilience/microgrids/>



**NASEO-NARUC Grid-
Interactive Efficient Buildings
State Working Group**

Advances in highly efficient building system technologies, energy storage, onsite power generation, Internet-connected and artificial intelligence-enabled building and grid control technologies are leading to great opportunities for Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings (GEB). NARUC, NASEO, and DOE partnered to educate state regulators and energy officials about GEB opportunities and support grid access to GEB benefits.

<https://www.naruc.org/cpi-1/energy-infrastructure-modernization/grid-interactive-efficient-buildings/>



**Cybersecurity Advisory
Team for State Solar**

Established in 2020, the Cybersecurity Advisory Team for State Solar (CATSS) is a project implemented by NASEO and NARUC to mitigate cybersecurity risks and consequences in solar energy developments. CATSS leverages state, federal, and private-sector expertise on cybersecurity, grid, and photovoltaic to identify model solar-cybersecurity programs and actions for states to take in partnership with utilities and the solar industry. Map of advisory group members (NARUC and NASEO plus industry):

<https://www.naseo.org/issues/cybersecurity/catss>

CPI also connects members to important resources through the longstanding **National Council on Electricity Policy**, a platform for all state-level electricity decision-makers to share and learn from diverse perspectives on the evolving electricity sector. Members include representatives from public utility commissions, air and environmental regulatory agencies, governors' staffs and state energy offices, legislatures, and consumer advocates. NCEP serves as a forum for collaboration around grid-related topics at the state, regional, and national levels, offering a unique opportunity for state electricity decision-makers throughout the country to examine the ways new technologies, policies, regulations, and markets impact state resources and the bulk power system.

<http://electricitypolicy.org/about/>

Policy: Energy

Taking Transmission to Task

The **Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission** is important because it represents a unique opportunity for state commissioners to examine complex regulatory issues — in this case, involving electric transmission — in a way that allows all five FERC commissioners *together* to communicate directly with state commissioners regarding matters on which they are deliberating. The task force allows the members to move beyond theoretical considerations and to work collaboratively to find solutions to pressing transmission issues.

State Task Force Members

Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities

Commissioners:

- Chair Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
- Chair Jason Stanek, Maryland Public Service Commission

Mid-America Regulatory Conference:

- Chair Andrew French, Kansas Corporation Commission
- Chair Dan Scripps, Michigan Public Service Commission

New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners:

- Commissioner Riley Allen, Vermont Public Utility Commission
- Chair Matthew Nelson, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities

Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners:

- Commissioner Kimberly Duffley, North Carolina Utilities Commission
- Chair Ted Thomas, Arkansas Public Service Commission

Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners:

- Commissioner Kristine Raper, Idaho Public Utilities Commission
- Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen, California Public Utilities Commission

*This year, NARUC joined forces with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to create a first-of-its-kind initiative to collectively examine an issue that has long plagued the nation's energy sector: **transmission**.*

Formal Announcement

June 10, 2021

Joint Release & FERC Order

Charter Duration

3 Years

Renewable

First Meeting

Nov. 10, 2021

Louisville, Kentucky



Addressing State Concerns

Some of the primary discussions during the initial meeting on November 10 will focus on the concerns of state regulators. The agenda notes 2 hours devoted to **Discussion of Incorporating State Perspectives into Regional Transmission Planning**. Related issues such as the planning process, transparency, states' energy-related goals, and transmission solutions.

Staying Connected to the Task Force

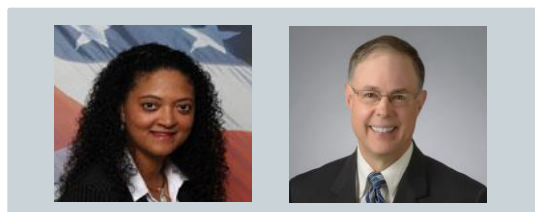
FERC has established a section on its website, with input from NARUC staff, dedicated to the Task Force. Filings, future meetings and agendas, contact information, and FAQs are all available at <https://cms.ferc.gov/TFSOET>.

Setting Our Sights on Siting and Pipeline Safety

Pipeline Safety Reauthorization

40%

Increase in pipeline safety state base grants



*Washington Action Program Co-Chairs
Commissioner ToNola D. Brown Bland (North
Carolina Utilities Commission) and Chairman Chris
Nelson (South Dakota Public Utilities Commission)*

Through the leadership of our Washington Action Program (WAP), NARUC finished the 116th Congress (2019-2020) on a high note, with **Pipeline Safety Reauthorization** legislation. Assertive lobby efforts, membership activity, and direct NARUC follow-ups with Congress led to key provisions and requested language, in the final legislation. This successful effort concluded with the Pipeline legislation amended into the Omnibus appropriations package and signed into law by the President in December of 2020.

