

**Fall 2013**  
**CONFERENCE/MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA**  
**NARUC STAFF SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE**  
*September 8 – September 12, 2013*  
**Portland, Oregon**

MARCI NORBY, CHAIR  
(307) 777-5720

PATRICIA HARMS, SECRETARY  
(208) 334-0361  
MIKE DILLER, REGISTRAR  
(701) 328-4079

**WHAT** The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance will be holding its fall 2013 conference/meeting at the **Courtyard Marriott Portland City Center, Portland Oregon**. The purpose of the conference/meeting is to provide accounting, finance, and utility regulatory information to personnel with all levels of experience who work in the ever-changing utility regulatory environment.

**WHEN** Open Session for all conferees will be Monday, September 9, 2013 through Noon on Wednesday, September 11, 2013. Closed Session (for subcommittee members and regulatory conferees) runs from Wednesday afternoon, September 11, 2013 through about Noon on Thursday, September 12, 2013. There is also a Closed Session Sunday evening, September 8, 2013 at 7 p.m.

**WHERE** **Courtyard Marriott Portland City Center, Portland, Oregon**  
550 SW Oak Street · Portland, Oregon 97204  
Front Desk: (503) 505-5000, Fax: (503) 505-5600  
Reservations (800) 606-3717  
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc-courtyard-portland-city-center/>  
**HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE – August 24, 2013**



## HOTEL RATES and RESERVATION CODES

The hotel rates are separated into the government per diem rate of \$113 per night and a non-government rate of \$139 per night. Valid government identification may be requested at check-in. The room rates are subject to tax. Follow the links below to make an on-line reservation.

The following is a link to the **government** per diem rate of \$113 per night:

[http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nsfnfsfa&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/7/13&toDate=9/13/13&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nsfnfsfa&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/7/13&toDate=9/13/13&stop_mobi=yes) King Bed (Group Code: nsfnfsfa)

or

[http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nsfnfsfb&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/7/13&toDate=9/13/13&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nsfnfsfb&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/7/13&toDate=9/13/13&stop_mobi=yes) Queen Beds (Group Code: nsfnfsfb)

The following is a link to the **non-government** rate of \$139 per night;

[http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nafnafafa&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/8/13&toDate=9/12/13&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nafnafafa&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/8/13&toDate=9/12/13&stop_mobi=yes) King Bed (Group Code: nafnafafa)

or

[http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nafnafafb&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/8/13&toDate=9/12/13&stop\\_mobi=yes](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pdxpc?groupCode=nafnafafb&app=resvlink&fromDate=9/8/13&toDate=9/12/13&stop_mobi=yes) Queen Beds (Group Code: nafnafafb)

If calling the hotel to make a reservation, please identify yourself as a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Accounting & Finance conference in order to obtain the appropriate room rate.

### **Reservation Block until August 24, 2013**

**A limited block of rooms has been reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. It is recommended that you book a room immediately. The cutoff date is August 24, 2013 for hotel reservations at these rates. However, once the block of rooms is filled, depending on overall room availability at the hotel, rooms may not be available at the contracted rate. Failure to make your reservation prior to the cutoff date may result in rooms not being available or available, but at a higher rate.**

CONFERENCE      Early Registration must be received by **COB August 26, 2013** or pay a late fee.  
COST              Regulatory Personnel, \$200.  
                      Industry or Consulting Personnel, \$250.  
                      Late Fee for Registration after August 26, 2013, \$25.

REGISTRATION    **Please mail the enclosed registration form and attach your check (made out to "NARUC") as soon as possible, but early registration must be received no later than August 26, 2013. Sorry, credit cards are not accepted.** After that date, the \$25 late fee applies. You may fax late registration forms as well as register on-site, please bring full payment with you. Requests for refunds must be received in writing by August 27, 2013. No refunds can be granted after that date. For more information regarding administrative policies such as complaints and refunds, please contact Marci Norby, Chair, at (307) 777-5720, or by e-mail at [marci.norby@wyo.gov](mailto:marci.norby@wyo.gov).

PARKING           Valet parking is \$15 per day.

TRANSPORTATION    The hotel is approximately 12 miles from the airport. The hotel does not provide shuttle service. The hotel is accessible from the airport via Oregon's light rail service. [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org) Other ground transportation is also available from the airport.

