



2023 NARUC Annual Meeting and Education Conference  
**CONNECTING THE DOTS**  
Innovative/Disruptive Technology and Regulation  
NOVEMBER 12-15, 2023 • LA QUINTA, CALIFORNIA

## Agenda

Filter by Topic

The registration room is Diego 1. (Closed 12-1:00 daily)

Sunday – Registration Open 9:00 AM-6:30 PM

Monday – Registration Open 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Tuesday – Registration Open 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Wednesday – Registration Open 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

## Saturday, November 11, 2023

3:30 PM-5:00 PM

● Subcommittee on Education and Research

Room: The Studios

(Closed Meeting)

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## Sunday, November 12, 2023

9:00 AM-10:30 AM

### ● Executive Committee

Room: Fiesta 8

(Closed Meeting)

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9:30 AM-12:45 PM

### ● Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

### ● Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

### ● Staff Subcommittee on Energy Resources and the Environment

### ● Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Room: Fiesta 10

## **Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF) 14th Annual Kickoff Forum in Collaboration with NARUC Staff Subcommittees on Rate Design; Energy Resources and the Environment; Consumers and the Public Interest; and Electricity**

### **Exploring Rate Design & Other Regulatory Tools: *Maximizing Grid Value & the Customer Experience***

In collaboration with several NARUC Staff Subcommittees, the Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF) Kickoff Forum will feature state commissioners, consumer advocates, and electric company representatives; engage additional stakeholders; and provide a foundation for the collaborative process to follow on CCIF's new *topic* (<https://cciforum.com/wp-content/uploads/CCIF-2023-2024-Topic-Description.pdf>). Program & luncheon to follow funded by Edison Electric Institute (EEI).

**Registration.** Please *register here* (<https://ccif2023kickoff.eventbrite.com/>). While no charge to participate, seating is limited, and separate registration is required. See current *CCIF registrant list here*

(<https://cciforum.com/ccif-events/14th-annual-kickoff-forum-registrants/>) (updated periodically but not automatically).

**Topic:** *Exploring Rate Design & Other Regulatory Tools: Maximizing Grid Value & the Customer Experience*. Topic description here (<https://cciforum.com/wp-content/uploads/CCIF-2023-2024-Topic-Description.pdf>).

**Registration:** Please *register here* (<https://ccif2023kickoff.eventbrite.com/>). While there is no charge to participate, seating is limited, and separate registration is required. See current *CCIF registrant list here* (<https://cciforum.com/ccif-events/14th-annual-kickoff-forum-registrants/>).

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10:30 AM-12:30 PM

### ● **Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications**

Room: Fiesta 2

## **Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications Business Meeting**

10:30 - 11:30: Business Meeting

11:30 - 12:00: Panel: Promise and Challenge: Managing the NG911 Transition

Many states are currently in the process of transitioning traditional, TDM-based 911 networks to new, Internet-protocol based 911 networks. While this transition holds the promise of providing quicker and more varied ways to contact 911, some LECs engaged in the transition process have encountered implementation challenges. This panel will discuss Nebraska's experience in managing the NG911 transition, as well as perspectives from companies implementing the network changes and rural LECs that are dealing with implementation challenges.

Moderator: Budge Currier, Assistant Director, Public Safety Communications, CA

Panelists: Susan C. Ornstein, Sr. Director, Legal & Regulatory Affairs, Comtech

David Sankey, State 911 Director, Nebraska PSC

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1:00 PM-2:00 PM

### ● **Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Clean Coal**

Room: Fiesta 3

## **Considering Pathways to Reliability through the lens of Section 111**

With the United States moving towards greater electrification, while concurrently encouraging greater decarbonization, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing several actions under section 111 of the Clean Air Act. The proposed rules would reduce GHG emissions from new and existing fossil fuel-fired Electric Generation Units (EGUs) by establishing new source performance standards and emission guidelines. While the grid is adding new resources, many of the megawatts coming on-line are non-dispatchable in nature. These resources pose a unique set of challenges to maintaining grid reliability without adequate dispatchable generation paired for operational efficiency. Prior to the EPA's proposal, regions across the country were already facing shortfalls and/or declining reserve margins. With the growth rate of electricity demand likely to continue to increase and thermal generators retiring at a rapid pace, a final EPA rule based on the current proposal has the potential to further challenge system reliability. This panel will focus on exploring impacts of the proposed EPA rule and potential pathways for meeting the EPA's proposed rule standards with an eye towards maintaining system reliability.

**Moderator:** Hon. Mary Throne, Wyoming

### **Panelists:**

**Michelle Bloodworth**, President & CEO, America's Power

**Franz Litz**, Program Consultant, Great Plains Institute

**Tom Sarkus**, Senior Managerial & Technical Advisor, NETL

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## **● Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure**

Room: Fiesta 8

**Moderator: David Alexander, Chairman of the Staff Subcommittee**

- Update on FY 2024 projects - Lynn Costantini Deputy Director of the Center for Partnerships and Innovation
- Update on upcoming CI Committee calls - Jody Raines, Senior Cybersecurity Policy Specialist, Center for Partnerships and Innovation
- Update on Staff Chairman search - David Alexander
- Open discussion for Staff Subcommittee

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## **● Task Force on Natural Gas Resource Planning**

Room: Diego 2 & 3  
(Members Only)

NARUC members who have joined the Task Force on Natural Gas Resource Planning will convene for their first meeting. See [www.naruc.org/gastaskforce](http://www.naruc.org/gastaskforce) (/gastaskforce) for information about the Task Force and a list of members. This is a closed meeting.

