

For Immediate Release

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NARUC
National Association of
Regulatory Utility Commissioners

Ohio Commissioner Deters and Nebraska Commissioner Watermeier Appointed as Chair and Co-Vice Chair of NARUC Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Washington (August 26, 2026) — National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners President Ann Rendahl has appointed Commissioner Dennis P. Deters of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio as chair of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure and Commissioner Dan Watermeier of the Nebraska Public Service Commission as co-vice chair.

Deters and Watermeier succeed, respectively, Commissioner Emeritus Emile Thompson, who recently stepped down from the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, and former co-vice chair Commissioner David Veleta of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. Commissioner Sheri O. Haugen-Hoffart of the North Dakota Public Service Commission serves as the other co-vice chair.

Deters was appointed to the PUCO in 2019 and reappointed in 2021 and 2026. He served previously in local government, which included oversight of local regulation of basic public services. He served as president of the Mid-Atlantic Regulatory Utility Commissioners from June 2025 through June 2026. In October 2025, he was appointed President of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. For NARUC, he also serves on the Committee on International Relations and was a member of the Federal-State Current Issues Collaborative, a joint effort between NARUC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Deters has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Government from the University of Notre Dame and a Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati.

Watermeier joined the Nebraska PSC in November 2018. He served previously as a state senator in the Nebraska Unicameral from 2012 to 2018 and operates a farm. Along with the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, he is a member of the NARUC Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and chairs the Nemaha Natural Resources Districts and the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Nebraska Lincoln.

“The nation’s critical infrastructure is of great concern to regulators and utilities alike. Commissioners Deters and Watermeier each have the experience and knowledge to assume their new leadership roles,” said Rendahl, who serves on the Washington Utilities

and Transportation Commission. “We are grateful to Commissioner Emeritus Thompson and Commissioner Emeritus Veleta for their previous service on this committee.”

NARUC's eight standing committees propose resolutions that, if approved by the Board of Directors, set Association policy on congressional, federal and industry matters. The committees, populated by state public service commissioners, also hold educational sessions and panel discussions on relevant issues to best serve NARUC members.

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About NARUC

NARUC is a non-profit organization founded in 1889 whose members include the governmental agencies that are engaged in the regulation of utilities and carriers in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. NARUC's member agencies regulate telecommunications, energy, and water utilities. NARUC represents the interests of state public utility commissions before the three branches of the federal government.