NARUC Center for Partnerships & Innovation

Identifying emerging challenges and connecting state commissions with expertise and strategies to navigate complex decision-making

The NARUC Center for Partnerships & Innovation (CPI) builds relationships, develops resources, and delivers training that provides answers to state commissioners’ questions. CPI is funded by cooperative agreements with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and charitable sources.

CPI works across four key topical areas:

**Energy Infrastructure & Technology Modernization**  
*Advancing understanding of innovative technology possibilities*

- Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage  
- Natural Gas Infrastructure Modernization  
- Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings  
- Smart Grid  
- Electric Vehicles

**Electricity System Transition**  
*Addressing evolving grid planning challenges and opportunities*

- Distribution Systems and Planning  
- Comprehensive Electricity Planning  
- Performance-Based Regulation  
- Valuation Frameworks and Approaches  
- National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP)

**Critical Infrastructure, Cybersecurity, Resilience**  
*Ensuring the energy system is safe, secure, and resilient*

- Critical Infrastructure  
- Cybersecurity for Utility Regulators  
- Energy Emergency Preparedness  
- Resilient Distributed Energy Resources  
- Microgrids

**Emerging Issues**  
*Enabling commissions to explore new topics as they arise*

- Commission Staff Surge Calls  
- Innovation Webinar Series (open to all)  
- Connections to Technical Assistance from National Laboratories and Other Experts

We look forward to engaging with NARUC’s members throughout the year—your needs drive our priorities and activities!

**Contact us to discuss partnership opportunities or to get involved:**

Danielle Sass Byrnett, Director  
 dbsynrett@naruc.org, 202-898-2217

Kerry Worthington, Senior Manager  
 kworthington@naruc.org, 202-898-2215

Kiera Zitelman, Senior Manager  
 kzitelman@naruc.org, 202-898-2212

Lynn P. Costantini, Deputy Director  
 lcostantini@naruc.org, 609-915-1685

Ashton Raffety, Senior Technical Program Officer  
 araffety@naruc.org, 202-384-1572

Kerry Worthington, Senior Manager  
 kworthington@naruc.org, 202-898-2215

Kiera Zitelman, Senior Manager  
 kzitelman@naruc.org, 202-898-2212

Ashton Raffety, Senior Technical Program Officer  
 araffety@naruc.org, 202-384-1572

Charles Harper, Program Officer  
 charper@naruc.org, 202-821-1693

Dominic Liberatore, Logistics and Finance Officer  
 dliberatore@naruc.org, 202-898-2448
NARUC Center for Partnerships & Innovation

Current Activities

Recently Released Publications

- Advancing Electric System Resilience with Distributed Energy Resources: Key Questions and Resources (Apr. 2020); A Review of State Policies (Apr. 2020)
- Smart Grid Interoperability: Prompts for State Regulators to Engage Utilities (Apr. 2020)
- Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Replacement and Modernization (Feb. 2020)
- Coal Ash Law and Commercialization (Feb. 2020)
- Recent Changes to U.S. Coal Plant Operations and Current Compensation Practices (Jan. 2020)
- NCEP Transmission and Distribution System Coordination Resource Catalog (Jan. 2020)
- NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning: Resource Library (Jan. 2020)

Forthcoming Resources

- Analysis of Battery Energy Storage Technology Adoption by Electric Utility Structure
- Cybersecurity Partnerships and Information Sharing
- Guide to State Cybersecurity Table Top Exercises
- NCEP Mini Guide: Coordination between Public Utility Commissions and State Energy Offices
- Artificial Intelligence for Natural Gas Utilities: A Primer
- Stakeholder Engagement Approaches: A Decision Making Framework

Training & Events

- Smart Grid Interoperability: Online Learning Module Videos. Short videos for state utility commissions on economics, operational considerations, and roles of state regulators on interoperability. Contact Kerry
- NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning. The 15 Task Force states will host a virtual workshop in September 2020. Recent webinar recordings are available. Contact Danielle
- Coal Power and Carbon Capture Outlook Conference. NARUC’s spring conference was reconfigured and will be held as a six-part webinar series on Fridays from Sept. 11 to Oct. 16, 2020. Register here. Contact Kiera
- Cyber Training: “What Do State Regulatory Commissions Need to Know to Act Prudently on Cybersecurity?” NARUC’s latest cybersecurity training was postponed from spring to fall 2020. Contact Lynn

Ongoing Virtual Learning Opportunities

- Commission Staff Surge Calls. NARUC hosts quarterly calls on which commission staff discuss how different states approach emerging issues in electricity policy. Summaries from past calls are available. Contact Kiera

Join us! NARUC hosts four working groups for members:

- Performance-Based Regulation. Contact Kerry
- Electric Vehicles. Contact Danielle
- Microgrids. Contact Kiera
- Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings. Contact Danielle

www.naruc.org/cpi