

2024 NARUC Annual Meeting and Education Conference Agenda

Sunday, November 10

Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF) Breakfast and Kickoff Forum

Sunday, November 10

8:30am – 11:45am

Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability and Resilience

Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

Staff Subcommittee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

Demand Growth & Risk Management: *Investing in Energy Infrastructure to Meet Customer Needs*

Networking breakfast 8:30 – 9:30 / Program 9:30 – 11:45

Separate registration – no extra fees

9:30 – 9:35 **Welcome, Introductions & Recognitions**

- Ms. Katrina McMurrian, CCIF Executive Director

9:35 – 10:30 **Exploring Risk Mitigation Strategies & Tools for Infrastructure Investment**

Presenter (15 mins):

- Mr. Matthew DeCoursey, Vice President, Charles River Associates

Respondents (40 mins):

- Commissioner: Hon. Leo R. Asuncion, Jr., Chairman, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
- Consumer Advocate: Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, NASUCA President Emeritus and North Carolina
- Utilities Commission Public Staff Executive Director
- Electric Company Rep: Mrs. Brooke Trammell, Regional Vice President of Regulatory and Pricing, Xcel Energy/ Southwestern Public Service Company

10:30 – 10:45 **Break**

10:45 – 11:40 **Meeting Rapid Demand Growth with Investments that Balance Reliability and Affordability**

Presenter (15 mins):

- Mr. Bruce Tsuchida, Principal, The Brattle Group

Respondents (40 mins):

- Commissioner: Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Chairman, Virginia State Corporation Commission
- Consumer Advocate: Hon. Michael Moody, NASUCA President and Michigan Attorney General Special Litigation Division Chief
- Electric Company Rep: Mr. Jose Esparza, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Arizona Public Service

11:40 – 11:45 **Closing Remarks by NARUC President**

- Hon. Julie Fedorchak, NARUC President & North Dakota Public Service Commissioner

11:45 **Adjourn**

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:



NARUC Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, November 10

9:00am – 10:30am

Executive Committee

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: ✘

Sunday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✔

TOPIC:

Telecommunications

Lunch on Your Own

Sunday, November 10

11:30am – 1:00pm

Session is open: ✔

Sunday, November 10

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Washington Action Program

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: ✘

Emerging Technologies Showcase

Sunday, November 10

1:00pm – 5:00pm

Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

No additional fee but separate **registration** required.

Room: **Orange Ballroom and Grand G - K**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Critical Infrastructure

Education

Sunday, November 10

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Subcommittee on Education and Research

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Education

Sunday, November 10

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Strengthening Pipeline Integrity Culture and Safety Oversight

The rapid deployment of data centers and large-scale economic development projects in the Midwest, Southeast, and Southwest has led to a significant surge in demand for electric power generation. Natural gas power generation is frequently tapped for grid expansion due to its reliability and scalability. How does this growing reliance on natural gas power generation affect the field operations value chain, including the need for more robust pipeline safety oversight? What challenges do utilities and operators face in ensuring pipeline safety as infrastructure expands at such a rapid pace?

With this expansion, the demand for pipeline inspection and safety management grows as well. It's not just about increasing the number of inspectors, but also about equipping them with advanced skills. How do we address the increasing demand for highly trained inspectors who must be knowledgeable in both traditional safety protocols and cutting-edge technologies? Are current training programs sufficient, or do they need to evolve to meet the demands of a more complex infrastructure? Learn the 5 Steps to Measure and Improve Inspector Performance.

Dan Lorenz, PE

President

JOE KNOWS ENERGY

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Gas

Pipeline Safety

Sunday, November 10

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications

The Number Resources Utilization and Forecast (NRUF) report provides valuable information to state commissions, assisting in their efforts to preserve telephone numbering resources. However, NRUF reports can be confusing. Members of this panel will answer questions such as: What is the purpose of NRUF reporting? Who is supposed to prepare NRUF reports? What type of information must reporters provide in their NRUF reports? How are numbers

required to be categorized on NRUF reports and why does number classification lead to confusion? How can state commissions use NRUF reporting more effectively in their oversight of numbering activity in their states?

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Telecommunications

SPEAKERS:

Lara Walt

Attorney Advisor

(MODERATOR)

District of Columbia Public Service Commission

Allyson Blevins

Senior Director, Numbering Policy & Regulatory Affairs

Sinch

Kathy Michaud

Senior Lead, Number Administration

Lumen

Coffee and Connections

Sunday, November 10

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

What Gets Measured Gets Managed: An industry-focused standard for DEI, ESG, how to know what good looks like, and what to say about it

Public service commissions in many states around the nation are facing an interesting challenge. How to ensure that the utility industry workforce and procurement reflects the diversity of their states' populations, while hearing pushback on DEI and ESG from some members of the public, including elected officials in their states.

In this session we'll help provide some useful perspective on:

Why – is a diverse workforce and procurement pipeline important to YOUR state?

What – should be measured and how can the scientific rigor we expect from all other aspects of our industry be applied here?

How – can you tell what “good” looks like?

Who – we'll allow the industry to put faces (and knowledge) to the experts who are helping design this system – the first of its kind in the United States.

NUDC is creating a free, neutral, rigorous, third-party DEIB assessment system to promote transparency, guide improvements and fortify the industry's commitment to DEIB. NUDC's framework will be utilities-focused, US-oriented, and help usher in a new era for DEIB in utilities, offering metrics that truly matter.

In this session we'll hear from System designers and System Task Force members about what a neutral, rigorous, standardized, and industry-specific system of assessing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging should look like. The **Why, What, How, and Who** of it.

And, in the **Ask Me Anything** section of the session, our experts will take open mic questions on any aspect of DEIB that commissioners or other audience members wish to ask or to be able to answer if they are asked.

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Diversity

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Davante Lewis

(MODERATOR)

Louisiana Public Service Commission

Donna Blancero, Ph.D.

Professor

Bentley University

Audrey Murrell, Ph.D.

Professor

University of Pittsburgh

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Staff Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management

Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management

Resource Retirements In An Era of Increasing Electricity Demand

Statements from NERC, FERC, studies by advocacy organizations and press reports have been warning that the changing electricity supply mix is leading to a less reliable grid. The problem is growing more serious with the disorderly retirement of dispatchable resources and the lack of replacement capacity and additional transmission. At the same time economic and technology trends are increasing demand for electricity and making the problem even more challenging. Power needs from data centers along with electric vehicles, manufacturing and industrial activities are recasting and upending previous utility and grid operator forecasts for demand. This panel will explore how utilities and utility commissioners should reexamine already planned or upcoming retirement of dispatchable resources which are needed to meet electricity demand growth and ensure an orderly grid transition that protects reliability and affordability.