WAP also mobilized NARUC to defeat the siting provision drafted in both the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) to expand the current "backstop" siting provision found in the Federal Power Act, preempting state authority. Through our intense lobbying effort with the Senate ENR, we turned the siting provision into the most contentious issue of the 5-hour markup. Senator Marshall (R-KS) offered the NARUC amendment to strike the "backstop" siting provision, which unfortunately resulted in a tie voice vote (along party lines) and the legislation was adopted and went on to become the energy section in the "bipartisan infrastructure legislation" passed by the Senate (currently awaiting House passage).

Policy: Telecommunications & Water

Staying connected to critical legislation and policy decisions is the lifeblood of advocacy. Engaging with federal agencies ensures that the voice of state regulators is heard — and acted on.

The Federal Communications Commission

The Biden Administration's policy priorities include restoring the NARUC-endorsed "net neutrality" rules under Title II of the Communications Act. The Federal Communications Commission is expected to reclassify Broadband Internet Access Service (BIAS) as a "telecommunications service," which, in turn, has implications for state jurisdiction and permits the FCC to impose net neutrality rules. NARUC is an intervenor in the US Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit lawsuit of the FCC order on remand that confirmed the reclassification of BIAS. In April, NARUC supported holding that lawsuit in abeyance to give the new FCC an opportunity to act on several pending petitions for reconsideration.

NARUC has a few wins. For example, on March 17, 2021, the Commission finally released an order permitting state commission access to all the information in the FCC's Network

Outage Reporting System (NORS) and the Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS) filings. Pursuant to a July 2021 resolution, NARUC filed comments to endorse the California Public Utilities Commission's petition seeking reconsideration of a narrow aspect of that decision – the FCC's presumption that all information in NORS and DIRS reports be kept confidential. We successfully placed a NARUC representative back on the FCC's Communications, Security Reliability and Interoperability Council after the last administration dropped NARUC's designee. Similarly, on the North American Numbering Council, though the FCC slimmed down the number of NARUC representatives due to a legal interpretation, Chairwoman Rosenworcel appointed NARUC's Telecommunications Committee Chair – Massachusetts Commissioner Karen Charles Peterson – as the NANC chair. The FCC also provided serial briefings on crucial issues through the NARUC-FCC "SNAP" program.

Capitol Hill

Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill, November 2020 – to November 2021 has been a continuous "advocacy" sprint in both sectors.

Along with non-stop advocacy calls, in March 2021 before Congress passed another relief measure via the reconciliation procedure, NARUC sent a letter to leadership in both chambers supporting additional funding for both the low-income Home Energy Assistance program and the new HHS-based low-income water program in future COVID-19 relief measures. That letter also (successfully) opposed inclusion of a broad utility service disconnection moratoria. In April, NARUC sent a letter signed by 98 NARUC member commissioners from 36 jurisdictions urging Congress in any legislation not to limit oversight of Lifeline services or curtail constituent remedies – by retaining the partial bypass of the ETC designation procedure in future legislation.

The Senate passed the 21 Senator "bipartisan" infrastructure bill. It includes more funds for the low-income water program endorsed by NARUC, continues the limited bypass of the ETC designation procedure for a renamed EBB program that provides \$30/month broadband service subsidy for qualifying Americans, includes the Shaheen-Murkowski CIAC text endorsed by NARUC, and expands access to private activity bonds. November and December promises to be a nail-biter, as the Democrat majority in Congress wrestles with how to raise the debt limit (which will likely be reached sometime in December), how to extend funding for the government that expires December 3, and how to advance the Democrat-only reconciliation measure – that so far – is seen as a prerequisite to any successful House vote on the infrastructure bill.

Advocacy

NARUC has been very active on the advocacy front.

