

NARUC's International Programs

Foundational Publications

November 2021



At NARUC, we are committed to improving the quality and effectiveness of energy regulation in the United States and around the world. Working in partnership with U.S. and international officials, NARUC's International Programs promote real improvements in the quality and effectiveness of energy regulation in foreign countries.

In support of state utility regulators working to drive meaningful change in energy sectors both at home and abroad, the following list of foundational publications has been constructed to provide supplementary resources on a variety of energy regulatory topics with an emphasis on applicability to U.S. commissions.

For more information on any of these publications, please contact Ms. Erin Hammel, Director of International Programs (ehammel@naruc.org).

I. [Cost-Reflective Tariff Toolkit](#)

- [Promoting Transparency and Public Participation in Energy Regulation: A Communications Primer for Utility Regulators](#)
- [Regulatory Accounting: A Primer for Utility Regulators](#)
- [A Cost of Capital and Capital Markets Primer for Utility Regulators](#)
- [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](#)

The Cost-Reflective Tariff Toolkit consists of a series of primers focusing on the regulator's role in achieving just and reasonable rates. Each primer is short and practical, and is meant to be used by utility regulators in order to design rates that are fair, just, and reasonable and to effectively engage the public and key stakeholders in the decision-making process. The recommendations and strategies shared in the primers are applicable to audiences in the United States and around the world.

2. [USAID and NARUC Europe and Eurasia Cybersecurity Initiative Toolkit](#)

- [Black Sea Cybersecurity Strategy Development Guide](#)
- [Cybersecurity Evaluative Framework for Black Sea Regulators](#)
- [The Utility Regulator's Role in Promoting Cybersecurity: Resilience, Risk Assessment, and Standards](#)
- [Evaluating the Prudence of Cybersecurity Investments: Guidelines for Energy Regulators](#)
- [Understanding Cybersecurity Maturity Models within the Context of Energy Regulation](#)

These publications are resources that regulators can use to help improve energy sector resilience in alignment with U.S. and international best practices and in the context of their respective priorities and needs. They were initially developed for regulators in Europe and Eurasia to reinforce their knowledge of cybersecurity solutions and preparedness in the face of ongoing threats within the energy sector. However, these publications can be used by U.S. regulators to provide detailed knowledge on international regulatory practices for strengthening energy sector cyber preparedness, implementing cybersecurity strategies, evaluating investments made in the name of cybersecurity, and more.

3. Infographics

- [Markets Promote Energy Independence by Increasing Transparency and Investment](#)
- [Modernized Grids Can Increase Security Risks](#)
- [Developing Natural Gas Infrastructure and Markets](#)
- [Supporting Gender Equity in the Energy Sector](#)

These infographics are educational resources designed for energy regulators in both the U.S. and abroad, as they cover energy sector topics that are integral to building sustainable environments for investment and growth (e.g., energy markets, cybersecurity, natural gas infrastructure, and gender equity). Each one contains helpful information such as links to related USAID and NARUC publications and/or initiatives, steps for regulatory reform, and definitions of important terms.

4. [Roadmap for the Development of Downstream Natural Gas Markets](#)

This publication is an informative step-by-step reference for energy regulators and energy sector decision makers who are introducing liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports and subsequently overseeing regulation of nascent downstream natural gas markets. The best practices shared in the *Roadmap* are based on historical progress and current practices in the United States, making it a helpful resource for energy regulators in search of information on the foundational tenets governing the structure of well-functioning, competitive downstream natural gas sectors.

5. [Practical Guide to Women in Energy Regulation](#)

NARUC is thrilled with the level of involvement it is seeing from U.S. female commissioners and technical staff in its gender programs that support career development and training for international participants who are advancing their careers in energy regulation. For regulators and policymakers around the world, the need to consider gender goes far beyond greater representation within regulatory agencies and the energy sector as a whole. Intentional efforts must be made to ensure that gender-specific considerations are included in policy and regulatory frameworks. In this context, this guide provides an overview of the current role of women within the energy sector and identifies approaches to gender equity that consider women as employees, decision-makers and stakeholders, energy users, and participants in the energy value chain.

6. [Developing a Regulatory Guide to Reviewing, Approving, and Monitoring Ten-Year Transmission Network Development Plans](#)

This guide provides an insight into the European practice of approving ten-year network development plans (TYNDP) and defines the role of the National Regulatory Authorities in the appraisal of the structure and content of the TYNDP. The approaches and methods that it identifies can be used to provide U.S. Commissions with detailed knowledge on international regulatory practices for assessing network investment plans. Furthermore, the guide includes information on the TYNDP methodology and modeling approach, network development and planning assumptions, categorizing and reviewing projects, conducting cost-benefit assessments of projects, performing risk analysis, directing regional projects, assessing project prioritization and impacts, consulting with stakeholders and the public, making presentations to stakeholders and the public, and monitoring TYNDP implementation.

7. [Revised Data Collection Templates and Common Set of Metrics and Method\(s\) for Establishing Performance Benchmarks](#)

Quality of service (QoS) monitoring in the energy sector is a key element of regulatory supervision for regulators in the U.S. and around the world as it is directly linked to the regulatory authorities' core mandate of ensuring that customers receive safe and reliable electric service at just and reasonable rates/tariffs. This document presents data collection templates, a common set of metrics/indicators, and methods for establishing performance benchmarks under a unified framework. By following the framework, the expected outcome is that regulators can form a common basis for QoS treatment that enhances transparency and ultimately improves service for consumers and monitoring by regulators.

How to Get Involved

Volunteer solicitations and activity calendars for international activities are sent regularly to NARUC's International News and Volunteer Solicitations mailing lists, along with news about how NARUC members are solving problems and making a difference. To sign up, please email Erin Hammel (ehammel@naruc.org) and Sarah Stiles (sstiles@naruc.org) and request to be added to the list(s). Both personal or work email addresses are acceptable.

Regarding volunteer solicitations, an application form is included in every solicitation email sent by NARUC. It is straightforward and contains questions about relevant expertise, approach to the topic for foreign partners, relevant overseas experience, etc. Please make sure you have commission/state approval before applying. We look forward to working with you!