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## ● **Washington Action**

Room: The Studios  
(Closed Meeting)

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2:00 PM-2:30 PM

## **California Coffee and Connections**

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2:30 PM-3:30 PM

## ● **Select Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity**

### ● **Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest**

### ● **Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest**

*Joint Meeting*

Room: Fiesta 10

## **Equitable Demand-Side Solutions to Electrification and Winter Peaks and Constraints**

### **Equitable Demand-Side Solutions to Electrification and Winter Peaks and Constraints**

Electrification of space heating loads is projected to significantly grow electric load over the coming decades. Some regions that currently experience peak load in summer are expected to become dual or winter peaking regions. As states, utilities, and regulators contemplate solutions, we will share how demand-side energy efficiency and demand response measures can mitigate winter peaks and other cold weather constraints. We will identify examples of demand-side management (DSM) programs that can serve as models for effectively mitigating peak winter demand, with a focus on the benefits that building weatherization can provide. A significant portion of the presentation will address challenges involved in delivering these solutions to low-income or marginalized customers and strategies for overcoming those challenges.

### **Presenters:**

Mike Specian, Research Manager, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEE)

● **Staff Subcommittee on Gas**

Room: Fiesta 2

**Certified Natural Gas— What are we learning from Pilot Studies and Early Adopters?**

During the past several years, a determined effort has been undertaken by most participants in the natural gas industry, to reduce emissions and provide verification, via certification, demonstrating that the commodity consumers enjoy has been delivered with the welfare of the environment and consumers in mind.

Attendees will hear from producers, LDCs, and others about the efforts to reduce emissions from production to consumption.

**Moderator:**

Andreas Thanos, Chair Staff Subcommittee on Gas

**Panelists:**

**Brian Hlavinka**, Vice President – New Energy Ventures, CSD, Williams Companies

**Ben Webster**, PhD, Director of Policy, MiQ

**Kenneth Yagelski**, Director, Gas Supply Southern Company

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● **Staff Subcommittee on Law**

● **Staff Subcommittee on Executive Management**

Room: Studios

Joint Meeting

*(Open to all Commission Staff)*

Agenda distributed onsite.

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● **Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety**

Room: Fiesta 3  
(Closed Meeting)

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## ● Staff Subcommittee on Water

Room: Fiesta 8

## Exploring Fair Market Value Acquisitions

### Staff Subcommittee Announcements:

Krystle Sacavage, Chair, NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Water

April Ballou, General Counsel and VP of State Regulatory Affairs, NAWC

### Exploring Fair Market Value Acquisitions:

Jason Stephenson, VP, Chief Regulatory Policy Counsel, American Water

Join us for a discussion on how fair market value treatment of water and wastewater system acquisitions can address the investment gap in this critical infrastructure. Some public water systems have not adequately invested in their water and wastewater infrastructure and kept rates artificially low.

How can incentivizing the sale of this infrastructure to utilities with the expertise and access to capital benefit customers? What benefits may accrue to public entities and their residents through sales? How does this impact customers of the acquiring system? During this briefing, you'll learn about the public benefits of promoting acquisitions of public water and wastewater systems by investor-owned utilities and the reasons why fair market value treatment of reasonable acquisition costs is critical to promoting the public interest.

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## ● Task Force on Natural Gas Resource Planning

Room: Diego 2 & 3  
(Members Only)

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3:30 PM-4:00 PM

## California Coffee and Connections

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4:00 PM-5:00 PM

### ● Select Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

Room: Fiesta 10

## Building a Better Utility Workforce for the Future: Programs, Practices, Lessons Learned

### Building a Better Utility Workforce for the Future: Programs, Practices, Lessons Learned

**Goals:** To assemble a variety of stakeholders and practitioners who can discuss key steps being taken to prepare and recruit a diverse utility workforce for the future. To explore techniques used, best practices, and lessons learned.

**Discussion:** The utility sector is confronted with an aging workforce, and many retirements are expected in the coming years. The current transmission and distribution grids are undergoing substantial transformation from fossil fuels, to renewable generation, solar, wind, batteries, etc. And, the sector is a target for growing threats to cyber security. The future utility workforce needs to be prepared for new technologies, and needs to be diverse, to include all facets of society which the industry serves. This panel is designed to introduce and share current programs and initiatives which are focused on preparing a diverse workforce for the future of the utility industry.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

#### **Panelists:**

Hon. Rory Christian, New York

Kelly Ann DeCurtis, Director - Talent Manager, Exelon

Lori Sutton, Chief Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Officer, American Water

Ralph Velador, Coordinator - Laborers Pacific Southwest Regional Organizing Coalition, LIUNA



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● **Staff Subcommittee on Gas**

● **Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety**

Room: Fiesta 2

*Joint Meeting*

## **California Dreamin': Where can Hydrogen take us?**

Hydrogen is being viewed as an alternative to natural gas. In this discussion, attendees will hear about SoCalGas' process by which it incorporates hydrogen into its fuel mix, Hydrogen combustion technologies, GTI Technologies' efforts around hydrogen, as well as how pipelines and regulators look into hydrogen as it is looking to take its place in our energy mix.

