

NARUC Winter Policy Summit

February 25–28, 2024
Westin Washington Downtown
Washington, D.C.

Agenda

Filter by Topic

Attire: Sunday, Casual (Monday - Wednesday, Business Casual)

Closed Meetings = Meeting open to members only

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Registration Open 10:00 a.m. -6:30 p.m.

9:00 AM-10:30 AM

● Executive Committee

Room: Meeting Room 15
(Closed Meeting)

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

● **Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design**

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

Room: Rock Creek C

(Joint Meeting)

Evaluating IRA Incentives and Complementary Policies like Electricity Rate Design for Heat Pump Adoption

Evaluating IRA Incentives and Complementary Policies like Electricity Rate Design for Heat Pump Adoption

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) became law more than a year ago, with the potential to accelerate US economy-wide greenhouse gas emission reductions. Heat pumps are a key part of this effort, reducing the emissions associated with building heating. Using a DOE model, CLASP and Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) find that the IRA is an important start to this work, but that decarbonization of the building sector will require additional state-level policy initiatives, including electric rate design. Two of the authors of *Accelerating Heat Pump Adoption through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Complementary Policies* will present on their newly released modeling and analyses.

Moderator: Jamie Barber, Director Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Unit, Georgia Public Service Commission

Panelists:

Matt Malinowski, Director of Climate Research, CLASP

Mark LeBel, Senior Associate, RAP

Wally Nixon, Commissioner's Policy Advisor, Arkansas Public Service Commission

● **Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications**

Room: Rock Creek B

Business Meeting

10:00am - 11: 00am Business Meeting

Agenda - TBD

11:15 AM-12:15 PM

- **Staff Subcommittee on Energy Resources and the Environment**
- **Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest**
- **EV State Working Group**

Room: Rock Creek C
(Joint Meeting)

EV Hot Topics

What keeps Staff up at night regarding electric vehicles and transportation electrification plans? Turns out, a lot of things do. Listen to three experts share their hot takes on EV hot topics. First, get a NEVI formula program update. NEVI stations are starting to become operational in states like Ohio and New York, with more coming online in 2024. What do you need to know when it's your states turn to spend NEVI money? Second, Commissions are responsible for ensuring safe, affordable and reliable utility service. What about ensuring available, reliable and interoperable EV chargers that are incentivized or paid for using ratepayer funds? Hear best practices your Commission can implement to increase charger interoperability and reliability. Third, delve into the tension between equitable access to charging infrastructure and utility ownership. Should all ratepayers have to pay for utility owned or incentivized EV charging infrastructure, even if they can't afford to buy an EV themselves? If charger installation is left up to the market, is it fair if no chargers are built in low-income neighborhoods? Or should utility ownership only be allowed when there is a market failure for third party ownership, like for chargers low-income areas or multi-family housing?

Moderator: Steve Olea, Special Advisor to the Commission, Arizona Corporation Commission

Panelists:

Yok Potts, Director of Policy, Research & Industry Strategy, Smart Electric Power Alliance

Sejal Shah, Senior Advisor, Electric Utility Programs & Policies, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

Chris Villarreal, President, Plugged In Strategies

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- **Staff Subcommittee on Gas**

Room: Anacostia D/E

Minnesota Natural Gas Innovation Act Primer and Business Meeting

Minnesota Natural Gas Innovation Act Primer and Business Meeting

11:15 – 11:45 am: Minnesota Natural Gas Innovation Act Primer

11:45-12:15 pm: Gas Staff Subcommittee Business meeting

Minnesota's Natural Gas Innovation Act provides natural gas utilities in Minnesota the ability to develop innovative resources to reduce carbon emissions and advance Minnesota's greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals. The innovative resources could include strategic electrification of electric end-use equipment where natural gas is a primary or back up fuel source, renewable natural gas, biogas, green hydrogen, energy efficiency, carbon capture, district heating systems, or other pioneering resources. This primer will provide an overview of Minnesota's Natural Gas Innovation Act and inform participants how natural gas utilities can be utilized to assist states in meeting their greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. After the primer, the Staff Subcommittee will hold a business meeting to check-in members and discuss future meeting topics and schedules.