WEATHER            The average temperature in Portland, Oregon in September is a high of 77 degrees and a low of 54 degrees.

DRESS                Business Casual

## TENTATIVE AGENDA TOPICS

Closed session Sunday FASB Meeting for Regulatory Conferees

Open sessions FASB initiatives and projects, Accounting Specific Presentations, Electric Presentations, FERC, RUS, Gas Presentations, Telecommunications' Presentations, Financial Presentations, Rating Agency reviews, Water Presentations

Closed session – for regulatory conferees Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning

Regulatory Projects/Updates, Regulatory issues and Committee Business

A more complete agenda is being developed and will be emailed.

Contact Marci Norby at (307) 777-5720 or [marci.norby@wyo.gov](mailto:marci.norby@wyo.gov).

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completion of this conference you will be able to:

- Identify the current accounting initiatives, standards and projects at FASB relevant to utilities.
- Determine the impact from recent and planned auditing standards and inspection findings at PCAOB.
- Identify the characteristics of programs funded by the Rural Utilities Service.
- Identify the emerging issues at the FCC, FERC and legislative actions.
- Identify challenges from a changing environment in which utilities operate.
- List current regulatory issues of water, energy and telecommunication utilities.

## CPE CREDITS

Historically, participants that attend all sessions of the program earn an average of 5 CPE hours in the accounting field of study and 18 CPE hours in the specialized knowledge field of study. Based on previous experience, 19 to 21 hours of CPE credits will be available to participants attending the open sessions, with an additional 2 to 3 hours available in the closed sessions. Final CPE earned will be determined based on the length of participation in the program as evidenced through completed attendance forms for each session attended.

This conference provides a general review of new accounting pronouncements and issues that affect regulated utilities. The conference presentation method is group-live and the course level is intermediate. Prerequisite: Background in Accounting and Regulatory Issues. There is no advance preparation needed for this conference. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE Credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: [www.learningmarket.org](http://www.learningmarket.org). NARUC's National Registry of CPE Sponsors Number is 103641.



## Certificate of Continuing Regulatory Education Credits

Attendance at the Subcommittee's conference counts as credits earned towards the Certificate of Continuing Regulatory Education (CCRE). The CCRE recognizes the sustained commitment of regulatory personnel to continuing education and professional development. Certification is initially available only for employees of federal and state public service commissions and public utility consumer advocates. For more information about this Certificate, please contact Marci Norby at [marci.norby@wyo.gov](mailto:marci.norby@wyo.gov).

Historically, participants that attend all sessions of the program earn 19 credit hours. Based on previous experience, 14 to 17 hours of CCRE credits will be available to participants attending the open sessions, with an additional 2 to 4 hours available in the closed sessions. Credits are based on a 60-minute hour. Final credits earned will be determined based on the length of participation in the program as evidenced through completed attendance forms for each session attended. The same attendance form is used for both CPE and CCRE credits. The attendance form also contains the means to request a Certificate of Attendance for CCRE credit-hours.

TOURIST Travel Portland: <http://www.travelportland.com>  
INFORMATION

If you have questions regarding this conference, please contact Marci Norby, Chair, at (307) 777-5720  
or [marci.norby@wyo.gov](mailto:marci.norby@wyo.gov)

See registration form, below.



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY  
COMMISSIONERS  
STAFF SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE  
FALL 2013 CONFERENCE / MEETING REGISTRATION FORM  
September 8 – September 12, 2013  
Portland, Oregon**

**Please complete this form and submit with payment on or before August 26, 2013. Checks should be made payable to NARUC. Sorry, credit cards are not accepted. REGISTRATION FEES SHALL NOT BE REFUNDABLE AFTER AUGUST 26, 2013, ABSENT AN EXTRAORDINARY EVENT. Registration and payments should be mailed to:**

**Mike Diller**  
**North Dakota Public Service Commission**  
**600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408**  
**Bismarck, ND 58505-0480**  
**Phone Number: (701) 328-4079**  
**Fax Number: (701) 328-2410**  
[mdiller@nd.gov](mailto:mdiller@nd.gov)

*Payments or registrations mailed directly to NARUC in Washington, D.C. may delay registration.*

Please print or type

Name:	Title:
Company/Firm/Agency:	
Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
E-mail address:	
Telephone:	Fax:
Do you wish to obtain CPE and/or CCRE Credit Hours? (please circle)      YES      NO	