**Moderator:**

Hon. Diane X. Burman, New York

**Panelists:**

**Rachel Fox**, Policy Advisor for Low Carbon Energy, American Petroleum Institute

**Brian G. Habersack**, VP Operations, Prospector Pipeline, GTI Energies

**Dan LeFevers**, Director, State and Consumer Programs, GTI Technologies

**Shannon Miller**, CEO, Mainspring Energy

**Timothy Alan Simon**, Commissioner Emeritus, CA

**Wei Wang**, Executive Director, Texas Railroad Commission

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● **Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues**

Room: Fiesta 8

### **Advanced Energy Generation: Cost Recovery and Scaling up to Commercial Energy Markets**

The electric industry is actively considering deployment of new technologies such as advanced nuclear and hydrogen. The expectations are that advanced nuclear generation units and large-scale hydrogen production could be deployed as early as 2030. However, industry stakeholders and regulators are still considering a number of issues related to advanced energy deployment into commercialized energy markets.

Within the electric sector community of regulators, however there are still three primary questions:

- What are the costs associated with new nuclear and hydrogen production?
- Does advanced energy generation represent prudent investments in vertically integrated states? and
- In regions where there are markets, will there be sufficient market structures to ensure they are viable?

This panel will explore how advanced energy generation units are to be deployed in the electric industry and what market structures and prudency evaluation frameworks will need to be established to ensure commercial viability.

**Moderator:** Hon. Tim Echols, Georgia

**Panelists:**

**Dwayne Pickett**, Vice President of Clean Hydrogen Market Development, Constellation

**Jeremiah Haswell**, Senior Research Engineer, Southern Company

**Julie Kozeracki**, Senior Advisor, Department of Energy, Loan Programs Office

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5:00 PM-6:30 PM

## Welcome Reception

Room: Waterfall Lawn

Join friends and colleagues for the Welcome Reception among beautiful palm trees at the La Quinta Resort.

Stop by the NARUC registration desk in the Diego room to pick up your badge and a drink ticket redeemable for beer or wine.

The suggested attire is casual, with flat-heeled shoes and a sweater or jacket.

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# Monday, November 13, 2023

8:00 AM-9:15 AM

### **Commission Chairs Council Breakfast**

Room: The Studios

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### **Newcomers Forum (New Commissioners and Invitees Only)**

Room: Fiesta 8

*(Commissioners Appointed in 2023)*

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8:45 AM-9:30 AM

### **Mountain Morning Coffee**

Flores Ballroom Foyer

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9:30 AM-10:30 AM

### **● Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest**

Room: Fiesta 3

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### **● Committee on Critical Infrastructure**

Room: Fiesta 2

### **Business Meeting**

**Critical Infrastructure Committee Business Meeting- Monday November 12, 2023 - 9:30 -10:30 AM**

**Vice Chairman Emil Thompson**

The Honorary Resolution for past Chairman Dianne Solomon. A quorum is need to approve this resolution.

Report out of Staff Committee Activities: David Alexander, Chairperson of the Staff Subcommittee.

Report out of FY 2023 CI Committee and CPI activities: Lynn Constantini, Deputy Director, CPI

Other Committee business. This will involve a round robin discussion.

CI Committee business (upcoming monthly phone calls, the Winter Conference in Washington DC in February 2024: David Alexander, Lynn Costantini and Jodi Raines, Senior Cybersecurity Policy Specialist, CPI.

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## ● Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Flores Ballroom

### Business Meeting

#### Introductions and Welcome

#### Advancing Tomorrow's Energy Solutions Today: Hydrogen Blending for Power Generation

Advancing the full complement of clean energy resources is key to achieving long-term emissions goals as affordably and reliably as possible. Hydrogen shows promise as a potential solution in a low-carbon energy future. Through the Low-Carbon Resources Initiative, EPRI is a world leader in demonstrating the viability of hydrogen for power generation. It has partnered with several electric companies and OEMs to test and demonstrate this technology and identify and address challenges before widespread commercial deployment. EPRI has already distilled many interesting insights from these demonstration projects that are also informing a much larger program on economy-wide decarbonization.

**Speaker:** Katie Jereza, Corporate VP of Corporate Affairs, EPRI

#### What Can the ERE Committee Do For You?

Long-standing members will share the benefits they have realized due to their membership on the ERE Committee and NARUC as a whole, and newly appointed members will share what they hope to get out of their ERE membership. All members will be asked for input on what they would like to see from the Committee in the upcoming year.