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Clean Coal

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Angie Hatton

Chair

(MODERATOR)

Kentucky Public Service Commission

Brent Bilsland

President, CEO & Chairman

Hallador Energy Company (HNRG)

Tricia DeBleeckere

Executive Director

Organization of MISO States, Inc.

Bill Zuretti

Director, Regulatory Affairs & Counsel

Electric Power Supply Association

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Reconvene Committee Meeting - CLOSED

PHMSA Perspective on Emergent Pipeline Safety Issues

Alan K. Mayberry, Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety within the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration will discuss the PHMSA Perspective on reauthorization, imminent regulations, and other areas that states may be asked to focus on in the coming years.

- Election Impact
- Additional Funding Allocated
- Reauthorization

Questions/Discussion

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: **✘**

TOPIC:

Pipeline Safety

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal

Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal

Fireside Chat With Jeff Waksman

Preceding a session moderated by Commissioner Tim Echols, Georgia and Commissioner Nick Myers, Arizona, Jeff Waksman will join commissioners and commission staff for a fireside chat about Project Pele, Project TRISO, and the role of nuclear energy in energy resilience for the Department of Defense.

Closed to commissioners and commission staff only

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 3 & 4**

Session is open: **✘**

TOPIC:

Nuclear Issues

SPEAKERS:

Stephen Goodson

Policy Analyst

(MODERATOR)

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Jeff Waksman

Program Manager, Strategic Capabilities Office

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Staff Subcommittee on Information Services

1- Public Service Commission's Case Management Systems

2- Navigating Security Priorities in 2025

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: **✕**

TOPICS:

Executive Management

Information Services

SPEAKERS:

Scot Dorger

Dorger Software Associates

Bob Smock

Security Counselor

InfoTech Research Group

Sunday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Staff Subcommittee on Gas

Benefits of Using and Advanced Mobile Leak Detection System for Natural Gas Leak Detection

Heath Consultants Incorporated's Discover – Advanced Mobile Leak Detection (AMLD) system is an ultra-sensitive advanced technology capable of detecting natural gas leaks or emissions from a remote distance while driving on a street or right of way. The Discover AMLD technology is already employed at several major gas utilities domestic and internationally and is being used to find real world leaks and disaster-based surveys. The Discover AMLD technology has the ability distinguish between sewer/Biogas leak and pipeline leaks and can localize and quantify the amount methane emissions. The Methane Emissions Technology Evaluation Center (METEC) at Colorado State University evaluated, tested and confirmed the efficacy and accuracy of the technology in its ability to find, localize, and

quantify emissions. The Discover AMLD technology is helping utilities rapidly find leaks and reduce methane emissions to keep communities safe and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while improving productivity of surveys by a multiplier of 4 or more. With the Discover AMLD technology, gas utilities can make their operations safer and more efficient, build trust with communities, and make environmentally friendly energy available to hundreds of millions of people. A live demonstration of the Discover AMLD vehicle will be provided onsite.

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Patrick Jacobs

Vice President, Sales and Marketing

Heath Consultants Incorporated

Coffee and Connections

Sunday, November 10

3:30pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

Sunday, November 10

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal

Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal

Exploring the Past, Present, and Future Contributions of Nuclear Power to U.S.

National Defense

On this military-themed nuclear panel, Commissioners Tim Echols and Nick Myers will emcee with a special tribute to Admiral Rickover—the father of the Nuclear Navy program.

Presenters include **Dr. Jeff Waksman**, a Program Manager at the Strategic Capabilities Office (SCO) within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He leads Project Pele (a mobile nuclear reactor) and Project TRISO (encapsulated nuclear fuel). As part of this role, in addition to direct program management, he aids coordination on nuclear energy programs and related policy development across the interagency. **Tori Shivanandan**, COO at Radiant Industries, will also join the panel to discuss her firm's work on Kaleidos, a portable microreactor, and its applications for military installations.

Room: **Platinum 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Nuclear Issues

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tim Echols

(MODERATOR)

Georgia Public Service Commission

Hon. Nick Myers

(MODERATOR)

Arizona Corporation Commission

Tori Shivanandan

Chief Operating Officer

Radiant Industries

Jeff Waksman

Program Manager, Strategic Capabilities Office

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Sunday, November 10

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Committee on Gas

Committee on Water

Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Staff Subcommittee on Gas

Staff Subcommittee on Water

Avoiding Disconnected Data: Assuring Utility Disconnection Information is Useful

This session will provide participants with an update on the state of utility disconnection and arrearage reporting throughout the country in multiple sectors. In late 2019, NARUC passed a resolution citing the importance of increased reporting on utility disconnection and arrearages. Several months later, the pandemic struck and states throughout the country enacted disconnection moratoriums and utility reporting requirements. Once the pandemic subsided, many states discontinued reporting requirements, but other states continued. What have the states that have maintained utility disconnection reporting learned? Has the information been useful? Who should report? What should they report? How often should they report? And most importantly, how should utility commissions use the information? The audience will be encouraged to participate in this session through polling questions and discussion on state disconnection practices. The session will be designed to show the importance of knowing what to do with state disconnection data.

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Gas

Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Jeff Hughes

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Carmelitha Bordelon

VP of Regulatory Affairs and Finance

Suburban Water Systems

Patrick Cicero

Consumer Advocate

Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate

Chris Forist

Michigan Public Service Commission

Hon. Davante Lewis

Louisiana Public Service Commission

Sunday, November 10

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Staff Subcommittee on Administrative Law Judges

Staff Subcommittee on Executive Management

Staff Subcommittee on Law

Business Meeting

Executive administration topics – Sallie and Doug

NCRA 2024 Report and NCRA 2025 Update – Elizabeth and Bridgette

Legislative/judicial/FERC updates - Bridgette

Artificial Intelligence and legal research - Bridgette

New Business

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Executive Management

Law

Welcome Reception

Sunday, November 10

5:00pm – 6:30pm

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 5 & 6**

Session is open: ✓

2024 NARUC Annual Meeting and Education Conference Agenda

Monday, November 11

Commission Chairs Breakfast

Monday, November 11

7:45am – 8:45am

Room: **Grand Ballroom G**

Session is open: ✘

Newcomers Forum Breakfast

Monday, November 11

7:45am – 8:45am

(New Commissioners Only)

Room: **Elite 2**

Session is open: ✘

Sunny Sips Coffee

Monday, November 11

8:45am – 9:30am

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✔

Monday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Committee on International Relations

Electric Vehicles: Lessons Learned from Abroad

Countries worldwide have invested in expanding transportation electrification for several years. Join this panel to hear lessons learned from around the globe on electric vehicle infrastructure rollout, managed and bidirectional charging, and customer-centered programs for advancing electric transportation. What can we, in the U.S., learn from organizations and companies moving from pilot-to-scale on transportation electrification programs in Europe and Asia?

