



Subcommittee on COVID-19 March Meeting Minutes March 15, 2021

Chair Ann Rendahl and Vice-Chair Dan Lauf convened the March meeting of the Subcommittee on COVID-19, followed by introductions from the membership of the Subcommittee. The meeting agenda is attached for reference.

The group reviewed the second draft of the Subcommittee's literature review. The group suggested clarifications and offered ideas on organizing links to existing resources. The group discussed additional thematic topics to cover as well as new resources to incorporate into the literature review. Additional topics of consideration included but were not limited to:

- Long-term movements in energy demand and subsequent impacts to the grid;
- Incorporating sections on customer assistance programs in American Rescue Plan stimulus bill and new funding in potential infrastructure bill;
- What guidance is available to customers transitioning out of winter moratoria;
- How PUCs and utilities alike altered emergency response plans to adapt to new COVID-19 precautions;
- Additional information on regulator response and what lessons regulators should consider to prepare for the next public health crisis;
- Financial health of utilities and customer impacts
- Legal authorities that restricted and/or assisted commission operation during the pandemic

In advance of the meeting, NARUC staff shared draft interview questions for the upcoming Roundtable discussions regarding the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan is for the Subcommittee on COVID-19 to host a series of three Roundtable discussions with individuals on the EPRR Task Force that represent interests in the utility industry, state regulators, state energy officials, and key advocates. The objective of these Roundtable discussions is to allow participants an opportunity to clarify shortcomings with the ongoing response to the pandemic, detail successes, and highlight unique responses from Commissions, state energy offices, and/or the industry. These discussion sessions will provide support and direction for the next phase of the Subcommittee's work in developing recommendations and best practices. Subcommittee members provided feedback on additional topics to consider during the Roundtable discussions.

NARUC staff detailed the expected timeline for completion of the final report of the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members should expect that the May and June meetings of the Subcommittee will focus on developing recommendations for that final report. Subcommittee members are encouraged to share resources with Will McCurry (wmccurry@naruc.org) on an ongoing basis. NARUC staff will continue to develop new iterations of the literature review and incorporate an



analysis of the Roundtable discussions into a more fully realized report. NARUC staff will distribute calendar invitations for meetings in May, June, and August for the Subcommittee.