

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ELECTRICITY POLICY (NCEP)

Adopted April 1, 2016

*Adopted as Revised July 18, 2017, May 8, 2018, and November 13,
2018*

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP) is a platform for all state level electricity decision makers to share and learn from diverse perspectives on the evolving electricity sector. Our community includes over 200 representatives from public utility commissions, air and environmental regulatory agencies, governors' staffs and state energy offices, legislatures, and consumer advocates¹. We are an affiliate of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Center for Partnerships and Innovation (CPI).

NCEP serves as a forum for collaboration around grid-related topics at state, regional, and national levels, offering a unique opportunity for state electricity decision makers throughout the country to examine the ways new technologies, policies, regulations, and markets impact state resources and the bulk power system.

NCEP facilitates an annual meeting, connections to virtual resources, and ongoing learning opportunities for members to explore multiple perspectives on complex electricity system issues.

A. NCEP supports the following objectives:

- To improve the understanding of electricity technologies, markets, programs and policies;
- To support the deployment of reliable, clean, and reasonably-priced electricity;
- To improve interstate and intra-state coordination on electricity issues;
- To provide technical assistance to states, regions, and multiple stakeholders; and
- To conduct planning and coordination activities in support of the Eastern Interconnection States' Planning Council (EISPC).

B. NCEP will adhere to the following values when conducting activities and developing resources

¹ As defined by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), the office designated by the state legislature as the agency for the representation of utility consumer interests before state and/or federal regulatory agencies. See www.nasuca.org.

- **Objectivity:** ensuring all efforts are balanced, credible, and fact-based without a partisan, ideological, or business driven agenda.
- **Diversity:** maintaining organizational diversity in composition (e.g., state electricity office represented, political affiliation), professional background (e.g., law, economics, engineering), and geography.
- **Collaboration:** collaborating internally and externally in order to deeply explore topics.
- **Engagement:** engaging state decision makers through a combination of in-person and virtual events.

C. NCEP may develop additional goals and/or objectives upon approval of National Council members.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in NCEP is available to state government decision-makers, including state utility commissioners, legislators, energy and air officials, consumer advocates, Governors’ representatives, and others, from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. NCEP members shall be provided opportunities to participate in NCEP activities and Work Groups. Canadian Provinces, the U.S. Territories, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico may also participate as non-voting members.
2. The general membership of NCEP will be identified through participation in NCEP activities.

B. REGIONS

Members are grouped by region for matters requiring voting or leadership as follows:

- **NORTHEAST:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont
- **MID-ATLANTIC:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia
- **MIDWEST:** Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Illinois, South Dakota, Wisconsin
- **SOUTHEAST:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee

- **CENTRAL:** Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas
- **MOUNTAIN:** Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
- **PACIFIC:** Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

ARTICLE III – THE COUNCIL

A. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. NCEP will be guided by an Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall include a state utility commission representative from each Region, as well as a state legislator, a state air or environmental leader, a state consumer advocate, a director of a state energy office, and a Governor’s energy advisor for a total of twelve (12) Executive Committee members. The Director of NCEP shall serve as a non-voting Ex-Officio member. Representation may broaden as the organization grows and evolves, and as vacancies arise.
3. The Executive Committee shall name a nominating committee, on an as-needed basis, to offer names of eligible state government officials to fill vacancies in its membership. The Executive Committee will vote to accept new Executive Committee members proposed by the Nominating Committee.
4. Members of the National Council’s Executive Committee shall serve four year terms. Each of these terms may be extended in one-year increments up to a maximum of four additional years, if the Member so requests.

B. REGULAR AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Council shall be held as determined by the Executive Committee. One meeting each year shall be designated as the Annual Meeting.

C. POLICY

1. Consistent with its mission, multiple viewpoints are expected and the role of NCEP is not to seek unanimity but an exchange of perspectives. NCEP will serve as an informative, rather than policy making, body and will not normally form policy statements. If a case exists where NCEP offers a policy statement, it must be approved by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.
2. No policy shall be binding on any Member. Individual members retain all rights to

comment on policy statements of NCEP, including the attachment of minority viewpoints.

3. No lobbying or legislative advocacy of any kind will be done by NCEP.

D. NON-BINDING ACTIVITIES

No vote of, or resolution passed by, NCEP has any binding effect upon any state agency, provincial authority, or any individual.

E. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These Guiding Principles may be amended at the Annual Meeting or any meeting of NCEP and shall require support of 66% of the votes cast by the Council's Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV – ADMINISTRATION

A. RELATIONSHIP TO NARUC

NCEP is a project of NARUC, funded through grants and cooperative agreements provided to NARUC. Auditing, reporting, compliance, and other funder-specified activities required by these grants and agreements will be undertaken by NARUC.