- Moderator: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Michigan Public Service Commission
- Jacqueline Piero, U.S. Head of Policy and Regulation, The Mobility House
- Gerard Westhoff, Senior Associate Carbon-Free Transportation, RMI

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

International Relations

Monday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

Equity in Action: Utility Procurement Practices

Business Meeting

As utilities modernize infrastructure and adopt new technologies to build a clean energy future, how can we ensure equity plays a role in procurement practices? This panel will explore how utilities can implement inclusive strategies that create opportunities for small and minority-owned businesses and drive innovation across the supply chain. Panelists will discuss the unique challenges and opportunities in the utilities sector, including navigating regulatory requirements, fostering supplier partnerships, and leveraging technology to establish transparent, equitable procurement processes. Join us to learn how equitable sourcing strengthens both community relationships and business resilience in an increasingly competitive energy market.

1- Vote and discussion on resolutions

- *Resolution on Supporting the Submission of Comment by NARUC relating to the Energy Information Administration's Proposed Form EIA-112*
- *Resolution on Urging Clarification of Utility Recovery Bond Classification by the SEC to Lower the Cost to Electricity Customers*

2- Presentations by speakers on equity in utility procurement practices and Q&A

- Jose Perez, President & CEO, Hispanics in Energy
- Scott Alan Davis, VP of Inclusion and Economic Development, SEEL, LLC
- Carmen Holmes, Director of Supplier Diversity and Sustainability, Duke Energy

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Diversity

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Floyd McKissick Jr.

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Scott Davis

VP of Inclusion and Economic Development

SEEL, LLC

Carmen Holmes

Director of Supplier Diversity and Sustainability

Duke Energy

Jose Perez

President & CEO

Monday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

Business Meeting

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Critical Infrastructure

Monday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Committee on Water

Meet and Greet with Hon. Judy Chang, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

A Minute For Your Thoughts?, With Hon. Jehmal Hudson and Hon. Jeff Hughes

Are electric companies and water companies so different that they can't learn from each other's best practices? Commissioners from the Water Committee will join the ERE Committee's business meeting for a lively discussion on how to use the planning, policies, and

lessons learned from regulating their respective commodity to better operate the other. Each commissioner will have two to three minutes to provide their rapid-fire thoughts on these questions:

- How can the Commission coordinate and leverage utility-run low-income programs, low-income discount rates, and the revenue sources for those rates for water consumption and for energy use?
- What can Commissions do to enable water/wastewater treatment facilities to become more efficient energy customers? Do they need innovative rate structures, demand response programs, and/or DER?
- How can grid hardening policies and natural disaster planning for the electric grid be adapted to protect water/wastewater treatment facilities from the increasing impacts of climate change, such as flooding and droughts, that limit their ability to provide safe, affordable, and reliable water service?

Center for Partnerships & Innovation Update

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Energy Resources and the Environment Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Jehmal Hudson

Chair

(MODERATOR)

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Hon. Jeff Hughes

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Hon. Judy Chang

Commissioner

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Coffee and Connections

Monday, November 11

10:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

Monday, November 11

10:15am – 11:30am

Committee on Telecommunications

USF Reform: Be a Designer for a Day

The FCC, Congress, and the courts have all weighed in on ways to reform the Universal Service Fund, apparently with no solution. This panel of key stakeholders will be afforded the title of “Designer for a Day” to craft a “perfect” Universal Service Fund keeping in mind the limitations of taxpayers and fee payers! Join us to see if your thoughts make it into their design or what new concepts are floated for consideration.

Room: **Platinum Ballroom 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Chris Nelson

(MODERATOR)

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Ryan Boone

CEO

Premier Communications

Rachelle Chong

Law Offices of Rachelle Chong, representing Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

Hon. Sarah Freeman

Commissioner

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

John Heitmann

Partner

Nelson Mullins, representing National Lifeline Association (NaLA)

Monday, November 11

10:30am – 11:30am

Committee on Gas

Remarks from Clair Moeller, President and COO, MISO

Clair Moeller will comment on gas-electric coordination, the need for new baseload and peaking generation in the MISO footprint, the role of natural gas in the changing grid, and reflections from his 20+ years with MISO as he retires at the end of this year. Time will be available for Q&A.

Discussion and vote on resolutions, other committee business

Remarks on Denmark's Energy Landscape from a State Regulatory Perspective

In June and September 2024, several utility commissioners joined other U.S. stakeholders in separate week-long trips to Denmark, supported by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), to meet with regulators, industry, vendors, and technical experts. Industry in Denmark has achieved a 47% reduction in energy intensity in the past fifty years. The Danish experience is instructive to understand where and how various energy resources are being used most effectively, and how Denmark is achieving its energy security and environmental goals while maintaining a robust economy which includes the manufacturing and agriculture industries. Commissioner Karen Kemerait, North Carolina and Commissioner Hwikwon Ham, Minnesota, will share takeaways from their experience abroad and lessons for U.S. regulators.

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPIC:

Education

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tammy Cordova

(MODERATOR)

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

Hon. Hwikwon Ham

Commissioner

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Karen Kemerait

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Clair Moeller

President and COO

Midcontinent Independent System Operators (MISO)

Monday, November 11

10:30am – 11:30am

Committee on Electricity

Business Meeting

1. Will McNamara update on CESA Energy Storage Regulatory Working Group
2. FERC Commissioner David Rosner Comments and Q&A with commissioners
3. NARUC update on permitting
4. Discussion and vote on resolution

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Kim Duffley

(MODERATOR)

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Will McNamara

Grid Energy Storage Analyst

Sandia National Laboratories

Hon. David Rosner

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Monday, November 11

10:30am – 11:30am

Committee on Water

Buckle Up! It takes more than fairy dust, the wave of a magic wand, or wishing on a star to maintain, monitor, and invest in improvements to water and wastewater systems. Hop aboard and feel the thrill of what it's like to run a water utility in 2024!

