

For Immediate Release

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NARUC
National Association of
Regulatory Utility Commissioners

NARUC Statement on Ratepayer Protection Pledge

WASHINGTON (March 5, 2026) — The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners has responded to President Donald Trump’s March 4 [Ratepayer Protection Pledge](#), aimed at ensuring that American ratepayers are not unduly burdened by costs associated with technologies such as AI and data centers. NARUC President, Commissioner Ann Rendahl of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, has issued the following statement:

“NARUC appreciates the President’s efforts to ensure customers do not bear the costs of data centers and the increased demand on the electric grid as utilities connect data centers and provide additional power to meet the demand. NARUC also appreciates the recognition that states and state commissions have a responsibility to establish rate designs and contract terms to prevent shifting data center costs to customers. NARUC and its members have been actively engaged in better understanding the role of AI and data centers across the utility landscape. As regulators, we are charged with serving the public interest — and a chief concern is affordability. Through our Demand Roundtable, webinars, conferences and committees, we are convening discussions and equipping decision-makers with information that they can apply in their states to develop rates, terms and conditions that address affordability for American consumers.

“We welcome the opportunity to work with federal partners, tech companies, consumer advocates and other stakeholders to ensure that state interests on affordability, energy infrastructure, grid reliability and workforce development are at the forefront of these discussions. State regulators have firsthand knowledge of these issues, and we see this as a chance to expand on the dialogues that NARUC has already started.”

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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.