**Center for Partnerships and Innovation Update** - Danielle Sass Brynnett, Director CPI, NARUC

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## ● Committee on International Relations

Room: Diego 2 & 3

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9:30 AM-11:00 AM

● **Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety**

Room: Fiesta 8  
(Closed Meeting)

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10:30 AM-11:00 AM

**California Coffee and Connections**

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11:00 AM-12:00 PM

● **Committee on Electricity**

Room: Flores Ballroom

**Agenda**

**1. Welcome and Opening Remarks** – *Chair Duffley, North Carolina; Commissioner Allison Clements (FERC)*

**2. Resolutions**

**3. NARUC Report: Resource Adequacy for State Utility Regulators** – *Hon. Ann Rendahl, Washington; Elliott J. Nethercutt, NARUC*

**4. EPRI Update: 2024 Specialized Lab Site Visit Program** – *Lola Infante, Executive Director, Government & External Affairs, EPRI*

**5. Other Business**

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● **Committee on Gas**

Room: Fiesta 3

## **Gas Committee Business meeting Agenda**

- I. Hydrogen Update from Dan Skopec, Senior Vice President & Chief Regulatory Officer, SDG&E and SoCalGas
- II. State member updates
- III. Potential Gas Committee Engagement on Gas-Electric Coordination

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## **● Committee on Telecommunications**

Room: Diego 2 & 3

**FCC Outlook 2023:** Travis Litman, Partner, WBK LLP

**Leaded or unleaded? Your telecom cable choice:** Grant Cope, EPA

### **Business Meeting**

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## **● Committee on Water**

Room: Fiesta 2

- 1. Introduction/Call Meeting to Order (5) (Commissioner Lea Márquez Peterson, Co-Vice Chair of Committee on Water)
- 2. Hot water topics in the Golden State (30 minutes)
  - a. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board
  - b. Commissioner Shiroma, California Public Utilities Commission
- 3. Updates (15)
  - 3. a. Other Commissions (quick 2 minute updates from several other states)
  - b. Staff Sub Committee on Water
  - c. Partners (NAWC, NASUCA, ....)
- 4. Announcements (10)
  - 4. a. New NARUC RTI Course: Basics of Water Utility Economic Regulation
  - b. Other?

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12:00 PM-2:00 PM

## **Lunch on Your Own**

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2:00 PM-3:45 PM

### **Opening of the 2023 Annual Meeting and Education Conference**

Room: Flores Ballroom

#### **National Anthem**

**Welcome by Hon. Alice Reynolds, California**

**Remarks by President Michael Caron, Connecticut**

#### **Election of 2023 – 2024 Officers**

For Office of President

- Nominators: Commissioners Randy Christmann & Sheri Haugen- Hoffart, North Dakota
- Second: Commissioner Joshua Byrnes, Iowa

For Office of 1st Vice President

- Nominator: Commissioner Jemal Hudson, Virginia
- Second: Commissioner Edward Lodge, Idaho

For Office of 2nd Vice President

- Nominator: Commissioner Megan Decker, Oregon
- Second: Commissioner Leah Marquez Peterson, Arizona

#### **In Memoriam Tribute**

#### **Terry Barnich Award**

**Partnering on the Clean Energy Transition: A fireside chat with DOE Infrastructure Under Secretary David Crane & The Hon. Ann Rendahl**

#### **Integrating tomorrow's technology into today's energy mix: A critical look at Existing Integrated Resource Planning**

Many emerging clean energy technologies, like long-duration energy storage, hydrogen blending, and advanced transmission technologies, have the potential to provide broad benefits in terms of resilience, flexibility, and affordability. Existing integrated resource plan (IRP) processes – and state regulatory regimes in general – may not be able to capture both the immediate and longer-term benefits of new technologies, such as the ability to better integrate variable renewable resources, because of the way IRP models and approaches currently are designed. Electrification loads are forcing a rethinking of planning for the distribution system and for the need to include DER in comprehensive electricity system planning that includes more granular modeling and forecasting, deeper modeling of transmission and distribution system interactions, and improved modeling of uncertainty and risk.

Using the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission recent approval of Xcel Energy's proposed 10 MW

iron-air battery system to be built by Form Energy as a jumping off point, this panel will explore the limits of current IRP processes today and discuss how emerging approaches to comprehensive electricity planning can fully and fairly value all energy resources and provide a robust analysis of the benefits of integrating DERs.

**Moderator:** Hon. Katherine Peretick, Michigan Public Service Commission

Hon. Katie Sieben, Chair, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Emily Fisher, Executive Vice President, Clean Energy, Edison Electric Institute

Katie Jereza, VP of Corporate Affairs, Electric Power Research Institute

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4:00 PM-4:45 PM

### **Regional Meetings (Members and Invitees only)**

MARC: Fiesta 12

MACRUC: Fiesta 8

NECPUC: Fiesta 13

SEARUC: Fiesta 14

Western: Fiesta 11

Reception Room: Fiesta 10

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### **Commissioner Emeritus Meeting**

Room: The Studios

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## **Tuesday, November 14, 2023**

8:45 AM-9:30 AM

### **Mountain Morning Coffee**

Flores Ballroom Foyer

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9:30 AM-10:45 AM



## General Session

Room: Flores Ballroom

### Panel: Current Operational Challenges in Our Bulk Power System

Corporate goals, and state and federal measures aimed at integrating additional zero-carbon resources, combined with the relatively rapid retirement of thermal generators, have introduced unique operational challenges for grid operators. This transformation is poised to accelerate as commissions in many states are implementing clean energy goals, while attempting to maintain a resource mix with the necessary operational attributes (*i.e.*, reliability services) to serve growing electricity demand with complex load profiles. Grid operators also continue to grapple with varying levels of resource shortfalls, transmission constraints, declining planning reserves, and extreme weather events.