Panelists:

Audrey Partridge, Director of Policy, Center for Energy and Environment

Emily Suppes, Director, Regulatory, CenterPoint Energy

Joint Meeting

● Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues - Waste Disposal

Room: Potomac 3

Nuclear Energy and Spent Fuel Update

Nuclear Energy and Spent Fuel Update

This panel will feature policy leaders in the nuclear industry to share updates on advanced nuclear deployment efforts and discuss current events.

Moderator: Hon. Tim Echols, Georgia

Panelists:

Richard Donohoe, Managing Director, J.S. Held LLC

Dr. Sunil Felix, Nuclear Advisor, French Embassy

Paul Murray, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Spent Fuel and Waste Disposition

Doug True, Chief Nuclear Officer & SVP of Technical and Regulatory Services, NEI

● Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications

Room: Rock Creek B

Where Have All the Numbers Gone? Strategies for Telephone Number Conservation

In the past several years, the demand for new telephone numbers has been escalating, increasing demand to create new area codes. Since telephone numbers are a finite resource, some state commissions are seeking to use their numbering authority to develop strategies to conserve telephone numbers and delay the implementation of new area codes. This panel will discuss some of those state efforts. The panel will also feature industry representatives who will discuss their needs for telephone numbers. Representatives from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator will also discuss efforts to assist states in their number conservation efforts.

Moderator: Lara Walt, Senior Attorney Advisor, DC PSC

Panelists:

Michael Johnson, Utility Analyst, Maine PUC

Allyson Blevins, Sr Director, Numbering Policy & Regulatory Affairs, Sinch

Tara Farquhar, Manager, Industry Relations & Customer Education, NANPA

Karen Riepenkroger, T-Mobile

● **Washington Action**

Room: Meeting Room 16

(Closed Meeting)

12:15 PM-1:30 PM

Lunch On Your Own

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

● **Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management**

Room: Rock Creek B

Business Meeting & The Economics of Carbon Capture--Getting it Done!

1:30 - 1:45 pm: Subcommittee Business Meeting

- I. Subcommittee namechange discussion
- II. State Updates
- III. Wyoming Site Visit agenda overview

1:45 - 2:30 pm:

The Economics of Carbon Capture—Getting it Done!

The Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rules under Section 111 of the Clean Air Act and the recent COP 28 deal which calls on governments to speed up efforts to reduce coal use and accelerate technologies such as carbon capture and storage present a paradigm shift to the way carbon-emitting thermal power plants operate. This panel will explore the business case for making carbon emission abatement technologies economically viable, and will consider the role that incentives, off-takers, and carbon utilization opportunities might play in making carbon emissions reductions happen. Panel attendees will hear from experts about the barriers and opportunities for carbon capture, learn about potential business cases for carbon capture, and consider the role that CO₂ pipeline siting will play in supporting our nation's energy future.

Moderator: Hon. Mary Throne, Wyoming

Panelists:

Emily Connor, Program Manager, CO₂ Conversion, U.S. Department of Energy, Fossil Energy & Carbon Management

Dan Hancu, Ph.D., Division Director, Point Source Carbon Capture, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy & Carbon Management

● Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

Room: Anacostia D/E

Improving Customer Communications during Extreme Weather Events

Across the country, extreme weather is causing more frequent, more severe power disruptions, affecting millions of customers. During this session, experts will discuss the role of emerging technology, such as AI-enhanced situational intelligence, in supporting rapid, accurate communications outreach to customers before, during, and after outages.

Moderator:

Josh Haver, Idaho

Panelists:

William Lowry, VP Innovation and Strategic Development, Exelon

Michael Moody, President, NASUCA (National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates)

Elisa Henry, Chief Operating Officer, Message Broadcast

Di Soares, Outage and Emergency Communications Manager, Con Edison

● Subcommittee on Education and Research

Room: Meeting Room 15

● Staff Subcommittee on Electricity**● Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability and Resilience**

Room: Rock Creek C

Extreme Weather, Wildfires, and the Grid: Investing for a Resilient Future

Extreme weather events, wildfires, and other disasters are challenging the energy grid. The challenges are made more complicated by supply chain constraints and increasing security and cybersecurity threats. How can we work together to ensure that electric companies can provide customers with the resilient clean energy they want and deserve, while keeping an eye on affordability? What investments are needed and what policy changes at the state and federal level would support these investments?