Nearby Disneyland is home to many water-based attractions that require high standards of water utility management — not something that magically happens. It takes more than the waving of a wand to ensure the safety of guests and staff, maintain the resilience of the water systems, move forward with infrastructure investment for maintenance and innovation, and the water quality upkeep — all are some of the key topics that Disneyland, as well as the water utility industry, need to address and optimize. Effective water utility management for the benefit of customers and communities in the U.S. is a complex and challenging task that involves funding, engineering, environmental awareness, operational efficiency, and dedicated teams of experienced experts — think of them as our real-life Imagineers! Achieving more than what a simple wish upon a star could offer requires collaborative industry efforts coupled with education, advocacy, and communication to confront and solve prevalent challenges within the water utility field.

Part 1: Matterhorn Bobsled

Anticipating and navigating the twists and turns of the ever-changing regulatory and legislative landscape and incentives in the midst of a presidential election. Panelists will share their advice on how to survive this nail-biting ride. This is not your mama's rollercoaster!

Part 2: Splash Mountain

Panelists will discuss how to support the availability of safe, clean, and reliable water service in the midst of weather events and increasing demand. Please keep your safety harness tight and your arms and legs in the car at all times. This is definitely a stormy ride!

Part 3: It's a Small World

Water sanitation needs to be ensured and enhanced for populations served. We will hear from wastewater leadership across the country on how to achieve these goals during this slow boat ride through clean water.

Part 4: Grizzley Run River

The EPA's decision on PFAS and lead and copper places all water providers in the same boat to navigate these uncharted waters. Let's break down how we meet these new rules and address the billions of dollars it will cost to clean them up. Collaboration on managing through the rise in finding as we descend to cleaner water — a wild ride through a California River!

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Matt Baker

(MODERATOR)

California Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Charlotte Lane

Chair

(MODERATOR)

Public Service Commission of West Virginia

Hon. John Mitchell

(MODERATOR)

Missouri Public Service Commission

Hon. Ralph Yanora

(MODERATOR)

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Suzanne DeLorenzo

Director of Water Quality

San Jose Water

Ken Jenkins

Chief Water Resource Sustainability Officer

California Water Service

Christine Keck

Vice President of National Government and Regulatory Affairs

American Water

Justin Ladner

President

Pennsylvania American Water

Nick Liu

Vice President of Rates and Revenue

Arizona Water

Marc Lucca

President

Aqua Pennsylvania

Sunil Pillai

Vice President, Environmental Quality

Golden State Water

Aaditya Raman

President, Municipal Water Contract Operations, West

Veolia North America

Monday, November 11

10:30am – 11:30am

Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Staff Working Meeting. Specifics to be discussed on-site.

Room: **Gold Room 1**

Session is open: ✘

Lunch on Your Own

Monday, November 11

11:30am – 1:00pm

Session is open: ✔

Opening General Session

Monday, November 11

1:00pm – 2:30pm

We will kick off the NARUC 2024 Annual Meeting and Education Conference with

- Recognition of Veterans Day
- Remarks from The Hon. Julie Fedorchak, NARUC President
- 2024 - 2025 NARUC Officer Elections
- A Special Member Appreciation

- In Memoriam
- Terry Barnich Award
- Recognition of NARUC Executive Director Greg White!

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

Coffee and Connections

Monday, November 11

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

General Session: Natural Gas: Energy Demand and Emission Challenges Leading Up to 2030 and Beyond

Monday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Natural Gas: Energy Demand and Emission Challenges Leading Up to 2030 and Beyond

This panel will feature CEOs from the natural gas production, transmission, and distribution sectors. They will detail the challenges they face and their plans for overcoming them through working with the regulatory body to continue lowering emissions, while maintaining production levels, safety, reliability, and affordability.

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Energy

Resources and the Environment

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Kim David

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Oklahoma Corporation Commission

Alan Armstrong

President & CEO

The Williams Company

Sid McAnnally

President

ONE Gas

Toby Rice

CEO

EQT Corporation

Commissioner Emeritus Meeting

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom JK**

Session is open: **✘**

MACRUC

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

(Invitees Only)

Room: **Orange Ballroom 2**

Session is open: **✘**

MARC

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

(Invitees Only)

Room: **Orange Ballroom 4**

Session is open: **✘**

NECPUC

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

(Invitees Only)

Room: **Orange Ballroom 3**

Session is open: **✘**

SEARUC

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

(Invitees Only)

Room: **Grand Ballroom G**

Session is open: **✘**

Western

Monday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:00pm

(Invitees Only)

Room: **Grand Ballroom H**

Session is open: **✘**

NARUC Board of Directors Event

Monday, November 11

6:30pm – 8:00pm

(BOD Members Only)

Session is open: **✘**

2024 NARUC Annual Meeting and Education Conference Agenda

Tuesday, November 12

A1: Gaining Headroom on the Grid: Leveraging the Demand Side to Accommodate New Loads Now

Tuesday, November 12

9:30am – 10:30am

Gaining Headroom on the Grid: Leveraging the Demand Side to Accommodate New Loads Now

Recent analysis of electricity demand forecasts shows significant load growth due to new advanced manufacturing and data center facilities. EIA estimates that retail sales of electricity to industrial customers will grow by about 3% in 2024, and an additional 4% in 2025. Grid operators, utility regulators, and customers are increasingly concerned about this new, rapid load growth, particularly during a period of supply chain shortages, and are looking for approaches to mitigate its impact. What can be accommodated with existing electricity infrastructure? On the one hand, some companies building or growing their facilities are working in new ways to integrate their loads responsibly. On the other hand, combinations of demand-side resources can offer headroom in the system and provide space for accommodating new loads in the near-term. Panelists will provide real-world examples of proactively engaging with utilities and regulators to accelerate large load interconnection timelines and use demand-side resources to reduce energy waste, lower peak demand, and make room for new loads to grow.

Session Number: **A1**

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Energy Resources and the Environment

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Stacey Paradis

(MODERATOR)

Illinois Commerce Commission

Keven Brough

Vice President, Strategy & Market Development

Renew Home

Samantha Klug

Enterprise Sustainability Development Director

Prologis

Natalie Mims Frick

Deputy Department Leader, Energy Markets and Policy

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

A2: Strategies and Solutions for Cracking the Challenge of Efficiency in Multi-Tenanted Buildings

Tuesday, November 12

9:30am – 10:30am

Strategies and Solutions for Cracking the Challenge of Efficiency in Multi-Tenanted Buildings

Americans living in multi-tenanted buildings could save billions of dollars on their utility bills through electric and gas efficiency and water saving measures, but there are unique challenges in the multifamily housing sector that can make it difficult for tenants to realize these savings. Where tenants pay the utility bills, landlords have little incentive to make these investments, and even where they are allowed, tenants are unlikely to incur substantial capital costs to upgrade property they do not own. On top of this, structural issues like a leaky roof or mold in the property may create an upfront barrier to access or benefit from these programs and technologies. How can utilities and regulators overcome these barriers and incentivize energy and water efficiency measures in multifamily properties? Which measures are best suited for multifamily properties? How can regulators support these investments?

