

**National Council on Electricity Policy  
2023 Annual Meeting  
September 26 – 28  
Ambassador (I & II) Meeting Rooms, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Indianapolis Downtown  
110 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204**



**Affordability in the Electricity System Transition  
September 27-28, 2023**

***Wednesday, September 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET***

***Thursday, September 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET***

The electricity system is experiencing unprecedented change. Customers will have a substantial role in participating in, influencing, and paying for this change. Just how much customers will pay remains a concern, especially for those customers who struggle the most to pay energy bills. With the increasing costs of vehicle and building electrification, efforts to integrate renewable energy on the distribution and transmission systems, and other investments to improve the functioning and reliability of the electric grid in the face of a clean energy transition, all while striving to maintain or reach a more equitable and just electricity system, energy affordability has leapt to the top of the priority list of all major electricity policy-makers on the federal, state, and local levels.

Join the National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP) for its 2023 Annual Meeting, where NCEP will identify tools and explore collaborative approaches to address immediate term and long-term affordability issues.

**AND**

**Planning for Tomorrow's Savings Today: Ensuring Affordability in the Transition  
to Transportation Electrification**

**September 26-27, 2023**

***Tuesday, September 26 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET (site visit)***

***Wednesday, September 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ET (workshop)***

Transportation electrification has long-term benefits for the environment, the economy, and for customers. Achieving these long-term goals requires planning, coordination, and collaboration across a wide array of stakeholders and decision makers who must balance the long-term benefits and cost savings with near-term investment needs, a changing technological landscape, and high uncertainty.

The workshop will explore how decision makers and stakeholders can work together despite uncertainty to maintain affordability and achieve value for customers as the nation transitions to an electrified transportation future. Note: This workshop includes a pre-event site visit in partnership with AES-Indiana and Electrify America.

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<b>Agenda</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Session Title</b>	<b>Moderator</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 26, 2023</b>		
1:00 – 5:00	<b>EV Site Visit</b> In partnership with AES-Indiana and Electrify America, tour a multi-port, publicly accessible DC fast charger location guided by the site owner, developer, and a utility. Experience plugging in an EV and learn how some Indiana multi-port charger sites are planned, built, maintained, and monitored.  <i>Meet at Embassy Suites Hotel at 1:15pm for an onsite discussion prior to the site visit.</i>	
<b>Wednesday, September 27, 2023</b>		
<b>(Morning Workshop) Planning for Tomorrow's Savings Today: Ensuring Affordability in the Transition to Transportation Electrification</b>		
	<b>Breakfast</b> <i>Breakfast is served starting at 6:30am every day. Attendees staying the Embassy Suites can use their hotel room key; those not staying at the Embassy Suites will need to stop by the front desk to receive access to the breakfast area.</i>	
8:30 – 8:45	<b>Workshop Welcome and Overview</b>	Danielle Sass Byrnett, NARUC Kara Podkaminer, <i>U.S. Department of Energy</i>
8:45 – 9:45	<b>Implications of Infrastructure Needs on Short-Term and Long-Term Affordability</b> A panel of experts will share their findings and analysis on how the build-out of grid infrastructure to meet transportation electrification needs could impact affordability for electric customers in both the near- and long-term.  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andy Satchwell, <i>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory</i></li> <li>• Sarah Moskowitz, <i>Citizens Utility Board of Illinois</i></li> <li>• Sarah Shenstone-Harris, <i>Synapse Energy Economics</i></li> </ul>	Hon. David Veleta, <i>Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission</i>
9:45 – 10:00	<b>Break</b>	
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Options for Preserving Affordability with Transportation Electrification Growth – Part 1</b> In a lively lightning round, speakers will share insights on their view of affordability, options for preserving affordability, and positive examples.  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elizabeth Turnbull, <i>Franklin Energy</i></li> <li>• Robert Sheridan, <i>Electric Power Research Institute</i></li> </ul>	Hon. Katherine Peretick, <i>Michigan Public Service Commission</i>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heather Pohnan, <i>Southern Alliance for Clean Energy</i></li><li>• Yok Potts, <i>Smart Electric Power Alliance</i></li><li>• Emily Durham, <i>Electrify America</i></li><li>• Phil Jones, <i>Alliance for Transportation Electrification</i></li></ul>	
11:00 – 11:45	<b>Options for Preserving Affordability – Part 2: Examples &amp; Paths to Progress</b> Building from the prior session, workshop participants will engage in an interactive discussion to explore additional approaches for maintaining affordability and what could be done to advance those opportunities. Questions to explore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are other options for maintaining affordability with infrastructure rollout? Are there good examples we should elevate (and learn from)?</li><li>• What are the barriers or pitfalls to advancing these approaches? What could be done to reduce uncertainty and make forward progress?</li></ul>	Danielle Sass Byrnett, <i>NARUC</i> Sejal Shah, <i>Joint Office of Energy and Transportation</i>
11:45 – 12:00	<b>Actions for Moving Forward</b> Discussion will focus on actionable steps decision-makers can take to make progress towards evaluating and implementing some of the many options for preserving affordability.	All participants
12:00 – 1:00	<b>Lunch</b> <i>Lunch will be served in the Atrium on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Embassy Suites.</i>	
<b>NCEP 2023 Annual Meeting: Affordability in the Electricity System Transition</b>		
1:00 – 1:15	<b>NCEP Annual Meeting Welcome</b>	Hon. ToNola Brown-Bland, <i>North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCEP President)</i>
1:15 – 3:30	<b>Energy Burden and Energy Affordability Exercise and Workshop</b> Participants will engage in energy burden and energy affordability exercises, culminating in a short workshop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Part 1: Power Dynamics Exercise</b> <i>How do power dynamics impact how we reach out, engage, and provide programs to communities?</i></li><li>• <b>Part 2: Short Videos on Energy Burden</b> <i>What does energy burden look like in the community?</i></li><li>• <b>Part 3: Workshop</b> <i>Centering Community in Program Design</i></li></ul>	Quinn Parker, <i>Encolor</i>
3:30 – 3:45	<b>Break</b>	