This panel will highlight the experience of two system operators and the NERC CEO as they continue to navigate these challenges. Specifically, panelists will address the following questions:

- What are the operational differences between new versus traditional thermal generation resources and what challenges does that create for grid operators?
- What steps have operators already taken to address these changes?
- What other near- and long-term solutions are operators working on and how does this experience impact the pace of expected change?
- What role do states have to ensure reliability through their planning processes with the utilities they regulate? To what extent have demand-side innovations (e.g., smart grid, demand flexibility, virtual power plants) improved operational reliability?
- How have operational practices changed following recent extreme weather events (California Regional Heat Wave-2020, Winter Storm Uri-2021, Winter Storm Elliott-2023)?
- Do existing performance metrics accurately reflect operational challenges or are improvements needed?
- How do the realities of operational practices impact the timeline and pace of this energy transition?

**Moderator:** Julie Fedorchak, North Dakota

**Panelists:**

Manu Asthana, President and CEO, PJM Interconnection

John Bear, CEO, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

Jim Robb, CEO, North American Electric Reliability Corporation

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10:45 AM-11:15 AM

## California Coffee and Connections

Room: Flores Foyer

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11:15 AM-12:15 PM

### Concurrent Session A1

Room: Diego 2 & 3

## Connecting the Unconnected: Is there a Future for Universal Service?

### Connecting the Unconnected: Is there a Future for Universal Service?

Congress has recently requested input on the telecommunications universal service fund, including questions on State responsibilities, limiting waste and abuse, and providing on-going support. NARUC and a number of states have filed comments in this inquiry, citing the importance of state cops on the beat. This panel will review the status of the USF and review how this may change in the future.

**Moderator:** Hon. Chris Nelson, South Dakota

Alex Minard, Vice President & Lead Legislative Counsel, NCTA

Michael Romano, Executive Vice President, NTCA

Pamela Sherwood, Vice President, Regulatory, Brightspeed

Lynn Follansbee, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives & Partnerships, USTelecom

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### Concurrent Session A2

Room: Fiesta 3

## Let's Break Some Silos: Integrated Rate Making for Residential DER Management

### Let's Break Some Silos: Integrated Rate Making for Residential DER Management

As utilities deploy various Distributed Energy Resource Management System (DERMS) technologies to enable increasingly sophisticated optimization of distributed energy resources (DERs), how can utilities and regulators consider approving ratemaking for these systems in a holistic, rather than siloed, fashion? Before deciding on whether a DERMS solution for managed EV charging is supported by demand response, transportation electrification, or DER program budgets, should regulators first consider the desired end-results in coordination with other initiatives? This panel will explore how utility commissions can, through integrated ratemaking and rate design, foster a whole-home approach

to DER management that offers a simplified and streamlined experience to consumers.

**Moderator:** Hon. Colin Yost, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Paul Phillips, Retail Rates, California PUC

Emma Rodvien, Senior Economic and Policy Analyst, Rhode Island PUC

Rajiv Shah, Head of North American Policy & Markets, Octopus Energy Group

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## **Concurrent Session A3**

Room: Flores

### **Building the Line in Time: Reimagining Transmission Development Processes**

#### **Building the Line in Time: Reimagining Transmission Development Processes**

The rapidly changing resource fleet necessitates a profound acceleration of new transmission development and therefore significant improvements to transmission planning processes. This panel will explore new opportunities to plan and build transmission to bring new resources online quickly and cost-effectively, including how state agencies can work together with ISOs and others to tighten the linkages between resource planning, transmission planning, resource procurement, and interconnection. The panel will also explore the benefits and drawbacks to interstate versus local transmission solutions, and how these solutions play a role in facilitating the energy transition.

**Moderator:** Hon. Dan Scripps, Michigan

Annie Levenson-Falk, Executive Director. Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota

Neil Millar, Vice President, Infrastructure and Operations Planning, CAISO

Shashank Sane, Executive Vice President, Transmission, Invenergy

Kamran Ali, Vice President, Transmission and Telecom Planning, AEP

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## **Concurrent Session A4**

Room: Fiesta 2

### **New Demands for a Limited Supply; Getting Water Balance Right**

**New Demands for a Limited Supply; Getting Water Balance Right**

The Earth might seem like it has abundant water, but in fact less than 1 percent is available for human use. The rest is either ocean salt water, fresh water frozen in the polar ice caps, or too inaccessible for access to be practical. Society requires multiple uses. Aside from the average 300 gallons a day per US family, water is also used to grow our food, manufacture our favorite goods, mine for crucial minerals/metals, fight fires, and keep businesses running smoothly. We also use a significant amount of water to meet the nation's energy needs. Many current uses introduce or increase the levels of nitrates or other contaminants in runoff and wastewater discharge. This panel will explore how water resources are being allocated or reallocated across regions and uses; what creative strategies and new uses may address the challenges of a sometime limited supply.