Session Number: **A2**

Room: **Platinum 3 & 4**

Session is open: **✓**

TOPICS:

Consumers

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Energy Resources and the

Environment

Gas

Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Karen Douglas

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

California PUC

Ken Jenkins

Chief Water Resource Sustainability Officer

California Water Service

Hon. Andrew McAllister

Commissioner

California Energy Commission

Maggie Molina

Executive Director

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

McGregor Snow

Multifamily Weatherization & Retrofit Program Manager

Puget Sound Energy

A3: Think Water and Electricity Don't Mix? Think Again! Microgrids in the Water Sector

Tuesday, November 12

9:30am – 10:30am

Think Water and Electricity Don't Mix? Think Again! Microgrids in the Water Sector

Ever wonder how your water service continues even when the power is out? In the past, diesel generators have been the answer. But in the future, a cleaner and cheaper way for water utilities to maintain reliable service may be microgrids and battery storage. The California Water Association (CWA) has partnered with the U.S. Department of Energy and Generac to pilot a program where microgrids and battery storage will not only provide

reliability advantages during storms and emergencies but could also reduce the utilities' energy costs during regular operating times, providing affordability benefits. Come hear these "electrifying" speakers "wet" your appetite for this innovative new approach to reliability.

Session Number: **A3**

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Naomi Kuwaye

(MODERATOR)

Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Lacy Carothers, PE

Director of Engineering

California American Water

Deana Carrillo

"Director, Reliability, Renewable Energy & Decarbonization Incentives Division

California Energy Commission

Gene Rodrigues

Assistant Secretary Office of Electricity

U.S. Department of Energy

Leuwam Tesfai

Deputy Executive Director for Energy and Climate Policy

California Public Utilities Commission

A4: The Emerging Hydrogen Economy and How it Interacts with Public Utilities

Tuesday, November 12

9:30am – 10:30am

The Emerging Hydrogen Economy and How it Interacts with Public Utilities

In a decarbonized world, gas and electric utilities are having to adapt to new operational norms, emerging challenges, and opportunities. Transportation is facing new fueling paradigms. Steel decarbonization is made possible by hydrogen. Enter hydrogen, the simplest element. Colorless, odorless, nontoxic and high in energy, it is considered, “pure energy.” Due to its simplicity and versatility, it has the potential to decarbonize many sectors of the economy such as steel, fertilizer, industrial heat, and transportation fuel. There are several unique features of hydrogen that need to be understood and demonstrated to achieve commercial scale for the energy sector. Utilities can play a pivotal role in advancing the hydrogen market, helping to accelerate the transition to a lower-carbon economy. Come join the conversation.

Session Number: **A4**

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Eric Skrmetta

(MODERATOR)

Louisiana Public Service Commission

Yuri Freedman

Senior Director, Business Development

Southern California Gas Company

Paul Fukumoto

Director Technology and Product Solutions

Fuel Cell Energy

James Kast

Executive Director of Hydrogen

Iwatani Corporation of America

Neil Kern

Program Manager, Low Carbon Resources Initiative

EPRI

David Park

Industry Affairs Director

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Partnership

A5: More Questions than Answers: Controlling Gas Risk in an Era of Surging Load Growth

Tuesday, November 12

9:30am – 10:30am

More Questions than Answers: Controlling Gas Risk in an Era of Surging Load Growth

After nearly two decades of flat load growth, electricity demand is widely expected to accelerate over the coming years due to both policy and economic drivers. The emergence of data centers to support artificial intelligence, the re-shoring of manufacturing, and the continuing electrification of residential and commercial buildings and transportation has led to a surge in forecasted load growth by grid operators and utilities.

Meeting this growing demand requires careful planning, coordination, and innovation among policymakers, grid operators, utilities, regulators, developers, investors, and consumers. It also requires a holistic and systemic view of the electricity system, considering not only the existing generation mix and emerging technologies, but also transmission planning and development as well as consideration of the abilities of the local distribution network.

Presenters will discuss the following questions:

What is the role of new natural gas resources in an era of surging load growth? Can regulators find a balance between new natural gas and carbon free energy sources, based on the specific characteristics and needs of each region, market, and customer? How can regulators ensure customers are protected from market volatility? What tools can regulators use to avoid overinvesting in resources that are inconsistent with long-term state policy goals? What are the implications for gas-electric market interfaces?

Session Number: **A5**

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Justin Tate

Comissioner

(MODERATOR)

Arkansas Public Service Commission

Hon. James Huston

Chairman

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Mark Lux

Vice President Power Delivery

Black Hills Energy

Chris Moser

EVP

NRG Energy

Bruce Rew

Senior Vice President Operations

SPP

Sunny Sips Coffee

Tuesday, November 12

10:30am – 11:00am

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

B1: How Much is That Number in the Window?

Tuesday, November 12

11:00am – 12:00pm

How Much is That Number in the Window?

The FCC has delegated oversight of telephone numbering issues in their jurisdictions to state commissions. They have used this delegated authority to assist in number conservation efforts to preserve area codes (NPAs), to monitor whether service providers comply with numbering rules, and to work to reduce illegal robocalling to protect their residents. In the course of these efforts, state commissions have discovered numbering practices that may be in conflict with the rules established by the FCC, including the sale of numbers with prices of thousands

of dollars. This panel will explore the potential misuse of numbers and the ways in which state commissions can monitor and halt these actions to preserve the North American Numbering Plan (NAMPAs).

Session Number: **B1**

Room: **Platinum 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Information Services

Telecommunications

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Mary Pat Regan

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Kentucky PUC

Matt Connolly

Public Utilities Manager

Arizona Corporation Commission

Michael Johnson

Staff

Maine PUC

Isaac Shloss

Chief Product Officer

DNC.com

B2: Good Vibrations or Grid Disruptions: AI's Tune in Homeland Security and Energy Policy

Tuesday, November 12

11:00am – 12:00pm

Good Vibrations or Grid Disruptions: AI's Tune in Homeland Security and Energy Policy

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a powerful tool that can be used by innovators and engineers as well as by foreign adversaries and criminals to carry out cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure. This panel will discuss the current landscape regarding the differing approaches

to cybersecurity in each sector, how each sector is regulated, and what the future holds for AI as both a defensive and offensive tool. We will also ask the panelists to foreshadow what they think cybersecurity regulation may look like when AI is folded in – will the agencies develop new regulations that utilities have to comply with regarding AI? Will the agencies fold AI requirements into the cyber minimums?