<b>Registration Fees</b> (Please check all that apply.)			
	Number	Amount	Total
Regulatory/Government Employee		\$200.00	
Company/Consultant		\$250.00	
Late Fee after <b>August 26, 2013</b> (Receipt Date)		\$25.00	

<b>Special Activities (Open to Attendees and Guests)</b>			
	Number	Amount	Total
Group Dinner Wednesday night		\$25.00	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENT</b>	██████████	██████████	
	██████████	██████████	

Please notify Marci Norby at (307) 777-5720 or [marci.norby@wyo.gov](mailto:marci.norby@wyo.gov) if you have special needs as covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

# AGENDA FOR FALL 2013 CONFERENCE

## September 8 – 12, 2013

**COURTYARD MARRIOTT PORTLAND CITY CENTER**  
**550 SW OAK STREET**  
**Portland, Oregon**

A special Thank You to all of our speakers and their companies supporting this meeting.

SUNDAY, September 8, 2013 -	
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7:00 p.m.	FASB Task Force Meeting (Open to All State and Federal Regulatory Personnel)
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*Don't forget to pick up a speaker evaluation form. The speaker evaluation forms are required for our CPE sponsor/registry and it is important that everyone fill out the form throughout the conference. Thank you!*

MONDAY AM, September 9, 2013 - OPEN SESSION	
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7:00 a.m.	Late Registration/Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m.	(1) <b>Welcome and Introductory Remarks</b> <i>Honorable Chair Susan Ackerman, Oregon Public Utilities Commission</i>
8:15 a.m.	(2) <b>FASB Update</b> <i>Nicholas T. Cappiello III, CPA, Project Manager, FASB</i> <b>Our thanks to the American Gas Association for assistance with sponsoring the travel costs of our FASB Speaker!</b>
9:15 a.m.	(3) <b>PCAOB Update</b> <i>Gregory Wilson, CPA, Deputy Director, PCAOB</i>
10:05 a.m.	Break
10:20 a.m.	(4) <b>IFRS Update – Rate Regulated Activities</b> <i>Jason A. John, CPA, Senior Audit Manager, KPMG LLP</i>
11:10 a.m.	(5) <b>Management as a Credit Factor</b> <i>Richard W. Cortright, Jr., Managing Director, U.S. Utilities and Infrastructure Ratings, Standard &amp; Poor's</i>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch / <b>Return CPE and Certificate of Continuing Regulatory Education (CCRE) forms</b> <b>(Don't forget to purchase your WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER TICKETS)</b> Farm to Plate Dinner

MONDAY PM, September 9, 2013 - OPEN SESSION	
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1:30 p.m.	(6) <b>Asset Retirement Obligations</b> <i>Earl M. Robinson, CDP, Principal &amp; Director, AUS Consulting</i>
2:20 p.m.	(7) <b>Rural Utilities Services Update</b> <i>Ken Ackerman, CPA, Assistant Administrator for Program Accounting and Regulatory Analysis, RUS, USDA</i>
3:10 p.m.	Break
3:25 p.m.	(8) <b>NEEA's Work to Promote Sustainability in Energy Efficiency</b> <i>Susan Stratton, Executive Director, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance</i>
4:15 p.m.	(9) <b>FERC Accounting Update</b> <i>Steven Hunt, CPA, Manager of the Regulatory Accounting Branch, Office of Enforcement, Division of Audits, FERC</i>
5:05 p.m.	<b>Break for evening / Return CPE and CCRE forms</b>
6:00 p.m.	<b>Edison Electric Institute Sponsored Reception</b> <b>Our thanks to EEI for its continued support.</b>



# AGENDA FOR FALL 2013 CONFERENCE

## PORTLAND, OREGON

### September 8 – 12, 2013

TUESDAY AM, September 10, 2013 - OPEN SESSION	
7:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m.	(10) <b>Deferred Tax and Investment Tax Credit Normalization Requirements-Background and Current Issues</b> <i>David Yankee, CPA, Partner, Deloitte Tax LLP</i> <i>Bradley M. Seltzer, Tax Principal, Deloitte Tax LLP</i>
8:50 a.m.	(11) <b>Economic Development Rates and Load Retention Rates</b> <i>John Wolfram, Principal, Catalyst Consulting LLC</i>
9:50 a.m.	Break
10:05 a.m.	(12) <b>Tax Capitalization Rules – Regulations, Safe Harbors and Method Changes</b> <i>Bradley M. Seltzer, Tax Principal, Deloitte Tax LLP</i> <i>David Yankee, CPA, Partner, Deloitte Tax LLP Deloitte</i>
10:55 a.m.	(13) <b>Utility Cybersecurity Issues</b> <i>Tom Pearce, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio</i>
12:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch / Return CPE and CCRE forms</b>