Moderator: Emily Fisher, Vice President, Clean Energy and General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, EEI

Speakers:

Whitney Muse, Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation

Gabe Grosberg, Managing Director, North America Regulated Utilities, S&P Global

Sharla Artz, Security and Resilience Policy Area Vice President, Xcel Energy

Brandi Martin, Program Manager, Cybersecurity, Energy Security and Emergency Response (CESER), DOE

Joint Meeting

● Staff Subcommittee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

Room: Potomac 3

Supplier Diversity: Building an Inclusive Ecosystem Fireside Chat

Engage in a case study presentation that explores inclusive business practices, providing a holistic approach to both supplier diversity and capacity building. The session includes a fireside chat with leaders from the energy sector, sharing insights, strategies, and collaborative perspectives on what it means to be inclusive in building an inclusive ecosystem in Supplier Diversity and in the Energy Sector. Obtain valuable takeaways on navigating supplier diversity to foster inclusivity and economic impact in today's business landscape.

Moderators:

Tracey Lamb, Staff Subcommittee Co-Chair, Virginia State Corporation Commission

Dr. Erica Patterson, Philadelphia Gas Works

Panelists:

Paul Douglas, CEO, The JPI Group

Keely Hughes, Clean Energy Director, The JPI Group

1:30 PM-4:00 PM

Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative

Room: River Birch A

Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative Roadmap Development Kickoff Workshop

NARUC Winter Policy Summit attendees are invited to join the Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative's in-person Roadmap Development Kickoff Workshop in Washington, DC. During this kickoff workshop, NARUC and NASEO staff will solicit ANSC member input and insights using interactive facilitation strategies to generate a foundational list of considerations to support the development of an ANSC Advanced Nuclear Roadmap draft template. The ANSC plans to develop and refine the Advanced Nuclear Roadmap draft template document throughout 2024 for states to utilize, upon completion, as a model for developing their own pathways to accelerate the deployment of advanced nuclear energy in their respective states.

This workshop will focus on soliciting ANSC member feedback. Non-ANSC members are invited to participate as observers during the Workshop.

Separate registration is required for the workshop. Register here. (<https://forms.office.com/r/HMHH0mc7F>)

2:30 PM-4:00 PM

Power Sips and Connections

Room: TBD

2:45 PM-3:45 PM

● Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Room: Potomac 3

Get In, We're Buying Electric Vehicles: Electric Vehicle Equity Across Demographics

In 2023, 1.2 million electric vehicles were sold in the United States, but the people buying these vehicles were not necessarily representative of the country. As we move beyond early adopters into broader electric vehicle adoption, it's increasingly important to understand why some populations are purchasing fewer electric vehicles so that these policies do not perpetuate racial, gender, and socioeconomic inequities. How do we build infrastructure and incentives to encourage all people to adopt electric vehicles, and overcome barriers to access for certain populations? How do differing EV adoption rates impact factors like emissions, health outcomes, infrastructure development, and affordability? How can state regulators encourage utilities to pursue equitable access to EVs and EV infrastructure? How can states prioritize community engagement to promote equity?

Moderator:

Hon. Floyd McKissick Jr., North Carolina

Panelists:

Hon. Katherine Peretick, Michigan

Josh Cohen, Head of Policy, SWITCH

Antoine M. Thompson, CEO/Executive Director, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition

Brooke Williams, Sustainability and Equity Research, Southern Company – Research and Development

● Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Room: Anacostia D/E

Threat Briefing: Emerging Threats to Critical Infrastructure (Unclassified Briefing)

● Staff Subcommittee on Information Management

Room: Meeting Room 16

CIO Roundtable / Technologies at Commissions

Discussions on Technologies deployed at commissions that offer best practices for gaining efficiencies in your operations.

● Staff Subcommittee on International Relations

Room: Rock Creek A

Business Meeting

Business Meeting

- Introductions
 - Topics of Interest
 - Possible Programs and Speakers
-

● Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Room: Rock Creek B

Pipeline Safety Bill on Capitol Hill-Reauthorization. Are you fixin' to take a hookin'?

Hon. Chris Nelson, South Dakota, Co-Chair of the Washington Action Program will discuss NARUC congressional advocacy.

Christopher Mele, Legislative Director-Energy Policy will provide a Legislative Update on PHMSA/ Pipeline Safety Reauthorization.