Session Number: **B2**

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Diversity

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Zenon Christodoulou

(MODERATOR)

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

Karen Evans

Managing Director

Cyber Readiness Institute

Jerry McNerney

Chairman

The AI Trust Foundation

Phil Moeller

Executive Vice President

Edison Electric Institute

Hon. David Rosner

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

B3: Plugging In: How Large Customers Have Entered the Chat on Energy Planning

Tuesday, November 12

11:00am – 12:00pm

Plugging In: How Large Customers Have Entered the Chat on Energy Planning

Transparent electricity system planning is critical to fostering customer trust, building confidence in utility and regulatory processes, and maintaining affordability and reliability as the system expands. Commissions want to ensure that processes and outcomes are fair, just, and reasonable while ensuring they meet customer needs. As more organizations have made public commitments to meet environmental or societal goals, as fleets and manufacturers electrify and data centers proliferate, commercial companies and the federal government represent very large customers with clear but complex priorities for their electricity supply. What role do C&I customers have in supporting the impacts of their growth and coupled clean energy demands? Does planning need to incorporate the 24/7 clean energy ambition – or differing clean energy requirements? How does embedding these goals in planning interact with a state’s existing goals or policies?

Attendees will hear what large, multi-state customers have learned and would like to see when engaging in commission/utility planning frameworks like Integrated Resource Plans (IRP) and Integrated System Plans (ISP) and how utilities are balancing large customer interests.

Session Number: **B3**

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers Electric Reliability and Resilience Electricity Energy Resources and the Environment

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Letha Tawney

(MODERATOR)

Oregon Public Utility Commission

Christopher Ayers

Executive Director

North Carolina Utilities Commission Public

Farah Mandich

Presidential Sustainability Executive

General Services Administration

Stephen Martz

Vice President - Integrated Planning

Xcel Energy

Jeff Riles

Director of Energy Markets

Microsoft

B4: Talk Data To Me

Tuesday, November 12

11:00am – 12:00pm

Talk Data To Me

Customer energy use data (CEUD) access is critical for realizing the real-time benefits of distributed energy resources and for maximizing the reach of energy efficiency programs, including those funded under the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Data is also more important for grid operations than ever before. Customer usage data, distribution system data, rate and tariff data, and program participation data are all proliferating thanks to technology advancement, and the emerging prevalence of grid sensors, advanced software solutions, and grid edge capabilities raise additional opportunities for customers along with questions for regulators. In this session, panelists will address the following: What kinds of data are available today, and what does productive data-sharing look like for each type? What are the perceived risks and challenges associated with data access, and how can we address those challenges? What are some recent examples of successful public-private-utility collaboration around data sharing? How can we use real-time data to better manage the grid and what other benefits can this data provide to the customer as we plan grid updates and developments?

Session Number: **B4**

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Energy Resources and the Environment

Information Services

Telecommunications

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Davante Lewis

(MODERATOR)

Louisiana Public Service Commission

Caterina Hatcher

ENERGY STAR National Manager, Public Sector

US EPA

Camille Kadoch

Principal and General Counsel

Regulatory Assistance Project

Julie Morgan

Model Based Design Research Staff

Idaho National Laboratory

Michael Murray

President

Mission:data

Emma Rodvien

Senior Manager, US Regulatory Affairs and Market Development

Kraken

B5: Clean, Firm Power: Exploring Technology and Policy Pathways to Meet our Nation's Energy Needs

Tuesday, November 12

11:00am – 12:00pm

Clean, Firm Power: Exploring Technology and Policy Pathways to Meet our Nation's Energy Needs

As electricity demand swells and climate targets grow nearer, the utility sector is being relied upon to produce more reliable power with lower greenhouse gas emission profiles – that is, firm and clean power. Thus, the question becomes what types of new resources are needed and how much? This panel will review the technology and policy pathways capable of achieving a firm and clean power supply. This panel will explore questions such as:

- What mix of generation options will ensure a reliable, round-the-clock 24-7 (firm) low or no-emissions power supply that protects and respects communities (clean)?
- What policies will create a pathway that allows these technologies and approaches to take hold? And,
- What other pieces need to fall into place and/or what obstacles need to be addressed?

Session Number: **B5**

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: **✓**

TOPICS:

Consumers

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Energy Resources and the

Environment

Nuclear Issues

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tom Plant

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Colorado PUC

Sara Baldwin

Sr. Director, Electrification

Energy Innovation

Priya Barua

Senior Director of Market & Policy Innovation

Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA)

Doug Vine

Director Energy Analysis

Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

Anaheim Lunch ... then Learn

Tuesday, November 12

12:00pm – 12:45pm

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

General Session: Hot Stuff: Navigating Financial Risks of Wildfires Without Getting Burned & NARUC Incoming President Remarks

Tuesday, November 12

12:45pm – 2:00pm

NARUC 2024 – 2025 President Remarks

&

Hot Stuff: Navigating Financial Risks of Wildfires Without Getting Burned

Come hear remarks from the NARUC 2024-2025 Incoming President!

The conversation will continue with session about how wildfires pose a growing nationwide risk to communities, utilities and consumers, with escalating financial impacts and affordability concerns. The challenges for utilities of operating safely in a changed environment and the significant financial implications of civil liability lawsuits are reverberating through utility bills. This panel discussion will explore the multifaceted financial risks associated with the increase in high consequence wildfires. Experts will delve into innovative strategies for balancing the financial responsibilities of utilities with the need to maintain consumer affordability. By examining current policies, consensus approaches for addressing wildfire risk, and considering future solutions, this interactive dialogue aims to identify actionable strategies addressing the increasing risk of catastrophic fires and their impacts on both utilities and consumers.

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers Critical Infrastructure Electric Reliability and Resilience Electricity Energy
Resources and the Environment Gas

SPEAKERS:

Ann Rendahl

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

Hon. Leo Asuncion

Hawaii Public Service Commission

Jane Cook

Vice President, Underwriting - Casualty

AEIGS Insurance Services, Inc.

Cindy Crane

CEO

PacifiCorp

Carolyn Turner

Executive Director

Nevada Rural Electric Association

Michael Wara

Sr. Research Scholar

Stanford University

Coffee and Connections

Tuesday, November 12

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

C1: Burning Questions: How Can State Commissions and Utilities Manage Wildfire Woes (Workshop)

Tuesday, November 12

2:30pm – 5:00pm

Burning Questions: How Can State Commissions and Utilities Manage Wildfire Woes (Workshop)

In this workshop attendees will learn about the themes and takeaways from the Regulators Roundtable sessions on the impacts of wildfire, specifically liability, reliability and affordability impacts, and participate as we begin work developing a regulators' workbook related to wildfires.