**Moderator:** Hon. Genevieve Shiroma, California

Paul Fukumoto, Director of Technology and Product Solutions, FuelCell Energy

Barton "Buzz" Thompson, Robert E. Paradise Professor of Natural Resources Law Stanford Law School, Professor of Environmental Behavioral Sciences at Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, and a Senior Fellow & Founding Perry L. McCarty Director at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

Rami Kahlon                      Director, Regulatory Affairs, Cal Water

Paul Rowley Senior Vice President, Golden State Water

12:15 PM-2:00 PM

## Annual Meeting Lunch & Learn

(Open to all attendees who confirm participation)

Room: Flores Ballroom

**The Lunch and Learn will feature Ten Minute Hot Topics . Hear about trending topics in ten minute segments.**

## LL1: Nuclear on Wall Street – The Talk of the Town?

- **Hon. Tricia Pridemore**, Georgia
- **Jim Schaefer**, Senior Managing Director, Guggenheim Securities

## LL2: Electric Cooperatives Innovating in a New Era of Federal Incentives

- **Hon. Sheri Haugen-Hoffart**, North Dakota
- **Stephanie Crawford**, Regulatory Affairs Director, NRECA

## LL3: FERC Order 2023 – What do State Utility Regulators need to know about New Rules for Interconnection Queues

- ***Hon. Michael Richard***, Maryland
- ***Carrie Zalewski***, Vice President, Markets and Transmission, American Clean Power

LL4: **Resolve: The Markets are Irredeemably Broken** - The panelist will exchange views on the merits of this resolution.

- ***Hon. James Danly***, FERC Commissioner
- ***Travis Kavulla***, NRG Vice President of Regulatory Affairs

#### LL5: The Scoop

- ***Hon. Michael Caron***, Connecticut
- ***Hon. Julie Fedorchak***, North Dakota

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2:15 PM-3:15 PM

## Concurrent Session B1

Room: Diego 2 & 3

### **NARUC Grid Data Sharing Framework Simulation, first half (100-person limit, separate registration)**

#### **NARUC Grid Data Sharing Framework Simulation, first half (100-person limit, separate registration)**

Following four collaborative workshops in 2022 and 2023 among utility commissions, cybersecurity experts, utilities, and DER developers / advocates, NARUC has developed a grid data sharing framework, playbook, and example use cases. The Grid Data Sharing Framework is intended to help commissions and interested parties effectively address questions related to sharing grid data (not personal information or individual consumption data) and to provide a basis for regulatory decision making. The framework represents a collection of 7 key categories of topical considerations that provide useful inputs to grid data sharing decisions by Commissions. Each jurisdiction can tailor the framework to fit its own decision-making processes. The Playbook provides a detailed explanation of the Grid Data Sharing Framework and offers implementation guidance to assist state commissions and interested stakeholders in its use. Three use cases are included: Improving DER Interconnection, Enabling Fleet Vehicle Electrification, and Allowing DER to Provide Grid Services.

The simulation workshop will be an opportunity to demonstrate, and test drive the framework in a no-stakes, interactive environment. Due to space constraints, only 100 attendees can participate. All attendees must commit to staying for the full 2-hour workshop; this is not a typical session.

**Click here to register (<https://forms.office.com/r/VPjJiXcGFb>)**

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## Concurrent Session B2

Room: Fiesta 3

### **Broadband Reclassification: Impacts and Outcomes**

With a new Democrat majority at the FCC, net neutrality is once again at the top of the commission's agenda. The newly released notice of proposed rulemaking proposes to re-classify broadband as a telecommunications service, institute consumer protection rules, and potentially create a single oversight regime. This panel will review both sides of the argument and the impact on the states.

**Moderator:** Hon. Karen Charles, Massachusetts

**Panelists:** Matt Murchison, Partner, Latham & Watkins LLP

Robert Osborn, Director, Communications Division, CPUC

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## **Concurrent Session B3**

Room: Fiesta 2

### **Update on U.S. LNG Exports--Supporting Global Partners and Understanding Domestic Growth Opportunities**

#### **U.S. LNG Exports—Supporting Global Partners and Understanding Domestic Growth Opportunities**

Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent reverberations throughout global energy markets and demonstrated, once again, the importance of energy security. Europe's dependence on Russian natural gas created a potential crisis for the continent that was averted, in part, by the ability of U.S. natural gas producers and LNG exporters to significantly increase LNG exports to Europe. Unfortunately, construction of new LNG terminals is a long and complicated process with risks of delays and cancellations, which can result in import infrastructure bottleneck. This panel will provide State Commissioners and Staff with an update on the state of American LNG exports over the past year, share information on the status of proposed LNG terminals around the U.S., and highlight process considerations that are impacting LNG terminal approvals and construction.

