

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 <i>Advancing understanding of innovative technology possibilities</i>	Electricity System Transition <i>Addressing evolving grid planning challenges and opportunities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage• Natural Gas Infrastructure Modernization• Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings• Smart Grid• Electric Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribution Systems and Planning• Comprehensive Electricity Planning• Valuation and Ratemaking• National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP)
Critical Infrastructure, Cybersecurity, Resilience <i>Ensuring the energy system is safe, secure, and resilient</i>	Emerging Issues <i>Enabling commissions to explore new topics as they arise</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Infrastructure• Cybersecurity for Utility Regulators• Energy Emergency Preparedness• Resilient Distributed Energy Resources• Microgrids	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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:

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Current Activities

Recently Released Publications

- [Artificial Intelligence for Natural Gas Utilities: A Primer](#) (Oct. 2020)
- [Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Guide](#) (Oct. 2020)
- [Public Utility Commission Participation in GridEx V: A Case Study](#) (Oct. 2020)
- [Battery Energy Storage Technology Adoption & Electric Utility Structure](#) (Oct. 2020)
- [NARUC-NASEO Mini Guide on State Commission and State Energy Office Engagement](#) (Oct. 2020)

Recent Events

- **Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Workshop Webinar Series.** The Western Interstate Energy Board and NARUC hosted a six-part webinar series from Sept. 11 to Oct. 16, 2020. [Presentations are available.](#) *Contact Kiera*
- **Cyber Training: “What Do State Regulatory Commissions Need to Know to Act Prudently on Cybersecurity?”** NARUC hosted a cybersecurity training in Sep. 2020. The next session will be held in 2021. *Contact Ashton*
- **Integrated Distribution Systems Planning:** NARUC partnered with DOE national laboratories to deliver a virtual training in Oct. 2020 on forecasting, control and automation, metrics, resilience, PUC practices, and more. [Presentations are available.](#) Online [Learning Module](#) videos are available from a Mar. 2020 event. The next session will be held for Western states in winter 2020-2021. *Contact Dominic*
- **NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning.** The 15 Task Force states continued to convene for two workshops in Sept. and Nov. 2020. NARUC and NASEO will publish example approaches and state actions in Feb. 2021. [Recent webinar recordings and resources are available.](#) *Contact Danielle*

Available Virtual Learning Opportunities

- **Smart Grid Interoperability:** [Online Learning Module Videos](#) are now available for state utility commissions on economics, operational considerations, and roles of state regulators on interoperability. *Contact Kerry*
- **National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP).** Register for NCEP’s Annual Meeting December 7-9, 2020 on Evolving Compensation and Market Mechanisms. Agenda at: www.electricitypolicy.org. *Contact Kerry*
- **Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resilience Task Force:** The [EPRR Task Force](#) was formed to address a range of resiliency topics: black sky planning, COVID-19 lessons learned, federal funding for recovery. A key focus of this group will be ongoing learning engagements. Events will begin in 2021. *Contact Will*
- **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*
- **Innovation Webinar Series.** NARUC hosts monthly webinars for members and the public Thursdays at 3pm ET. **Nov. 19:** Where the Wind Blows: Offshore Wind Outlook for State Regulators. **Dec. 3:** Trends in Corporate Renewables Procurement. **Jan. 21:** Understanding and Unlocking the Potential of Cloud Computing and Artificial Intelligence to Improve Utility Service. [Register and find recordings of past events.](#) *Contact Dominic*

Join us! NARUC hosts four working groups for members:

- [Performance-Based Regulation.](#) *Contact Kerry*
- [Microgrids.](#) *Contact Kiera*
- [Electric Vehicles.](#) *Contact Jasmine*
- [Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings.](#) *Contact Danielle*

Forthcoming Resources

- Cybersecurity Partnerships and Information Sharing
- A Decision-Making Framework for Public Utility Commission Stakeholder Engagement Approaches
- Funding and Financing Options for Microgrid Deployment
- User Objectives and Design Options for Microgrids
- A Reference Guide: Expanding Cybersecurity Expertise in Public Utility Commissions
- Approaches to Economic Development in Decision-Making for Public Utility Commissions