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3:45 – 4:45	<b>(Panel) Goals of Energy Affordability</b> NCEP Executive Committee members and NCEP members representing the spectrum of NCEP’s national associations will share what affordability means to their membership organizations and what they see as their jurisdiction, role, obligation, and impact over affordability.  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eric Koch, <i>Indiana State Legislature</i></li><li>• John Espindola, <i>Regulatory Commission of Alaska</i></li><li>• Ryan Hadley, <i>Indiana Office of Energy Development</i></li><li>• Bill Malcolm, <i>AARP</i></li></ul>	Hon. Marissa Gillett, <i>Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (NCEP Vice President)</i>
4:45 – 5:00	<b>Presentation of the Jan Brinch Award to Paul Kjellander</b>	Hon. ToNola Brown-Bland, <i>North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCEP President)</i>
5:00 – 6:30	<b>Welcome Reception</b> <i>Participants are invited to convene for an informal reception in the Atrium of the Embassy Suites. Complimentary refreshments available to attendees staying at the Embassy Suites; refreshments will also be available for purchase at the E’Terie Bar &amp; Grill in the Atrium.</i>	
Thursday, September 28, 2023		
	<b>Breakfast</b> <i>Breakfast is served starting at 6:30am every day. Attendees staying the Embassy Suites can use your hotel room key; those not staying at the Embassy Suites will need to stop by the front desk to receive access to the breakfast area.</i>	
8:30 – 10:00	<b>Education Session: Ensuring Affordability in the Electricity System Transition -- The Regulator, Utility Ratemaking, and Rate Design</b> The role of the utility regulator has traditionally focused on protecting customers from monopoly power. However, rapid changes to the electricity system necessitate major evaluations of how this role should change and what tools can be used to ensure affordability amidst these changes. Speakers will provide an overview of the history and role of the regulator, emerging challenges that regulators will face, and the new and existing regulatory interventions that can help improve affordability outcomes through electricity system changes.  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jackie Ashley, <i>British Columbia Utilities Commission</i></li><li>• Gennelle Wilson, <i>RMI</i></li></ul>	Sarah Fitzpatrick, <i>NARUC</i>
10:00 – 10:15	<b>Break</b>	