**Moderator:** Hon. Bonnie Suchman, MD

**Panelists:**

Hon. James Danly, FERC

Rob Smith, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, Cheniere Energy

Andreas Thanos, MA DPU, Chair Staff Subcommittee on Gas

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3:15 PM-3:45 PM

## **California Coffee and Connections**

Room: Flores Foyer

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3:45 PM-4:45 PM

## **Concurrent Session C1**

Room: Diego 2 & 3

### **NARUC Grid Data Sharing Framework Simulation, second half (100-person limit, separate registration)**

## **NARUC Grid Data Sharing Framework Simulation, second half (100-person limit, separate registration)**

Following four collaborative workshops in 2022 and 2023 among utility commissions, cybersecurity experts, utilities, and DER developers / advocates, NARUC has developed a grid data sharing framework, playbook, and series of use cases. The simulation workshop will be an opportunity to demonstrate, and test drive the framework in a no-stakes, interactive environment. Due to space constraints, only 100 attendees can participate. All attendees must commit to staying for the full 2-hour workshop; this is not a typical session. **See session B1 to register.**

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### **Concurrent Session C2**

Room: Fiesta 3

## **Breach of Personal Information: Notification, Laws, and Ethical Responsibility**

### **Breach of Personal Information: Notification, Laws, and Ethical Responsibility**

The Federal government and all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have security breach notification laws that require businesses and now government agencies to notify consumers or citizens if their personal information is breached. This course will discuss the laws now imposed on Federal and State governments, what defines personal information (PI), and the duties and ethical treatment of personal information by government agencies.

What types of personal information (PI) are defined by these laws?

What duties do these laws impose upon the government agency?

Who in the government agency determines if a breach has occurred?

Government agencies must report a breach within a specific time frame.

Responsibilities of outside contractors working for the government agency.

What provisions must the agency include in the contract to cover a contractor's duties and responsibilities if a breach occurs?

Requirements of government agency to notify persons affected by breach of personal information.

How should affected persons be notified?

Moderator: Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary, Pennsylvania PUC

Bob Gramola, Director, Pennsylvania PUC

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### **Concurrent Session C3**



Room: Flores

## **Measuring What Matters: How Regulators Can Leverage Multi-Metric Resource Adequacy Framework**

### **Measuring What Matters: How Regulators Can Leverage Multi-Metric Resource Adequacy Framework**

Resource adequacy modeling and reliability assessment frameworks are evolving to better capture the changing nature of the electric system. Reliability risks are shifting with extreme climate and transitioning grid, revealing that a new resource adequacy planning framework is more crucial now than ever. As technical experts continue to grapple with how to best reform resource adequacy modeling approaches, it is important that regulators stay apprised of these developments. Regulators should continue to insist on improved planning methods that more accurately capture a wide array of reliability risks. A growing number of industry experts are exploring advanced resource adequacy frameworks that leverage multiple metrics to evaluate power systems' ability to minimize various outage events while balancing costs. Panelists will discuss the motivation behind a multi-metric analysis and explore how regulators can benefit from approaches that create a more holistic understanding of resource adequacy in the systems they regulate, as well as the potential reliability impacts of regulatory decisions.

Moderator: Hon. Ann Rendahl, Washington

John Moura, Director of Reliability Assessment, NERC

James Okullo, Director of System Planning, ESIG

Lisa Tiffin, VP of Planning & Analytics, Tri-State Generation and Transmission

Werner Roth, Senior Market Economist, Texas PUC

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## **Concurrent Session C4**

Room: Fiesta 2

## **Understanding Energy Insecurity**

### **Understanding Energy Insecurity**

As of 2020, more than 30 million U.S. households were energy insecure. But what is energy insecurity and what can be done about it? The Energy Insecurity Initiative, a partnership between the Energy Bar Association and Columbia University, aims to improve public understanding of energy insecurity. The panelists will share their findings for each of the Initiative's main research topics: utility disconnections and shutoffs; low-income assistance programs; energy efficiency and weatherization; and access to clean energy and electrification. Together, the panelists will draw connections across the four research topics to diagnose the causes of energy insecurity and identify policy frameworks that have addressed these obstacles.

**Moderator:** Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Diana Hernandez, Associate Professor, Columbia University

Emma Hand, Partner, Dentons

Mosby Perrow, Partner, Van Ness Feldman

Robert Fleishman, Partner, Kirkland & Ellis

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4:45 PM-5:30 PM

### **NARUC Board of Directors Meeting**

Room: Las Brisas Ballroom (2nd Floor above Plaza)

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## **Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

8:30 AM-9:30 AM

### **Mountain Morning Coffee**

Room: Flores Ballroom

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9:00 AM-10:00 AM

### **Concurrent Session D1**

Room: Flores

## **Hero or Villain: The Potential Roles of AI For Energy Resilience**

### **Hero or Villain: The Potential Roles of AI For Energy Resilience**

This panel explores the multifaceted impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the oversight and regulation of vital energy distribution systems and critical infrastructure. AI has emerged as a powerful tool with the potential to revolutionize these sectors, offering unprecedented efficiency, reliability, and sustainability benefits.

On one hand, AI-driven technologies have the potential to play the hero by enhancing the monitoring, maintenance, and optimization of energy grids and vital infrastructure, thus ensuring uninterrupted services and reducing environmental footprints. Conversely, they also pose the risk of becoming villains if not properly regulated, potentially leading to cybersecurity vulnerabilities, job displacement, and algorithmic biases.

This panel brings together experts to delve into the intricate balance regulators must strike between harnessing AI's potential for the greater good and safeguarding against potential pitfalls. It offers valuable insights into the regulatory frameworks and ethical considerations required to ensure AI remains a force for good in the management of energy distribution and critical infrastructure.

PS - this abstract was written using AI.