No additional fee but separate **registration** required.

Session Number: **C1**

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Electricity

Energy Resources and the Environment

C3: Federal - State Current Issues Collaborative

Tuesday, November 12

2:30pm – 5:00pm

Federal - State Current Issues Collaborative

The overarching topic for the collaborative is gas-electric coordination.

With Guest Speaker: First Vice President Tricia Pridemore (Georgia) Chair of the NARUC Taskforce on Gas-Electric Alignment for Reliability

FERC Members include:

Chairman Willie Phillips

Commissioner Mark Christie

Commissioner David Rosner

Commissioner Lindsay S. See

Commissioner Judy W. Chang

NARUC Members include:

- MACRUC: Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners
 - Vice Chair Kimberly M. Barrow, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
 - Commissioner Dennis P. Deters, Ohio Public Utilities Commission
- MARC: Mid-America Regulatory Conference
 - Chairman Jim Huston, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
 - Commissioner Katherine Peretick, Michigan Public Service Commission
- NECPUC: New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners
 - Chairman Philip L. Bartlett, II, Maine Public Service Commission
 - Commissioner Pradip Chattopadhyay, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
- SEARUC: Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
 - Commissioner Kimberly W. Duffley, North Carolina Utilities
 - Commissioner Art Graham, Florida Public Service Commission
- WESTERN: Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners
 - President Eric Anderson, Idaho Public Utilities Commission
 - Chair Patrick O'Connell, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

Session Number: **C3**

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Diversity

Education

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Gas

C2: Ethics, Artificial Intelligence and Regulation

Tuesday, November 12

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Ethics, Artificial Intelligence and Regulation

As artificial intelligence (AI) technology rapidly evolves, it presents complex legal and ethical challenges that demand a thorough understanding by legal professionals. This Continuing Legal Education (CLE) course offers an in-depth exploration of the intersection between AI, ethics, and regulatory frameworks. Attendees will gain insights into the ethical considerations of deploying AI systems, including issues of bias, transparency, and accountability. The course will also cover current and emerging regulations governing AI, including data privacy laws, and global regulatory trends. Through case studies and practical scenarios, participants will learn to navigate the legal landscape surrounding AI technologies and develop strategies to ensure compliance and ethical integrity in their practice. This CLE session aims to equip legal professionals with the knowledge and tools necessary to address the challenges and opportunities presented by AI in an increasingly complex regulatory environment.

CLE credits will be available for this session.

Session Number: **C2**

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Education

Electricity

Executive Management

Information Services

Law

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Erik Helland

Chair

(MODERATOR)

Iowa Utilities Commission

Jennifer Berrier

Executive Director

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Jason Stevenson

Account Executive

HData

C4: More than Just Stealing Copper

Tuesday, November 12

2:30pm – 3:30pm

More than Just Stealing Copper

As federal and state policymakers, including utility commissions, continue to promote greater consumer access to expanding communications infrastructure, service providers face the daily challenge of protecting these modern networks from increasing incidents of intentional theft or vandalism. Harm to these critical facilities disrupts vital service to communities and businesses, puts public safety at risk, and diverts limited resources to repairing service instead of upgrading or expanding service. This panel will discuss the growth in network theft and vandalism, quantify its reach and impact, highlight why it is more than just a property crime against the provider's network, and underscore how policymakers, including utility commissions, can help respond to these threats.

Session Number: **C4**

Room: **Platinum 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Telecommunications

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Karen Charles

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable

Todd Foreman

Director of Law Enforcement Outreach

Recycled Materials Association

Dan Gonzalez

Group Vice President, State Government Regulatory Affairs

Charter Communications

Kabuilay (Kubi) Karul

Regional General Manager

SA Recycling

Richard Mitchem

Supervisory Protective Security Advisor

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

Site Visit: Utility-Scale Battery Energy Storage System

Tuesday, November 12

2:30pm – 5:30pm

NARUC members are invited to learn more and experience how utility-scale battery energy storage systems (BESS) support the grid and the integration of renewables. Participants will see real data about the role battery storage has played in California's renewable energy-heavy grid in recent years, meet with a BESS utility operator and CAISO, and tour the AES Alamos BESS site. NARUC will provide transportation to and from the hotel.

Participation is open to all commissioners and commission staff.

Register in advance

NARUC thanks the U.S. Department of Energy – Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and American Clean Power for support with this event.

Session is open: ✘

2024 NARUC Annual Meeting and Education Conference Agenda

Wednesday, November 13

NARUC Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 13

7:45am – 8:45am

Room: **Grand Ballroom F**

Session is open: ✓

Sunny Sips Coffee

Wednesday, November 13

8:00am – 9:00am

Room: **Marquis Foyer**

Session is open: ✓

D1: Ensuring Cost Effective Transmission to Support Affordable State Electricity Policies

Wednesday, November 13

9:00am – 10:00am

Ensuring Cost Effective Transmission to Support Affordable State Electricity Policies

The challenge of maintaining affordable electricity rates for retail customers during a quickly changing electric power industry is formidable. Given that the cost of transmission has been increasing quickly as the industry transforms, this panel brings together state regulators, grid operators, and customer representatives to discuss the importance of proactive transmission planning and transmission cost controls and how they can be used to ensure a more cost-effective energy transition.

Session Number: **D1**

Room: **Northwest Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Andrew French

(MODERATOR)

Kansas Corporation Commission

Aubrey Johnson

Vice President, System Planning

MISO

Neil Millar

Vice President, Transmission

CAISO

Karen Onaran

President and CEO

ELCON

Hannes Pfeifenberger

Principal

Brattle Group

Hon. Pat Scully

Commissioner

Maine Public Service Commission

D2: Amping Up the Debate: Behind the Meter or Front and Center?

Wednesday, November 13

9:00am – 10:00am

Amping Up the Debate: Behind the Meter or Front and Center?

As demand for artificial intelligence continues to grow, so too has the need for the large-scale data centers that power AI. These data centers require massive amounts of power and operate around the clock, which will also have significant impacts on system reliability and customer costs. As data center owners begin planning for future construction, some are opting to locate behind the generator meter, an arrangement referred to as colocation. Regardless of how policymakers and grid operators opt to proceed with these challenges, all stakeholders agree that this transformational development must be done in a manner that ensures a reliable electric system.