(Closed Meeting)

(Commissioners and Staff Only)

2:45 PM-5:00 PM

● Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

Power Markets Simulation – Interactive Demonstration

Room: Meeting Rooms 10 & 11

Power Markets Simulation - Interactive Demonstration

Separate Registration Required

Commissioners and commissioner staff are invited to join a hands-on interactive learning session examining wholesale power markets. This effort is sponsored by the Staff Subcommittee on Electricity and is available at no charge to NARUC members who have registered for NARUC's 2024 Winter Policy Summit. Participants will have an opportunity to step into the shoes of power generators and electricity suppliers, experiencing first-hand how economic theory, and market design can aid in informing regulatory policy.

We are also looking for team captains to lead groups of 4-6 participants, responsible for using a Microsoft Surface tablet to submit bids during the each run of the market simulation. Captains will lead the discussion on bidding decisions with your team members before submitting your choices. No advance market or economic knowledge is needed to be a captain/co-captain. Please arrive promptly at 1:45pm for a brief orientation.

Facilitators

Dr. Lynne Kiesling, Northwestern University/University of Colorado Denver

Dr. Rimvydas Baltaduonis, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory/Gettysburg College

Separate registration (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HqV3IMjIFESV8RnLVmodtlp3o9fn5q5KltSoq_nQw0tUMThLWkZGMEIXTDdaT0QxNkJLNko1UU9IRS4u) required.

(Commissioners and Commission Staff Only)

4:00 PM-5:00 PM

● **Committee on Critical Infrastructure**

Room: Anacostia D/E

Deep Dive: Information Sharing and Cyber Threat Mitigation

Cyber threats to utility infrastructure continue to grow as do the potential impacts of a successful attack. A panel of cyber experts will focus on supply chain risks and offer insights into viable mitigation strategies and the regulator's role in information sharing.

Moderator:

Hon. Andrew Fay, Florida

Panelists:

Alyse Taylor-Anyikire, SLTT Program Manager, DOE CESER

Frank Harrill, Vice President – Security, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc.

Tyler Tiller, ETAC Security Advisor, Electricity Information Sharing & Analysis Center (E-ISAC)

Kiran Malone, Vice President, Government & Industry Affairs, Anterix

● Committee on International Relations

Room: Rock Creek A

Presentation: Impacts of International Instability on National Security and Business Meeting

Business Meeting

- Welcome and New Member Spotlight, Hon. Jason Holsman, Missouri
- Visit to Morocco Highlights, Hon. Jennifer Nicholson, Nova Scotia
- USAID Energy Priorities in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Dorian Mead, Energy Reform & Reconstruction Advisor, REFS/Center for Energy, Infrastructure, & Cities/Energy Division USAID/ Washington
- NARUC International Programs Update, Erin Hammel, Senior Director for International Programs, NARUC

Impacts of International Instability on National Security

Featured Speaker: Jonathon Monken, Principal, Converge Strategies, LLC

● Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

Room: Potomac 3

Business Meeting/ Accelerating Energy Justice through Transmission Planning and Development/ Justice40 and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Community Benefits Plan Holds The Key

Moderator:

Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Business Meeting

Accelerating Energy Justice through Transmission Planning and Development

Energy Policy is inextricably tied to Energy Justice, and NARUC leaders stand at a pivotal moment in history to unite these concepts.

Join us for this interactive and thought-provoking discussion featuring leaders from the American

Council of Renewable Energy (ACORE), focused on how improvements to planning and developing transmission, as well as greater community engagement and benefits agreements, are integral to the role of transmission in accelerating a just transition.

Panelists:

Elise Caplan, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, ACORE

Constance Thompson, Senior Vice President, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice, ACORE

Barbara Tyran, Advisor - Macro Grid Initiative, ACORE

Justice40 and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Community Benefits Plan Holds The Key

Supplier and Workforce Diversity, Minority Serving Institutions, Community Engagement
The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, represents a once in a generation Federal investment in clean energy, infrastructure, environmental mitigation, and community access for states, localities, and companies, among other funding recipients. Justice40, The White House initiative to ensure equity for disadvantaged communities in the clean energy transition, applies to the IIJA, among other funding programs. A key component of successful application for this funding is the Community Benefits Plan, which accounts for 20% of the score of applications.