**Moderator:** Hon. Mary-Anna Holden, New Jersey

Hon. John Reynolds, California

Kimberly Denbow, Vice President, Security & Operations, AGA

David Larson, Technical Leader, Grid Ops & Planning, EPRI

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## **Concurrent Session D2**

Room: Fiesta 3

### **Earth, Wind, and Fire: Tracking Progress Toward Climate Resilience**

#### **Earth, Wind, and Fire: Tracking Progress Toward Climate Resilience**

A review of electric utility grid plans reveals that the utilities serving cities that have experienced catastrophic losses to infrastructure due to climate change-amplified phenomena are, in most cases, implementing climate resilience and adaptation actions faster than others who have not. How can all utilities and essential services providers be supported in moving more quickly from studying problems to action before disaster strikes? Drawing insights from NARUC's Energy Resilience Reference Guide and several guidance documents highlighted by the Initiative on Climate Risk & Resilience Law (ICRRL), panelists will share resilience and adaptation best practices, including anonymized real-world examples. Experts will also introduce a maturity model (in development) that illuminates and tracks progress in six performance categories: Governance, Climate-Aware Planning, Active Stakeholder and Community Collaboration, Resilience and Adaptation Actions to Date, Customer Engagement and Coordination, and Attention to Equity.

**Moderator:** Hon. Tammy Cordova, Nevada

Andy Bochman, Senior Grid Strategist and Infrastructure Defender, INL

Morgan Scott, Director, Climate READi, Sustainability & Ecosystem Stewardship, EPRI

Curt Stokes, Senior Attorney, Environmental Defense Fund

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## **Concurrent Session D3**

Room: Fiesta 2

# From Isolation to Cooperation: Incorporating Regional Solutions in State Commission Proceedings

## From Isolation to Cooperation: Incorporating Regional Solutions in State Commission Proceedings

Most electric systems are planned and operated across multiple states, yet integrated resource plans (IRPs) and rate cases rarely examine reliability impacts beyond regulated service territories that fall within state boundaries. Although regulatory decisions to add or retire resources or invest in new transmission can be siloed, the outcomes often have regional, and even interconnection-wide implications. Potential obstacles for breaking down these silos include: historic regulatory frameworks that examine utilities individually and in isolation from neighboring states and regions; regulatory gaps between state and federal jurisdiction; and varying planning horizons. These challenges are particularly evident as many states strive to meet clean energy requirements that are subject to ongoing modifications, often involving the retirement of non-qualifying resources and potentially reducing exports, leveraging qualifying resources to serve in-state load. Experts will discuss strategies to increase the degree to which individual state resource and transmission decisions are coordinated with neighboring states to address regional reliability impacts.

**Moderator:** Hon. Sarah Freeman, Indiana

Sarah Edmonds, President and CEO, WPP/ WRAP

Marcus Hawkins, Executive Director, OMS

Ric O'Connell, Executive Director, Gridlab

Hon. Mary Throne, Chair, Wyoming

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10:00 AM-10:15 AM

## California Coffee and Connections

Room: Flores Foyer

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10:15 AM-11:30 AM

## Closing General Session

Room: Flores Ballroom

## Gas-Electric Coordination: How Can State Regulators Lead the Way?

### Gas-Electric Coordination: How Can State Regulators Lead the Way?

Gas-Electric coordination is a chief concern and focus of state regulators. The electric and gas sec-

tors rely on each other more than ever, and each sector plays a unique role in fueling our nation's communities. Economic development, population shifts, extreme weather, and numerous other pressures present challenges that require thought leadership from state regulators.

Panelists will discuss how regulators can take the lead in this arena through collaborative and constructive work with stakeholders to develop solutions that meet our nation's energy demands in a reliable and affordable manner.

**Moderator:** Hon. Tricia Pridemore, Georgia

**Panelists**

Hon. Carleton Simpson, New Hampshire

Sandy Grace, Vice President, US Policy & Regulatory Strategy, National Grid

Jason Ketchum, Vice President of Commercial Activities, Regulatory, and Government Affairs

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1:00 PM-5:00 PM

**NARUC-DOE Transportation Electrification Planning Workshop**

*(Open invitation – separate registration)*

Room: Diego 2 & 3

Transportation electrification planning is a critical undertaking for the nation's economy and electric grid. Electric vehicle charger availability and operations have been the focus of extensive attention from state and federal agencies, utilities, public utility commissions, and other stakeholders. The grid infrastructure investment decisions that are needed for chargers to be powered are equally important and squarely within the purview of utilities and commissions. To date, commissions and utilities have generally been using one of three processes to consider when, where, and how much grid infrastructure investment is prudent to support vehicle electrification:

1. general rate cases
2. distribution system planning
3. transportation electrification plans

During this interactive workshop, attendees will hear and discuss lessons learned from each of these venues and develop initial thoughts about promising approaches to carry into the next stages of transportation electrification planning.

**Download the workshop agenda.** (<https://pubs.naruc.org/pub/81697F12-EF53-7A72-C50C-78FDBFA08AFB>)

**Please register** (<https://forms.office.com/r/UNbnpJUn23>) **for this workshop separately. NARUC Annual Conference registration is not required.**

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*There will be no FERC-NARUC Task Force meeting at the Annual Meeting. The Task Force expects to hold its next meeting at the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in February 2024.*

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