The Regulatory Training Initiative

What is the Regulatory Training Initiative (RTI)?

The RTI will be an important pillar of the NARUC training ecosystem. It will address key regulatory areas and include four components: training modules, an online library of support materials, a regulatory training manual, and a digital forum for supplemental discussions.

Regulated industries are challenged to adjust to profound and rapid technical change. This rapid change necessitates ongoing educational opportunities to ensure stakeholders understand these complex and evolving systems.

The regulatory community has an aging workforce whose successors often have limited regulatory experience. There is a new generation of regulatory stakeholders who require educational opportunities to ensure continuity and sharing of institutional knowledge.

The number and types of stakeholders that participate in regulatory proceedings has grown. Newer stakeholders in regulatory proceedings may not have the background or training necessary to engage fully and effectively. By providing educational resources, the RTI will ensure that stakeholders are prepared to engage productively in regulatory processes.

The RTI is predicated on the belief that knowledgeable participants in the regulatory process enhance the caliber of deliberations and, in so doing, improve the quality of regulatory outcomes. Most importantly, the RTI will enhance the knowledge and skills of participants in the regulatory process by increasing their understanding of the policy and regulatory options under consideration.

As a result, NRRI believes that both the quality of the record upon which regulatory decisions are made and the quality of discussion in mediated processes will improve, thereby enhancing the caliber of regulation overall.

Why does the Regulatory Community need the RTI?

Several compelling reasons drive the need for greater and more flexible regulatory training opportunities.

The RTI will include an online training system, designed to support the delivery of training content when and where participants need it.

Regulatory Training Initiative Symposium

Join NRRI on Tuesday, November 19th in San Antonio to learn more about the vision for the Regulatory Training Initiative.

When: Tuesday, November 19th 3:15-4:15pm  ●  Where: Crockett AB (4th floor)
What is the RTI's relationship to NARUC's other educational programs?

The RTI will complement and support the mission of NARUC's current educational programs. The RTI will serve as a flexible education and training resource for the broader regulatory community, with special attention to supplementing the educational resources provided by NARUC's rate schools.

RTI Funding

NRRI has received a one year planning grant from the Heising-Simons Foundation to develop a business plan for the RTI. This grant will enable NRRI to establish partnerships, research educational platforms, and develop a proposed curriculum for the RTI.

Planned outcomes for 2019-2020

NRRI has identified several key deliverables that will result from the 2019-2020 feasibility study phase, which is currently underway. These deliverables include:

- A proposal for the RTI organizational structure and a plan for implementation,
- Proposed software, platforms, and other resources needed to implement the RTI.
- A preliminary regulatory curriculum,
- A preliminary project plan with schedule and budget.

Opportunities for Involvement

The Regulatory Training Initiative is a bold idea, which will need support from the broader regulatory community to realize its full potential. NRRI is looking for support with the following areas:

- Expertise in developing training materials
- Trainers to present RTI curriculum
- Shared educational resources technology support

RTI Advisory Board

The Regulatory Training Advisory Board includes a sector-spanning group of regulatory industry leaders.

- Hon. Charles Zielinski, Advisory Board Chair
- Bob Stevens, Brubaker & Associates
- Brian O’Hara, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- Daniel Lapato, American Gas Association
- Elizabeth McAndrew-Benavides, Electric Power Research Institute
- Glen Anderson, National Conference of State Legislatures
- Hon. Diane Munns
- Hon. Edison Avilés-Deliz, PE, Esq., Puerto Rico Energy Bureau
- Hon. Harold Gray, Delaware PSC
- Hon. Marion Gold, Ph.D., Rhode Island PSC
- Hon. Mary-Anna Holden, New Jersey BPU
- Hon. William Ritter, Jr., Colorado State University
- Hon. Philip Moeller, Edison Electric Institute
- James Jenkins, American Water
- Joseph Gillan, Gillan Associates
- Kristin Munsch, Illinois Citizens Utility Board
- Paul Centolella, Paul Centolella & Associates, LLC
- Paul Zummo, American Public Power Association
- Peter Fox-Penner, Institute for Sustainable Energy
- Ralph Cavanagh, Natural Resource Defense Council
- Robert Gramlich, Grid Strategies, LLC
- Sonia Aggarwal, Energy Innovation: Policy & Technology, LLC
- Susan Tierney, Ph.D., Analysis Group

NRRI’s Mission is to serve state utility regulators by producing and disseminating relevant, high-quality research that provides the analytical framework and practical tools necessary to improve public interest decision-making.

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