FILING DESCRIPTION	DATE	NOTES
Comments on the proposed rules to implement the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program legislation	December 2020	
Comments on state access to NORS/DIRs data	2021	
March comments on the FCC's examination of the Auction 904 long forms	March 2021	Re: The Rural Digital Opportunity Fund
Comments pressing for continued Lifeline support for voice as a standalone option and urging a natural extension of the federal-state partnership to coordinate the lifeline and EBB programs.	May 2021	On December 1, 2021, if the FCC does nothing, the federal Lifeline program will no longer support stand-alone voice service.
NARUC filed comments supporting a NASUCA petition asking the FCC to reconsider the decision to phase down and ultimately remove Lifeline support for stand-alone voice services.	August 2021	
NARUC also endorsed NASUCA's request for the FCC to reform the contribution mechanism that supports all of the FCC's Universal Service Programs.	2021	

Environmental Protection Agency

At the Environmental Protection Agency, from the water sector, NARUC is observing the new Administration move to reform the "waters of the United States" definition to be more expansive and increase scrutiny over PFAS compounds. Radhika Fox, the new head of the EPA Office of Water, has presented twice to the state and local government partnership group.

International Programs

As precautions taken against COVID-19 have continued to limit travel and in-person interaction on a global scale, NARUC's International Programs have used platforms such as GoToWebinar and Zoom to conduct web-based engagements instead of in-country activities with foreign counterparts.



Where and How We're Making Connections

Forming New Partnerships

NARUC's International Programs have formed and participated in new partnerships that aim to help regulatory partners mobilize private investment, modernize energy sector technologies and practices, and accelerate the growth of their respective energy markets:

- Barbados Energy Regulatory Partnership
- Indonesia Energy Regulatory Partnership
- Mongolia Electricity Regulatory Partnership

Engaging in New Opportunities for Collaboration

In 2021, NARUC's International Programs collaborated with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the World Bank Group to produce the following deliverables:

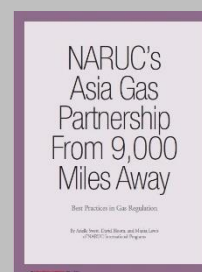
- Guidelines for Advancing Economic and Quality of Service Regulation in Africa's Electricity Sector (funded by USAID and Power Africa and in collaboration with the AfDB)
 - English translation
 - French translation
- Web-based trainings customized for the World Bank Group on how regulated utilities implement rate changes to promote growth, meet challenges, create savings, and properly recover costs (in collaboration with the World Bank)

By connecting with these organizations, NARUC has been able to expand the scope of its assistance and ability to present on technical, policy, and economic best practices in niche energy regulatory issues faced by energy regulators around the world.

Diversifying Energy Resources Using Natural Gas

Natural gas is growing in importance as a sustainable energy source and an economic stimulator in countries around the world. In 2021, with funding from USAID and Power Africa, NARUC produced several feature stories highlighting support for regulators as they work toward unlocking energy sector potential and forging an energy mix that ensures reliable availability of power for all:

- [Tanzanian Regulators Make Strides in Unlocking Energy Sector Potential through Safe Expansion of Natural Gas Utilization](#)
- [Senegalese Regulators Make Progress towards Diversifying the Energy Market and Creating a Healthy Investment Climate](#)
- [Tanzanian Utility Regulator Spearheads Stakeholder Agreement to Strengthen Natural Gas Pipeline Safety](#)



This *Public Utilities Fortnightly* article highlights the USAID Asia Gas Partnership and efforts by NARUC staff and commission volunteers to pivot to a remote assistance strategy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

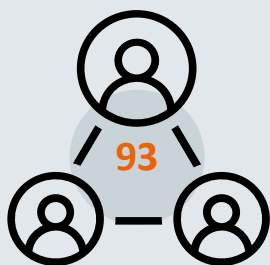
Activities/Events

32

ESTEEM = 11
ERPP = 13
SURGe = 6
MiDA = 2

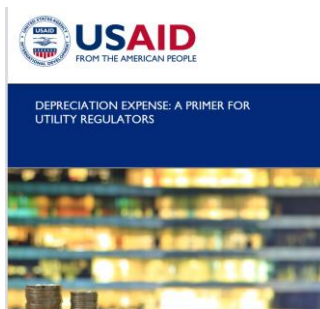
Webinar series or technical workshops for partner regulators, project launches, etc.

Volunteers



Total across all cooperative agreements.

ESTEEM = 36
ERPP = 37
SURGe = 10
MiDA = 10



Several comprehensive regulatory guides were developed to support electricity regulators in emerging markets:

Cost-Reflective Tariff Toolkit – four primers with support from USAID:

- [Primer on Rate Design for Cost-Reflective Tariffs](#)
- [Primer on Primary Drivers of Electricity Tariffs for Utility Regulators](#)
- [Depreciation Expense: A Primer for Utility Regulators](#)
- [Primer on the Impact and Treatment of Grants, Donor Assistance, and Concessional Financing](#)

Each primer in the toolkit is short, practical, and meant to be used by utility service regulators in countries with emerging economies to design rates that are based on actual cost of service and to effectively engage the public and key stakeholders in the decision-making process.