Panelists:

Hon. Davante Lewis, Louisiana

Camille Moore, Senior Vice President External Affairs, American Association of Blacks in Energy

Leroy Nix, Vice President Strategic Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, Entergy

● **Staff Subcommittee on Executive Management**

● **Staff Subcommittee on Law**

Room: Meeting Room 16

Joint Meeting

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

Room: Rock Creek B

Nevada 2023 Annual Leak Survey Results/NAPRS Update and Outlook

Nevada 2023 Annual Leak Survey Results/NAPSR 2024 Update and Outlook

Paul Maguire, PUCN Eng Manager will present the leak data result of Nevada’s move to an annual leak survey for 2023, which is the first year the new regulation requirement

was in effect. This is an update from his presentation from the Feb-2022-NARUC Winter Meeting where he presented the new Nevada annual leak survey regulation that had been approved.

Kevin Speicher, NAPSRS, Current President of NAPSRS will provide an update and 2024 outlook on NAPSRS activities.

(Closed Meeting)

(Commissioners and Staff Only)

● **Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Water**

Room: Rock Creek C

Challenges Facing the Water Industry

Moderator: Hon. Charlotte Lane, West Virginia

Panelists:

- Shannon Becker, President, Aqua North Carolina
- Jay Kooper, Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary Middlesex Water Company
- David Choate, VP of Engineering, American Water

5:00 PM-6:30 PM

Welcome Reception - Attire: Casual

Monday, February 26, 2024

Registration Open 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

8:00 AM-9:15 AM

Commission Chairs Council

Room: Meeting Room 15

Newcomers Forum

Room: Anacostia D&E

This is NARUC 101 for new commissioners. Learn more about this unique 135-year-old Association, how it's structured, how it works, how to get involved, AND meet NARUC leaders.

8:45 AM-9:30 AM

Metro Morning Coffee

Foyer

9:30 AM-10:45 AM

General Session

Room: Potomac Ballroom

Featuring Robert Bryce, author, journalist, podcaster, and film producer.

Renewables, Hydrocarbons, and the Future of Global Energy and Power

10:45 AM-11:15 AM

Power Sips and Connections

Foyer

11:15 AM-12:15 PM

● Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac 1 & 2

Business Meeting

Business Meeting: Draft Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Hon. Kimberly Duffley, NC
2. State Roundtable: Notable Regulatory Developments in Your State – All Members
3. Substantive Resolutions – Hon. Kim Duffley, NC
4. Honorary Resolutions – Hon. Kim Duffley, NC
5. DOE Grid Liftoff Report – Maria Robinson, Director of the Grid Deployment Office, DOE
6. EPRI Lab Tours and Other Committee-Related Updates – Ivy Lynn, EPRI
7. CPI Update – Elliott Nethercutt, NARUC (*time permitting*)
8. Briefing on Interregional Transmission Planning Paper – Sarah Fitzpatrick, NARUC (*time permitting*)

● **Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment**

Room: Potomac 3

Repurposing Retired Power Plant Sites

States and utilities across the country are considering retiring aging power plants and repurposing them to generate cleaner or more efficiency resources. In addition to efficiency gains, emissions reductions, and improved flexibility, repurposing existing power plant sites can reduce community and economic impacts and ease siting and interconnection challenges. Retiring generation resources and repurposing sites introduces other challenges, like timing and resource adequacy. This panel will address the benefits and unique challenges that these projects face.

Moderator: Hon. Eric Blank, Colorado

Panelists:

Eric Cherniss, Founder and Head of Development, Elevate Renewables

Alex Glenn, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Florida and Midwest Regions, Duke Energy

Whitney Muse, Senior Policy Advisor, White House Office of Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation

● **Committee on Gas**

Room: Anacostia D/E

Natural Gas Infrastructure's Role in the Clean Energy Transition

Natural Gas Infrastructure's Role in the Clean Energy Transition

How can the nation's extensive natural gas infrastructure evolve to better integrate emerging low-carbon fuels solutions and move toward decarbonized energy systems? This panel will investigate cost-effective and scalable solutions for evolving the country's existing natural gas pipelines and storage facilities to reduce methane emissions, deliver low-carbon fuels like renewable natural gas and hydrogen, and integrate electric and gas end-use applications. Attendees will learn about GHG reduction options, key R&D programs, and resources available and needed to navigate this complex landscape.

Moderator: Hon. Kristie Fiegen, South Dakota

Panelists:

Erin Blanton, VP of Zero Emission Systems, GTI Energy

Heather Dziedzic, Vice President, Policy, American Biogas Council

Maria Garduna, Manager, Sustainability and Climate, Black Hills Energy

Joanne Mello, VP of Corporate Sustainability, Southern Company Gas

● **Committee on Telecommunications**

Room: Rock Creek A

Pole Attachments: What's Happening?