B. NCEP DIRECTOR & STAFF

NARUC staff will serve as a secretariat for NCEP. NCEP's director and staff shall be funded through projects administered by NARUC. The NCEP staff and director's work will be directed by the Executive Committee within the boundaries of the terms of their tasks under NARUC's supporting cooperative agreements and grants. The Director shall be selected and reviewed by the NCEP Executive Committee, but will report to NARUC.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

A. NUMBER AND TITLE OF OFFICERS

The four Officers of NCEP shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

B. OFFICER ELECTIONS, TERMS, and VACANCIES

1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer (the Officers) shall be asked to serve and will be confirmed by the Executive

Committee.

2. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will serve two year terms. Each of these terms may be extended in one-year increments up to a maximum of four years, if the Officer so requests.
3. No two Officers may be from the same Region.
4. The President shall rotate on a regional basis; such rotation shall continue unless amended by these Guiding Principles. A region may waive its Presidential opportunity. It is the intent, but not required, that the Vice President will become President at the conclusion of the President's two year term, or when his/her term expires.
5. Officers will be elected annually as needed.
6. The elected Officers are recognized as representatives from their individual states and regions. However, as NCEP officers, they are obligated and expected to represent the entire Council on issues as decided by NCEP.
7. In the event of a vacancy of the President, the Vice President will fulfill the President's duties for the remainder of the former President's term. In the event of a vacancy of the Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, the position will be filled by an eligible state official named by the Nominating Committee (formed by the Executive Committee) and voted on by the Executive Committee.
8. Partial terms shall not be counted as one term of office.

C. DUTIES

1. The President shall be the principal officer of the NCEP, shall preside at all meetings of the National Council and the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for seeing that the directives and activities of NCEP and the Executive Committee are carried out, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by NCEP.
2. The Vice President, in the temporary absence of the President, shall preside at meetings of NCEP and the Executive Committee and will perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or NCEP.
3. The Secretary shall be responsible for issuing notices and keeping minutes of all meetings of NCEP and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall have custody of records and files; shall exercise the powers and perform such duties usually designated to the office of Secretary; and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or NCEP.

4. The Treasurer shall exercise the powers and perform such other duties usually designated to the office of Treasurer and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President of NCEP.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the four (4) Officers of NCEP as described in Article V as well as eight (8) additional Members, as described in Article III. In addition to the 12 voting Executive Committee members, the NCEP Director shall be an *ex officio* non-voting member of the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee may meet as needed in person, by conference call, webinar, or other electronic means. Such meetings shall be called by the President as chair of the Executive Committee. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be eight (8) members of the Executive Committee and decisions of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise specified in these Guiding Principles, shall require support of 66% of the votes cast by Executive Committee members.

B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee may name a Nominating Committee, as needed, to offer names of eligible state officials to fill vacancies in its membership, as described in Article III (A).

C. OTHER COMMITTEES

1. Other committees may be established as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
2. Any state government official who participates in NCEP may participate in these other committees, as well as a Nominating Committee, if and when such Committees are named. Other persons, representing trade associations, government agencies, or other relevant organizations, may participate by invitation of NCEP.

ARTICLE VII – ACTIVITIES

A. MEETINGS

1. All meetings shall allow full participation by NCEP members and interested persons. In the event of a dispute not specifically addressed in these Guiding Principles or in other rules adopted by NCEP, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the meetings of NCEP, the Executive Committee, and all other committees.

2. The Annual Meeting and other in-person meetings of NCEP (other than Executive Committee meetings) shall be open meetings. To the extent allowed, meetings dealing with commercially sensitive, legal and personnel issues will be conducted in closed session.

B. EASTERN INTERCONNECTION STATES' PLANNING COUNCIL

1. The Eastern Interconnection States' Planning Council (EISPC) will continue to function as an activity of NCEP. Representation of the 39 EISPC states, the District of Columbia and the City of New Orleans in the Eastern Interconnection will continue, parallel to the regional structure of NCEP (see Article II – Membership). EISPC will continue to interface with the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC), and support the Energy Zones (EZ) Mapping Tool. EISPC may also perform other tasks and develop additional or new goals, such as conducting interconnection wide research and policy exchanges.

C. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Papers, webcasts, facilitated sessions, trainings, and other information-exchange, research and education activities shall conform to the information exchange purpose of the National Council as described in Article I, as a national marketplace of ideas on electricity issues in the U.S. and as a forum for electricity policy.