



Please Join NARUC's Committee on International Relations in Honoring the 2018 Recipients of the Terry Barnich Award

Mr. Elijah Abinah

*Utilities Division Director
Arizona Corporation Commission*

With over 24 years of experience in public utility regulation, Elijah Abinah has provided impactful and lasting support to NARUC's partners abroad. His work ethic, knowledge and willingness to go the extra mile are known to his colleagues in Arizona and to international regulators in Nigeria, Uganda, India, Rwanda and beyond.



In particular, Mr. Abinah has provided critical knowledge and assistance to NARUC's long-running partnership with the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission. Through support from USAID, Mr. Abinah has engaged with NERC on reliability, cost-reflective tariffs and power purchase agreements, while also training new NERC commissioners on key issues.

Mr. Abinah has been with the ACC for over 15 years, with more than 8 years of service to Oklahoma Corporation Commission prior to that. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond Oklahoma, and a Master's Degree in Management from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma.

Dr. Udeozo Ogbue

*Chief, Office of Compliance and Enforcement and
Program Manager, Pipeline Safety and Damage Prevention
District of Columbia Public Service Commission*

Dr. Udeozo Ogbue P.Eng., of the District of Columbia Public Service Commission has served NARUC's international mission for more than 10 years. His contributions have impacted several countries and have helped to shape their utility regulatory development and direction.



Dr. Ogbue has played an important role in NARUC engagements with Tanzania, Nigeria, Pakistan, India, Japan, South Korea and Mexico. Through support from USAID and Power Africa, Dr. Ogbue helped to lead a partnership exchange with Tanzania's Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority on pipeline safety, building EWURA's capacity to develop rules for gas transmission and distribution.

Dr. Ogbue holds a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering Technology from Ryerson Polytechnic University, Toronto, a Master's degree in Management Sciences (Engineering) from the University of Waterloo, a P. Eng. from Ontario, and a Doctor of Business Management from Harlington University, Piccadilly, Manchester, UK. He is a graduate of the Queen's Executive Program, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.



About the Terry Barnich Award

The Terry Barnich Award honors the memory of former Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission (1989 to 1992) Terrence "Terry" Barnich. He was killed on Memorial Day, May 25th, 2009, while working as the Deputy Director of the State Department office overseeing U.S. reconstruction projects in Iraq.

Terry was a dedicated public servant, responding to the call to serve both at home and abroad. He was also an active NARUC member, and the award named in his honor recognizes regulators like him who believe they have a personal responsibility to provide aid and expertise to our partners abroad.