Billions of dollars in federal, state and local grant funding is being distributed to broadband service providers to expand high-speed internet service to the nation's unserved and underserved communities. Utility poles play a critical role in this expansion. Facilitating timely access to the poles they own is a hidden essential contribution that electric utilities will make to help close the digital divide. This panel will review the key role that utility poles play in advancing broadband deployment; highlight how broadband funding programs have impacted pole owner and attachment interaction; examine the state regulatory and legislative environment governing pole attachments and pole replacement programs; and discuss policy recommendations to help speed and enhance broadband connectivity efforts throughout the country.

Moderator: Hon. Karen Charles (MA DTC)

Panelists:

Hon. Mary Pat Regan (KY)

Marc Paul, Charter Communications

Mike Watson, Extenet

Aryeh Fishman, EEI

Nirali Patel, US Telecom

● Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Water

Room: Rock Creek A

Water Research and Innovation in Action

New challenges require new and innovative approaches. Whether it's developing new treatment technologies or financial management strategies – research and innovation are key to helping the sector evolve. This session provides an update from leading researchers and innovators on the state of research in the sector and how Commissions and Utilities can get more involved.

Moderator: Hon. Jeff Hughes, North Carolina

Panelists:

- Dr. Peter Grevatt, Chief Executive Officer, The Water Research Foundation
- Cheryl Norton, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, American Water

● Subcommittee/Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Room: Meeting Room 6

PHMSA Perspective on Reauthorization

Alan K. Mayberry, Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety within the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration will discuss the PHMSA Perspective on where we are at with Reauthorization.

(Closed Meeting)

(Commissioners and Staff Only)

12:15 PM-1:30 PM

Committee and Staff Subcommittee Luncheon

Room: Meeting Room 5

(Invitation Only)

Lunch On Your Own

1:45 PM-2:45 PM

● Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac 1 & 2

Growing Loads & Retiring Generation: Is the Planning Status Quo Good Enough?

Areas of the Country are seeing large, non-discrete new customer requests, sometimes representing 100's of MWs each, and occasionally representing thousands of MWs in the aggregate. This is occurring concurrently with the retirement of tens-of-thousands of MW's of thermal generation in some parts of America. Historically, planning processes in and out of organized wholesale markets work best when applied to steady, incremental load growth, and long lead times for generator retirements. This panel will explore what new can be done to ensure reliability and affordability, mitigate consumer risk, and accomplish public policy goals, all while confronting new demand and retiring supply.

Moderator: Hon. Kent Chandler, KY

Panelists:

Joshua Macey, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Chicago Law School

Megan Decker, Chair, Oregon Public Utility Commission

Simon Mahan, Executive Director, Southern Renewable Energy Association

Tim Burdis, Director- State Policy Solution, PJM Interconnection, LLC

● Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac 3

Keeping Track of Clean Energy Part III: Economy Wide Consistency

States and other energy users are adopting legally binding economy-wide requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, highlighting the need to establish a universally accepted system for securing energy users' claims about emissions from electricity use, natural gas consumption, and transportation. Advancements in tracking electric sector generation, consumption, and emissions could be the cornerstone of economy-wide emissions tracking. The panel will include experts on emissions tracking across sectors to begin a conversation about consistent economy-wide emissions tracking and validation.

Moderator: Hon. Abigail Anthony, Rhode Island

Panelists:

Tory Clark, Partner, Energy + Environmental Economics, Inc.

Todd Jones, Principal, US Markets, Center for Resource Solutions (CRS)

Wenbo Shi, PhD, Founder/CEO, Singularity Energy

● Committee on Gas

Room: Anacostia D/E

Business Meeting

Gas Committee Business Meeting

I. Con Edison's Certified Natural Gas Pilot (Kate Trischitta, Director of Commodity Operations, Con Edison)

II. Briefing on *Certified Natural Gas: Primer, Regulatory Landscape, and Contributions Toward a Low-Carbon Future* (Kiera Zitelman, Technical Director, NARUC)

III. Briefing on *The Current State of Policy Toward Line Extensions for Natural Gas Utilities* (Dr. Karl McDermott, Chairman, Finance, Accounting, and Economics, University of Illinois – Springfield)

IV. Honorary Resolution

IV. Update on Pipeline Reauthorization (Chris Mele, Legislative Director, Energy, NARUC)

V. State updates

● Committee on Telecommunications

● Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Room: Rock Creek B

(Joint Meeting)

The ACP is in Limbo: What do we do now?