Guidelines for Advancing Economic and Quality of Service Regulation in Africa's Electricity Sector – published with support from USAID and Power Africa and in collaboration with the AfDB.

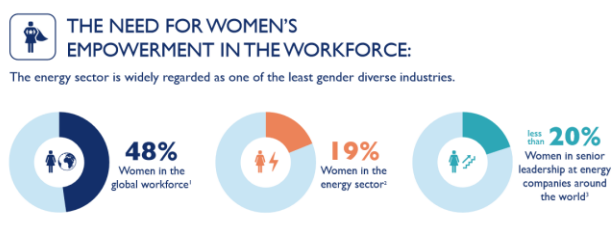
Supporting Gender Equity in the Energy Sector

With support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Power Africa, NARUC is taking a multi-pronged approach to help address systemic issues of gender inequity in energy and regulation. In 2021, NARUC produced an infographic titled “Supporting Gender Equity in the Energy Sector” that provides information on:

- The need for women's empowerment in the workforce
- USAID/NARUC global gender initiatives
 - [Advancing Women Leaders in Energy Project](#)
 - [Women in Energy Regulation Internship Program](#)
- The [Practical Guide to Women in Energy Regulation](#)



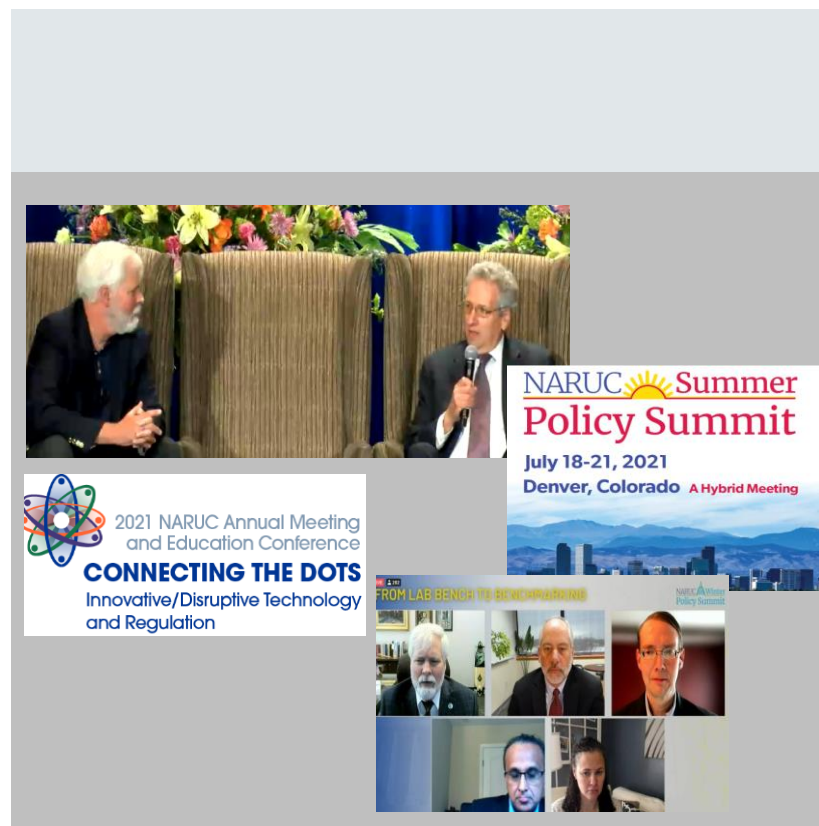
Designed to serve as an educational resource, this infographic highlights how NARUC's global initiatives promote women's ability to learn from each other, take on larger and more diverse roles within regulatory agencies, and fully participate in their energy sectors as decision makers.



Meetings

Thanks to technology, member flexibility, engagement, participation, willingness and staff teamwork, NARUC was able to remain a key information provider for its members and the regulatory community in 2021.

NARUC members know the value of gathering and information sharing. Member flexibility, combined with a very engaged NARUC staff, created a team that organized and executed relevant and essential meetings this year.