TUESDAY PM, September 10, 2013 - OPEN SESSION	
1:30 p.m.	(14) <b>Mature Water System Challenges</b> <i>Jim Cagle, Vice President, Regulatory Business, United Water Management Services, Inc.</i>
2:20 p.m.	(15) <b>Incentive Mechanisms</b> <i>Mark Thompson, Manager, Rates and Regulation, NW Natural</i> <i>William (Bill) Steele, Steele &amp; Associates</i>
3:10 p.m.	Break
3:20 p.m.	(16) <b>Telecommunications Deregulation</b> <i>Sherry Lichtenberg, Ph.D., NRRI, Principal, Telecommunications Research and Policy</i>
4:10 p.m.	(17) <b>Natural Gas Price Trends</b> <i>Tom Pearce, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio</i>
5:00 p.m.	Break for evening / <b>Return CPE and CCRE forms</b>

WEDNESDAY AM, September 11, 2013 - OPEN SESSION	
7:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m.	(18) <b>Utility Multistate Allocation Methodologies</b> <i>Denise K. Parrish, Deputy Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate</i> <b>Be prepared for an audience discussion on multijurisdictional allocation issues as part of this presentation.</b>
9:00 a.m.	(19) <b>Incremental Financing Advantages of Small Reactors</b> <i>Paul Genoa, Senior Director, Policy Development - Nuclear Energy Institute</i> <i>Mary Pietrzyk, Manager, Fuel Cycle Policy and Programs - Nuclear Energy Institute</i>
9:50 a.m.	Break
10:05 a.m.	(20) <b>Accounting Hot Topics - Pensions, Leases and Revenue</b> <i>Lucas M. Carpenter, CPA, PwC</i>
11:05 a.m.	(21) <b>Integration of Renewables</b> <i>Cameron Yourkowski, Senior Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest Project</i>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch – <b>Return CPE, CCRE and Speaker Evaluation forms</b>
WEDNESDAY P.M., September 11, 2013 – OPEN SESSION	
1:30 p.m.	(22) <b>Growth, Sustainability and Challenges of Hydroelectric Power</b> <i>Jeff Leahey, Director of Government Affairs, National Hydropower Association</i>
	<b>End Open Session - Return CPE, CCRE and Speaker Evaluation forms</b>

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## PORTLAND, OREGON

### September 8 – 12, 2013

WEDNESDAY P.M., September 11, 2013 – CLOSED SESSION (REGULATORS AND CONSUMER ADVOCATE OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES ONLY)	
2:30 p.m.	(23) <b>Introduction of Attendees</b>
2:45 p.m.	(24) <b>Report by the Chair</b> , <i>Marci Norby, Wyoming Public Service Commission</i> (a) Approval of Minutes of Spring 2013 Meeting (b) State of the Subcommittee (c) Current Projects and Task Force Reports (d) Report on NARUC Meetings (e) Vice Chair (25) <b>Locations for Thursday's Site Selection</b> <i>Northeast in Fall 2014, Marci Norby, Wyoming Public Service Commission</i> (26) <b>Agenda Topic Suggestions for Spring 2014 meeting</b> <i>Marci Norby with input from all participants</i>
3:15 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	(27) <b>FERC Audit Staff Discussion with State Regulatory Staff</b> <i>Bryan Craig, CPA, Chief Accountant, Director of the Division of Audits and Accounting, FERC</i> <i>Steven Hunt, CPA, Manager of the Regulatory Accounting Branch, Office of Enforcement, Division of Audits, FERC</i>
4:20 p.m.	(28) <b>Staff Perspective on Hedging</b> <i>Terri Carlock, Deputy Administrator, Utilities Division, Idaho Public Utilities Commission and group discussion of the various state staff perspectives on hedging.</i>
5:00 p.m.	Break for evening / <b>Return CPE and CCRE forms</b>
6:00 p.m.	<b>Dinner (Attendees and Guests Welcome – Advanced Ticket Required)</b> Kruger's Farm Market – Farm to Plate Dinner 17100 NW Sauvie Island Road, Portland, Oregon 97231 <b>Bus Departs at 6 P.M.</b>