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10:15 – 11:45	<p><b>Presentation:</b> <a href="#"><i>Utilizing household meter data to better identify and serve at-risk customers</i></a>  Dr. Destenie Nock, <i>Carnegie Mellon University</i></p> <p><b>(Panel) Pathways to Addressing Emergency and Immediate Affordability Issues</b>  This panel will explore approaches to address immediate affordability challenges and emergency events such as extreme weather events, pandemics, and/or blackouts, with a special focus on how energy affordability programs as well as federal funding can be linked and leveraged and how data and data sharing can be used to improve these immediate affordability challenges. Panelists will share lessons learned and unique, successful approaches to relieve immediate affordability issues and during recent emergency events (e.g., weather events, COVID-19).</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Destenie Nock, <i>Carnegie Mellon University</i></li> <li>• Sheila Curry-Campbell, <i>Pilgrim's Progress Community Development Corporation</i></li> <li>• Brenda Cross, <i>Xcel Energy</i></li> <li>• Julia Friedman, <i>Oracle Utilities</i></li> </ul>	Hon. Sarah Freeman, <i>Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission</i>
11:45 – 12:15	<p><b>(Discussion) Pathways to Addressing Emergency and Immediate Affordability Issues</b>  At tables, participants will share ideas of how to improve immediate affordability issues within their organizations and ways to collaborate with other types of organizations. Each table will share with the larger group in the last 10 minutes.</p> <p><b>Discussion Questions:</b></p> <p><b>1)</b> What are examples of past or potential cross-agency collaboration on affordability issues that you think could overcome some of the barriers described during the panel. (Could be something you have seen in your own state, heard about, wished for, etc.)</p> <p><b>2)</b> What would genuine (incremental) progress look like related to this topic? (Seeking one marker of progress per table.)</p> <p><i>Be sure to nominate one member of your table to share what was discussed with the larger group.</i></p>	All Participants
12:15 – 1:15	<p><b>Lunch</b>  <i>Lunch will be served in the Atrium on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Embassy Suites.</i></p>	

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1:15 – 2:30	<p><b>(Panel) Improving Long-Term and Future Affordability</b>  Building from the morning education session, panelists will explore barriers to addressing chronic affordability issues and different approaches and goals to improve future affordability, including innovative regulatory models and utility programs (e.g., performance-based ratemaking, low-income rates, Percent of Income Payment Programs).</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Damali Harding, <i>Regulatory Assistance Project</i></li> <li>• John Howat, <i>National Consumer Law Center</i></li> <li>• Claire Coleman, <i>Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel</i></li> </ul>	David Springe, <i>NASUCA</i>
2:30 – 3:00	<p><b>(Discussion) Improving Long-Term and Future Affordability</b>  At tables, participants will share ideas of how to improve long-term affordability issues within their organizations and ways to collaborate with other types of organizations. Each table will share with the larger group in the last 10 minutes.</p> <p><b>Discussion Questions:</b></p> <p><b>1)</b> What are examples of past or potential cross-agency collaboration on affordability issues that you think could overcome some of the barriers described during the panel. (Could be something you have seen in your own state, heard about, wished for, etc.)</p> <p><b>2)</b> What would genuine (incremental) progress look like related to this topic? (Seeking one marker of progress per table.)</p> <p><i>Be sure to nominate one member of your table to share what was discussed with the larger group.</i></p>	All Participants
3:00 – 3:15	<b>Break</b>	
3:15 – 4:15	<p><b>(Facilitated Conversation) Incorporating Equity into Affordability Conversations: Stakeholder Engagement</b>  Improving affordability in a transitioning electricity system is especially important for those who have historically been left behind or excluded from the benefits of reduced energy costs. This panel will explore how stakeholder engagement and other tools can be best incorporated and structured to improve equity in the energy system of the future.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alison Becker, <i>Northern Indiana Public Service Company</i></li> <li>• Denise Abdul-Rahman, <i>NAACP</i></li> <li>• Dean Johns, <i>John Boner Neighborhood Center</i></li> </ul>	Hon. Dave Danner, <i>Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission</i>

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4:15 – 4:45	<p><b>(Discussion) Incorporating Equity into Affordability Conversations: Stakeholder Engagement</b></p> <p>At tables, participants will share ideas of how to improve stakeholder engagement for affordability issues within their organizations and ways to collaborate with other types of organizations. Each table will share with the larger group in the last 10 minutes.</p> <p><b>Discussion Questions:</b></p> <p><b>1)</b> What are examples of past or potential cross-agency collaboration on affordability issues that you think could overcome some of the barriers described during the panel. (Could be something you have seen in your own state, heard about, wished for, etc.)</p> <p><b>2)</b> What would genuine (incremental) progress look like related to this topic? (Seeking one marker of progress per table.)</p> <p><i>Be sure to nominate one member of your table to share what was discussed with the larger group.</i></p>	All Participants
4:45 – 5:00	<b>Wrap Up</b>	Hon. ToNola Brown-Bland, <i>North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCEP President)</i>