Perfecting the Pivot

In 2020, NARUC was one of the first organizations to host fully virtual meetings. Building on the success of those first meetings, NARUC members and staff produced an outstanding all-virtual **2021 Winter Policy Summit**. We connected attendees to Representative Mike Simpson, House Appropriations Committee, as well as many industry leaders. Using ZOOM and calendar software, virtual networking breaks were held through one-on-one meetings that generated more than 100 conversations.

As the pandemic appeared to be subsiding in April, NARUC leadership decided on a hybrid format for the Summer Policy Summit in Denver. The agenda was re-engineered to allow for more connections during the networking breaks while simultaneously allowing the hotel to clean and sanitize meeting rooms and equipment.

During the **Summer Policy Summit**, new events were hosted to allow people to connect outside the meeting rooms such as the Commission Chairs Council Connect event, a Sponsor Thank You Reception, and a Women in Regulation networking event. Headline speakers such as Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Richard Glick were present.

Although the **Annual Meeting and Education Conference** in Louisville, Kentucky, could not be an in-person-only event, the hybrid approach allows live-streaming of every general session and concurrent session.

Meeting Sponsorship Revenue Exceeded Expectations

\$390K*

Sponsorship surpassed expectations with a current sum of \$390,000 for the 2021 meetings. This Annual Meeting represents nearly \$160,000 of the total. These funds support the cost to staff and execute NARUC meetings as well as contribute to the financial stability of the Association.

**As of October 2021.*

Rate School

Connecting Students with Each Other and Education

Rate School boasts nearly 50 years and nearly 100 ‘graduating’ classes. The Schools are held semiannually, with one on the East coast and one the West coast. A dedicated core team, with commissioner support, have connected students with Rate School information for many years.

The faculty team came together to redesign Rate School, along with its trademark ‘Mock Rate Case’ to be a fully online. Through their willingness to technologically upskill, more than 350 students matriculated through the Fall and Spring classes. This is more than if we were only in person.

Prior to the pandemic, a mentor/mentee program was conceived to deepen the bench of coaches and faculty. The mentees were recommendations from the team, recruitment from the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance, and past students. The program went into effect at the Fall 2020 Rate School and continued in the Spring 2021 School, bringing in 16 new team members.

For the Fall 2021 Rate School, at the time of this report there were 70 students planning to be in person, with an additional 120 online students. The Rate School team is the largest ever, with nearly 20 faculty and coaches participating. Additionally, the team has created new sessions, advance online sessions, and more ‘team time’ to connect students with relevant information and to enhance their learning experiences.



NARUC Rate School
Sharpen Your Knowledge

Faculty

- **Cathy Pedemonti**, Connecticut DPU, Rate School Liaison
- **David Spacht**, Artesian Water
- **Tommy Oliver**, RGC Resources
- **Patrick Carr**, Virginia State Corporation Commission
- **Patti Lucarelli**, Rhode Island PUC
- **Steve Genzer**, Saul Ewing
- **John Tomac**, American Water
- **John Guastella**, Guastella and Associates
- **Paul Schulz**, Montana Consumer Advocate
- **Steve Olea**, Arizona Corporation Commission

175+ Years Combined Teaching

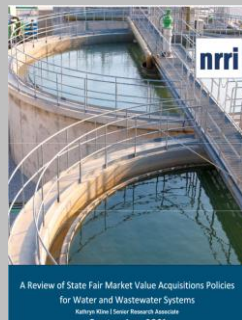
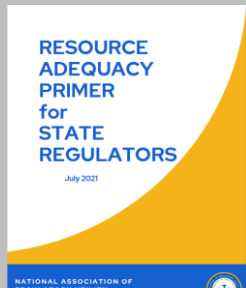
Students

350+



Visit www.naruc.org/meetings-and-events to stay connected to our meetings and events!

Communications



Keeping the Association connected to members, stakeholders, the media, and others through a variety of communications channels is an essential component of managing our brand and remaining a source of credible information.

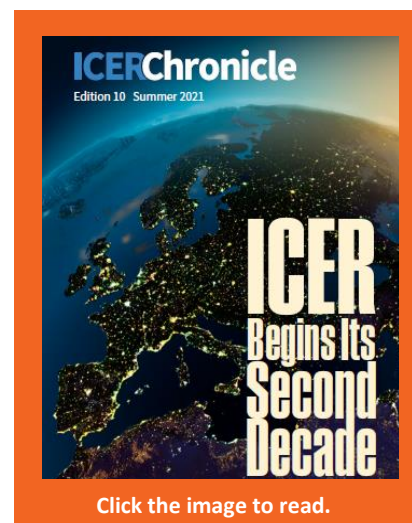
NARUC in the News

Issues stemming from the pandemic, such as the utility moratoria, bill assistance for consumers, weather emergencies, cybersecurity, and the Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission created a steady stream of inquiries from national and trade press. NARUC and its members were called upon to provide background and on-the-record comments for *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *E&E*, *the National Law Review*, *Power Magazine*, *Smart Cities Dive*, *T&D World*, and *Utility Dive*, among others.