This panel will explore the benefits and disadvantages of front of the meter versus behind the meter arrangements; analyze differences in RTO versus non-RTO states; and consider how regional location may affect costs and decision-making.

Session Number: **D2**

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Nuclear

Issues

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Kimberly Barrow

(MODERATOR)

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Vincent Duane

Principal

Copper Monarch LLC

Mason Emmett

Senior Vice President Public Policy

Constellation

Brian George

Global Energy Market Development and Policy, US Federal Lead

Google

Asim Haque

Sr. Vice President, Governmental & Member Service

PJM

Greg Poulos

Executive Director

Consumer Advocate of the PJM States

D3: Load Flexibility in Gas and Dual-Fuel Systems

Wednesday, November 13

9:00am – 10:00am

Load Flexibility in Gas and Dual-Fuel Systems

As gas utilities seek to maintain reliability and affordability while evolving to meet new challenges, the use of innovative demand-side technologies is crucial to meet customers' energy needs while lowering emissions. This panel will examine two burgeoning pathways. First, hybrid dual fuel heating systems provide heating while using both the electric and natural gas systems, thus assisting in reliability and system resilience during periods of significant energy demand. Second, gas load flexibility will become an increasingly essential non-pipeline alternative as gas utilities navigate both physical and political constraints on growth. This session will explore approaches that could support the scaling of these technologies while unlocking unique benefits to gas and electric customers. It will also review the differing incentives and challenges facing technology deployment in the gas and electric sectors and give an overview of recent pilot projects from diverse service territories across the nation.

Session Number: **D3**

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Energy Resources and the Environment

Gas

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Joseph Sullivan

(MODERATOR)

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Amy Cradic

Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Non-Utility Businesses, Strategy and External Affairs

New Jersey Resources

Ryan Kerr

Director, Emerging Technologies

GTI Energy

Jarred Metoyer

Senior Vice President / Managing Director

DNV

Essie Snell

Senior Director of Strategy and Product Marketing

Copper Labs

D4: Peering Into the Crystal Ball: Load Forecasting for the Future

Wednesday, November 13

9:00am – 10:00am

Peering Into the Crystal Ball: Load Forecasting for the Future

The foundation of electricity system planning is forecasting loads. With increasing electrification, distributed energy resources, and large loads, planners face a whole host of short- and long-term uncertainty and questions. This is mainly due to questions about the pace, time, and location of load growth and the advent of large data centers or medium and heavy-duty fleets that require more locationally and temporally granular utility resource planning. It is becoming crucial to understand not only how customers are impacted, but also which customers are affected. This session will describe best practices in distribution system load forecasting that can enhance decision-making.

This panel aims to achieve the following goals:

- Equip attendees with practical, real-world analytical techniques, tools, and examples of load forecasting that answer questions and reduce uncertainty.
- Provide an understanding of the kinds of locational and temporal granularity available in modern load forecasting and the benefits of specificity.

- Cover emerging load forecasting practices that can lead to better risk management, investment decisions, and future cost allocation.

Session Number: **D4**

Room: **Northeast Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Electric Reliability and Resilience

Electricity

Energy Resources and the Environment

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Katherine Peretick

(MODERATOR)

Michigan Public Service Commission

Britta Gross

Director of Transportation

EPRI EVs2Scale2030

Trina Horner

Vice President

Kevala

Alejandro Moreno

Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

U.S. Department of Energy

D5: This is Workforce Development Jeopardy!

Wednesday, November 13

9:00am – 10:00am

This is Workforce Development Jeopardy!

Watch panelists compete to answer questions about how we get more skilled employees in the utility sector. We all know that utilities offer great jobs, but what are innovative ideas for attracting new employees and managing the silver tsunami that has hit the industry? Each panelist will have the opportunity to showcase their knowledge by picking a category and competing to earn various amounts of money if they can answer the questions correctly. We have confidence in these panelists because they have experience, as the recipients of a \$5 million grant from the State of California to implement a statewide workforce development program focused on diversity, equity and inclusion that will result in trained workers who will

secure jobs in the utility industry throughout the State. This will help all utility industries, including the electric industry, have sufficient staff to respond to wildfires and various climate threats.

Session Number: **D5**

Room: **Platinum 3 & 4**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Consumers

Critical Infrastructure

Diversity

Education

Electricity

Gas

Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Darcie Houck

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

California Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Angelo Farooq

Chair

California Workforce Investment Board

Kazeem Omidiji

Director of Community Relations

San Diego Gas and Electric

Gil Rivas

Director of Distribution System

San Jose Water

Elizabeth Touns

Senior Manager of Employer Impact

Closing General Session: Building Things is Hard but Doable: Lessons Learned from Infrastructure Development Projects

Wednesday, November 13

10:15am – 11:30am

Building Things is Hard but Doable: Lessons Learned from Infrastructure Development Projects

Meeting the expected increased energy demand and changes in energy resources over the next decades will require a huge amount of building: new power plants, power lines, pipelines, charging stations, substations, and other infrastructure. Building things is hard, but doable! This session will convene experts of large utility infrastructure projects to share what works and doesn't as we meet our future utility infrastructure needs.

Room: **Marquis Ballroom**

Session is open: ✓

TOPICS:

Education Electric Reliability and Resilience Electricity Energy Resources and the Environment
Gas Pipeline Safety Telecommunications Washington Action Water

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Sarah Freeman

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

Chuck Marshall

Vice President of Planning

ITC Holdings

Tanya Moniz-Witten

President

San Jose Water

Jigar Shah

Director

US Department of Energy Loan Programs Office (INVITED)

John Williams

Senior Vice President of Technical Services and External Affairs

Southern Nuclear

Load Growth Workshop: Exploring Assumptions

and Near-Term Options

Wednesday, November 13

12:45pm – 4:30pm

Many states are witnessing unprecedented projections of growth in demand from data centers, electrification, and new manufacturing. But answers to questions of how much, when, and where – and the impacts of that uncertainty on electricity customers – are still emerging. Join this interactive workshop to explore key drivers of load growth and the opportunities and risks they create to electricity affordability, reliability, and state policy goals for economic development, greenhouse gas emissions, and equity. Participants will explore options to expand demand-side, supply-side, and grid resources to meet emerging needs, and how changes in planning processes can help unlock and accelerate deployment of valuable, near-term solutions.

The workshop will take place on-site immediately following programming for NARUC's Annual Meeting and Education Conference in Anaheim, California. **SEPARATE REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED, REGISTER EARLY.**

REGISTER HERE FOR LOAD GROWTH WORKSHOP

Room: **Grand Ballroom E**

Session is open: ✓

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