

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ELECTRICITY POLICY (NCEP)

September 2022

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP) is a platform for state-level electricity decision makers to share and learn from diverse perspectives on the evolving electricity sector. The NCEP community includes representatives from public utility commissions, air and environmental regulatory agencies, governors' staffs and state energy offices, state legislators, and consumer advocates¹. NCEP is a forum for collaboration among state electricity decision makers throughout the country to examine the opportunities and impacts of state, regional, and national changes in the electric industry.

A. NCEP supports the following objectives:

- Improve the understanding of electricity technologies, markets, programs and policies, including impacts on the economy.
- Support planning, deployment, and management of reliable, resilient, clean, safe, and affordable electricity.
- Improve interstate and intra-state coordination on electricity issues among member organizations for mutual benefit.
- Monitor trends in the industry and provide members current information to support informed policies.
- Facilitate educational and technical assistance to members.

B. NCEP will adhere to the following values when conducting activities and developing resources:

- *Objectivity*: ensuring all efforts are balanced, credible, and fact-based without a partisan, ideological, or business driven agenda.
- *Diversity*: maintaining diversity in member representation, political affiliation, professional background (e.g., law, economics, engineering), geography, demography, and culture.
- *Collaboration*: collaborating internally and externally to deeply explore topics.
- *Accessibility*: engaging state decision makers through a combination of in-person and virtual events.
- *Equality*: sharing the distribution of benefits and burdens of the energy system

C. NCEP may develop additional goals and/or objectives upon approval of National Council members.

¹ As defined by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), the office designated by the state legislature as the agency for the representation of utility consumer interests before state and/or federal regulatory agencies. See www.nasuca.org.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in NCEP is available to state government decision-makers, including energy offices, utility commissioners, legislators, air and environmental regulators, consumer advocates, and Governors' representatives from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. NCEP members shall be provided opportunities to participate in NCEP activities and Work Groups. Canadian Provinces, the U.S. Territories, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico may also participate as non-voting members.
2. The general membership of NCEP will be identified through participation in NCEP activities.

B. REGIONS

Members are grouped by region for matters requiring voting or leadership as follows:

- **NORTHEAST:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont
- **MID-ATLANTIC:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia
- **MIDWEST:** Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Illinois, South Dakota, Wisconsin
- **SOUTHEAST:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee
- **CENTRAL:** Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas
- **MOUNTAIN:** Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
- **PACIFIC:** Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

ARTICLE III – THE COUNCIL

A. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. NCEP will be guided by an Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall include a state utility commission representative from each Region (7), as well as a state legislator, a state air or environmental leader, a state consumer advocate, a director of a state energy office, and a Governor's energy advisor for a total of twelve (12) Executive

Committee members. Representation may broaden as the organization grows and evolves with the approval of the Executive Committee.

3. Members of the National Council's Executive Committee shall serve four-year terms. Each of these terms may be extended in one-year increments up to a maximum of four additional years with Executive Committee approval, for a maximum of 8 years.

B. REGULAR AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Council shall be held as determined by the Executive Committee. One meeting each year shall be designated as the Annual Meeting.

C. POLICY

1. Consistent with its mission, the role of NCEP is an exchange of perspectives, not to seek unanimity. NCEP will serve as an informative, rather than policy making, body and will not normally form policy statements. If a case exists where NCEP offers a policy statement, it must be approved by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.
2. No policy shall be binding on any Member. Individual members retain all rights to comment on policy statements of NCEP, including the attachment of minority viewpoints.
3. No lobbying or legislative advocacy of any kind will be done by NCEP.

D. NON-BINDING ACTIVITIES

No vote of, or resolution passed by, NCEP has any binding effect upon any state agency, provincial authority, or any individual.

E. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These Guiding Principles may be amended at the Annual Meeting or any meeting of NCEP and shall require support of 66% of the votes cast by the Council's Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV – ADMINISTRATION

A. RELATIONSHIP TO NARUC

NCEP is a project of NARUC, funded through grants and cooperative agreements provided to NARUC. Auditing, reporting, compliance, and other funder-specified activities required by these grants and agreements will be undertaken by NARUC.

B. NCEP DIRECTOR & STAFF

NARUC staff will serve as a secretariat for NCEP funded through projects administered by NARUC. The NCEP staff work will be directed by the Executive Committee within the boundaries of the terms of their tasks under NARUC's supporting cooperative agreements and grants.

C. NCEP DIRECTOR

A Director may be selected by the NCEP Executive Committee and determine duties with NARUC approval. The Director will be funded by and report to NARUC.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

A. NUMBER AND TITLE OF OFFICERS

The NCEP Officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer (the Officers).

B. OFFICER ELECTIONS, TERMS, and VACANCIES

1. The Executive Committee shall elect a President and Vice President at the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee may elect a Secretary and/or Treasurer at the Annual Meeting.
2. The Officers shall serve two-year terms. Each of these terms may be extended in one-year increments up to a maximum of four years if the Officer so requests.
3. No two Officers may be from the same Region.
4. The President shall rotate on a regional basis. A region may waive its Presidential opportunity. It is the intent, but not requirement, that the Vice President will become President at the conclusion of the President's two-year term, or when their term expires.
5. The Officers are recognized as representatives from their individual states and regions. However, as NCEP officers, they are obligated and expected to represent the entire Council on issues as decided by NCEP.
6. In the event of a vacancy of the President, the Vice President will fulfill the President's duties for the remainder of the former President's term. In the event of a vacancy of the Vice President, the position will be filled by an eligible state official named by the Nominating Committee and elected on by the Executive Committee.
7. Partial terms shall not be counted as one term of office.

C. DUTIES

1. The President shall be the principal officer of the NCEP, shall preside at all meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for seeing that the directives and activities of NCEP and the Executive Committee are carried out, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by NCEP.
2. The Vice President, in the temporary absence of the President, shall preside at meetings of Council and the Executive Committee and will perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or NCEP.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the four (4) Officers of NCEP as described in Article V as well as eight (8) additional Members, as described in Article III.
2. The Executive Committee may meet as needed in person, by conference call, webinar, or other means. Such meetings shall be called by the President of the Executive Committee. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be eight (8) members of the Executive Committee and decisions of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise specified in these Guiding Principles, shall require support of 66% of the votes cast by Executive Committee members.

B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee may name a Nominating Committee, as needed, to offer names of eligible state officials to fill vacancies in its membership.

C. OTHER COMMITTEES

1. Other committees may be established as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
2. Any state government official who participates in NCEP may participate in these other committees, as well as a Nominating Committee, when such Committees are named. Other persons, representing trade associations, government agencies, or other relevant organizations, may participate by invitation of NCEP.

ARTICLE VII – ACTIVITIES

A. MEETINGS

1. The Annual Meeting and other meetings of NCEP shall be open meetings except for Executive Committee meetings. To the extent allowed, meetings dealing with commercially sensitive, legal and personnel issues will be conducted in closed session.

2. In the event of a dispute not specifically addressed in these Guiding Principles or in other rules adopted by NCEP, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the meetings of NCEP, the Executive Committee, and all other committees.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Papers, webcasts, facilitated sessions, trainings, and other information-exchange, research and education activities shall conform to Article I of these Guiding Principles.