THURSDAY AM, September 12, 2013 - CLOSED SESSION (REGULATORS AND CONSUMER ADVOCATE OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES ONLY)	
7:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:00 a.m.	(29) <b>Washington Legislative Update</b> <i>Chris Mele, Legislative Director, Energy, NARUC</i>
9:00 a.m.	(30) <b>Cal-ISO / PacifiCorp Energy Imbalance Market</b> <i>Cory Scott, Director Strategic Business Performance, PacifiCorp</i> <i>Bryce Dalley, Director Regulatory Affairs and Revenue, PacifiCorp</i>
9:50 a.m.	(31) <b>NARUC Water Resolution and Legislative Changes and Rate Mechanism Discussion with States</b> <i>Terri Carlock, Idaho Public Utilities Commission</i>
10:40 a.m.	(32) <b>Site Selection for Fall 2014 – Northeast</b> <i>Marci Norby, Wyoming Public Service Commission</i>
11:00 a.m.	(33) <b>Hot Issues Before the Oregon Commission</b> <i>Linnea Wittekind, Oregon Public Utilities Commission</i>
11:45 a.m.	(34) <b>Question and Answer Session</b> <i>This is an opportunity to ask questions of your fellow state and federal regulators. Please bring with you any items that you wish to ask or items that might be of special interest to the group.</i>
Noon	<b>ADJOURN / Return CPE, CCRE and Speaker Evaluation Forms</b>

**UPCOMING Conferences:**  
**Spring 2014 – Southeastern U.S.**



LEARNING  
OBJECTIVES

After completion of this conference you will be able to:

- Identify the current accounting initiatives, standards and projects at FASB relevant to utilities.
- Determine the impact from recent and planned PCAOB auditing standards and inspection findings.
- List current IFRS trends and issues related to rate regulated activities.
- Identify Standard & Poor's credit factor criteria related to management.
- Identify the characteristics of programs funded by the Rural Utilities Service.
- Identify current asset retirement obligation impacts to depreciation rates.
- Identify the accounting issues at FERC.
- List the NEEA energy efficiency regional collaboration and market transformation techniques.
- Identify deferred tax and investment tax credit requirements.
- Identify issues with economic development rates and load retention rates.
- Identify tax capitalization rules, regulations, safe harbors and method changes.
- List current utility cybersecurity issues.
- List current mature water system challenges.
- Identify accounting issues for natural gas revenue sharing mechanisms.
- List issues related to telecommunications deregulation.
- Identify current natural gas price trends.
- List current utility multistate allocation methodologies.
- Identify current incremental financing advantages for small nuclear reactors.
- Identify issues related to the integration of renewable resources.
- List issues and challenges related to the growth and sustainability of hydroelectric power resources.
- Identify issues related to the FERC audits.
- List regulatory staff issues and perspectives related to hedging.
- List regulatory issues in the U.S. legislature.
- Identify issues related to the current Energy Imbalance Market in the west.
- Identify current NARUC resolutions related to water utility regulation and legislative changes.
- List current issues before the Oregon Public Utilities Commission.

CPE CREDITS

AICPA/NASBA guidelines for CPE credits are based on a 50-minute credit hour in qualifying NASBA CPE subject areas; one credit equals 50 minutes. All breaks and lunches are omitted from the total CPE minutes. Historically, participants that attend all sessions of the program earn an average of 5 CPE hours in the accounting field of study and 18 CPE hours in the specialized knowledge field of study. Based on previous experience, 19 to 21 hours of CPE credits will be available to participants attending the open sessions, with an additional 2 to 3 hours available in the closed sessions. Final CPE earned will be determined based on the length of participation in the program as evidenced through completed attendance forms for each session attended.



This conference provides a general review of new accounting pronouncements and issues that affect regulated utilities. The conference presentation method is group-live and the course level is intermediate. Prerequisite: Background in Accounting and Regulatory Issues. There is no advance preparation needed for this conference. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE Credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: [www.learningmarket.org](http://www.learningmarket.org).

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