Rebranding the ICER Chronicle

A major effort in 2021 was an ambitious—and successful goal to re-start the [ICER Chronicle](#) after its long hiatus. This publication, which represents members of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators, falls under NARUC's leadership now that Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Chairman David Danner is at the helm.

The NARUC Communications team worked consistently with Managing Editor Kate Griffith, from the WUTC, to edit, design, and market the new magazine, which represents a more sophisticated and professional publication. The first issue was released in July (Summer Edition) and received overwhelming positive reviews. A December publication is planned (Winter Edition).



Click the image to read.

Publications

The department supports members, committees, and other departments by applying professional editing, design, and promotion for a range of publications. A short list of publications includes:

- January 2021: *Whither the FERC*, National Regulatory Research Institute, Carl Pechman, PhD,
- July 2021: *Resource Adequacy Primer for State Regulators*, NARUC Committee on Electricity
- September 2021: *A Review of State Fair Market Value Acquisitions Policies for Water and Wastewater Systems*, National Regulatory Research Institute, Kathryn Kline

These publications serve an important purpose in keeping our members and others connected to much-needed resources and information.

Press Releases

Press releases—the primary connection to the greatest number of reporters and editors—is at the heart of the Communications Department. So far, **49** releases have been issued from January to October 2021, with more expected by year's end. At roughly one every week, it's no wonder we have been in such high demand from the press!

Along with announcements of white papers, leadership changes, and national observances, we make it known when we do — or do not — support certain decisions made by national leaders. The announcement of the new task force on electric transmission and the infrastructure bill:

[NARUC on the Infrastructure Bill: 'A' for Effort, 'C' for Utility Content FERC, NARUC to Establish Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission](#)

On February 11, 2021, the Communications Department contracted with the National Press Club to facilitate the NARUC-NASEO Task Force press conference to announce the release of a suite of resources developed over the two years. The event was well attended and there were hundreds of views.



Click image to watch on YouTube.

The Social Connection



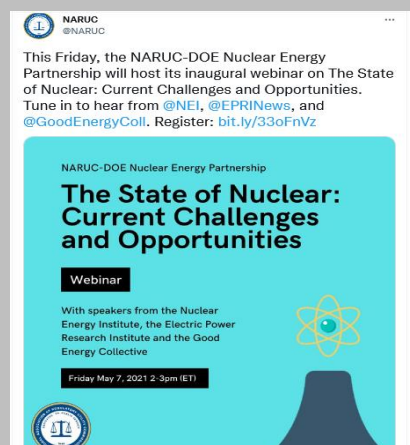
Twitter remains our top social connection.

@NARUC has 11.1K followers, nearly 1K more than last year.



Average Daily Impressions: **1.4K**

Top Tweet: May 3, 2021; Impressions: **16,470**



NARUC on YouTube

Overall, we have experienced an increase in subscribers, views, and impressions. Even with a modest number of channel subscribers, our content is still being viewed and shared widely.



- Views (Jan. 1- Nov. 1): **11,198**
- Impressions: **152K**
An increase of **111%** over last year
- Subscribers: **267**
Increased **150%** over last year.

Most viewers are not subscribers to the channel.

How We Attract Viewers

(Top three)

External Websites and Apps	29%
YouTube Searches	22%
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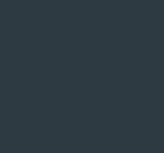
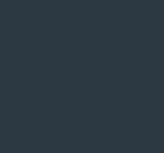
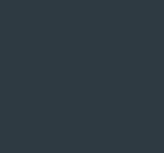
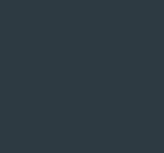
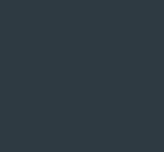
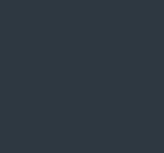
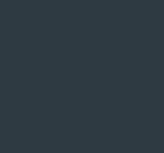
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