



# NARUC

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners



National Association of  
State Energy Officials

## TASK FORCE ON COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) will provide a forum for the development of state-led pathways toward a more resilient, efficient, and affordable grid.

## ELECTRICITY PLANNING FOR A 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY POWER GRID

Emerging technologies, decreasing costs, consumer preferences, new energy service providers, and state and local efforts are driving significant growth in distributed energy resources (DERs) such as solar, storage, energy efficiency, demand management, and microgrids. These investments increasingly require regulatory and policy innovation and a greater emphasis on planning to overcome system complexities and avoid unnecessary costs associated with operating the grid.

With greater alignment of resource and distribution system planning, states and utilities could:

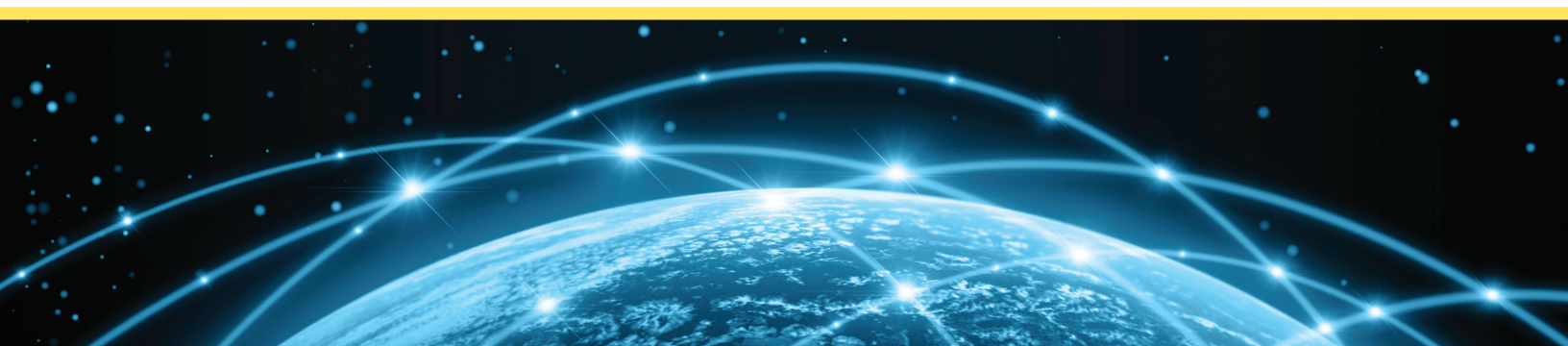
- Improve grid reliability and resilience
- Optimize use of distributed and existing energy resources
- Avoid unnecessary costs to ratepayers
- Support state policy priorities
- Increase the transparency of grid-related investment decisions



## WHY IS COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING NEEDED?

With growing customer installation of DERs and evolving non-utility energy services, electricity generation and resource planning needs to account for the quantity, location, and load shapes of resources added to the distribution system.

With utilities making annual capital expenditures of over \$100 billion, ensuring distribution system investments are right-sized and consider approaches such as non-wires alternatives can lower costs and offset supply-side needs.





The NARUC and NASEO partnership Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning will help members that are navigating uncharted territory, providing a set of tools to help the integration of new technologies in the power system in harmony with individual state policy frameworks while continuing to provide customers safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

**Nick Wagner**

Iowa Utilities Board  
NARUC President



NASEO’s partnership with NARUC will promote a coherent policy landscape and support broad-based initiatives that ensure our electric system remains robust. It will help states to realize reliable, resilient, clean, and affordable energy services in the face of accelerating technological challenges and opportunities.

**Andrew McAllister**

California Energy Commission  
NASEO Board Chair

**IN BRIEF**

- The *Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning* will organize a series of four in-person working meetings over two years, starting in spring 2019
- Space and travel assistance is available for commissioners and energy directors from 15 states
- Participants will be guided through an educational, creative, and collaborative process to develop multiple approaches for aligning resource and distribution system planning
- Participants will outline state-specific action plans to better align their state’s planning processes at the initiative’s conclusion
- The series will be professionally facilitated and supported by technical experts
- Opportunities for input from stakeholders and regulated entities will be provided

**TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

- FEBRUARY 2019:**  
NARUC and NASEO announce full roster of Task Force members
- SPRING 2019:**  
Task Force hosts first in person meeting
- FALL 2019:**  
Task Force hosts in person meeting with stakeholder representatives
- SPRING 2020:**  
Task Force hosts in person meeting
- FALL 2020:**  
Task Force hosts in person meeting with stakeholder representatives
- FEBRUARY 2021:**  
Task Force publishes example approaches and state action plans

**TASK FORCE LEADERSHIP**

- CO-CHAIRS**  
**Chairman Jeffrey Ackermann**,  
Colorado Public Utilities Commission  
**Dr. Laura Nelson, Executive Director**,  
Utah Office of Energy Development
- CO-VICE-CHAIRS**  
**Commissioner Beth Trombold**,  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
**Commissioner Andrew McAllister**,  
California Energy Commission

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