The ACP is projected to run out of money by April or May. Congress may or may not act before the money is gone, and if it does, program changes may be required. This panel will discuss the way in which States can work with the FCC, Congress, and industry to ensure a soft landing for the program and its participants.

Moderator: Hon. Sarah Freeman (IN)

Panelists:

Angie Kronenberg, Incompas

Danielle Perry, TruConnect

Lynn Follansbee, US Telecom

David Avila, TracFone

Business Meeting: The Telecommunications Committee business meeting will follow this panel.

● Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Water

Room: Rock Creek A

Joint Business Meeting

- New member introductions
 - Proposed revisions of water uniform system of accounts
 - State updates
 - Organization Updates
 - Other Business
-

2:45 PM-3:15 PM

Power Sips and Connections

Foyer

3:15 PM-4:15 PM

General Session

Room: Potomac Ballroom

EPA Rules and Reliability: Meeting the Challenges

Confirmed Speaker

Joseph Goffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation,
Environmental Protection Agency

President, Hon. Julie Fedorchak, North Dakota

Hon. Eric Blank, Colorado

Hon. Jim Huston, Indiana

Hon. Charlotte Lane, West Virginia

4:30 PM-5:30 PM

Regionals

Rooms: MARC – Meeting Room 3
MACRUC – Meeting Room 4
Western – Meeting Room 5
NECPUC – Meeting Room 6
SEARUC – Meeting Room 8

Commissioner Emeritus Reception

Room: Meeting Room 10

Staff Power Hour

Rock Creek C
(Commission Staff Only)

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Registration Open 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

8:00 AM-9:15 AM

Commissioner-Only Breakfast

Room: Rock Creek C

8:45 AM-9:30 AM

Metro Morning Coffee

Foyer

9:30 AM-10:45 AM

General Session

Room: Potomac Ballroom

Our Tuesday morning general session features:

Senator Joe Manchin, III (D-WV), Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Hon. Tammy Cordova, Nevada

The Hon. Willie Phillips, Chair, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Patricia Poppe, Chief Executive Officer, PG&E Corporation

Katherine Blunt, Energy Reporter at *The Wall Street Journal*, Author, *California Burning*

Featuring

Senator Joe Manchin, III (D-WV), Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

FERC Chairman, The Hon. Willie Phillips

Hon. Tammy Cordova, Nevada

Patricia Poppe, Chief Executive Officer, PG&E Corporation

Katherine Blunt, Energy Reporter at *The Wall Street Journal*, Author, *California Burning*

10:45 AM-11:15 AM

Power Sips and Connections

Foyer

11:15 AM-12:15 PM

● **Committee on Electricity**

● **Committee on Gas**

Room: Potomac 1 & 2

Joint Meeting

Thinking Fast and Slow about the Energy Transition

Part 1: Fireside Chat: Exploring the Latest Trends in the Energy Transition and the Evolving Role of State Utility Regulators

Moderator: Hon. Tammy Cordova, NV

Speakers:

Katherine Blunt, Energy Reporter at The Wall Street Journal, Author, California Burning

Patti Poppe, Chief Executive Officer, PG&E Corporation

Katherine Blunt has covered power, renewable energy, and utilities for The Wall Street Journal since 2018. Much of her work has focused on wildfires, drought and other challenges facing utilities in the West. Her coverage of PG&E was a finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting and earned a Gerald Loeb award, the highest honor in business reporting. She is the author of "California Burning: The Fall of Pacific Gas and Electric and What it Means for America's Power Grid." During this fireside chat, Commissioner Cordova, Ms. Poppe, and Ms. Blunt will discuss the latest developments of the energy transition and explore the evolving role of state regulators.

Part 2: The Role of Natural Gas in the Energy Transition – How Long Is the Bridge?

Moderator

Hon. Kimberly Duffley, NC

Speakers

Toby Rice, President & CEO, EQT Corporation

Jason Grumet, CEO, American Clean Power Association

According to the Energy Information Administration, natural gas-fired generation currently provides approximately 40% of total electricity net generation. As many states transition toward meeting clean energy goals, is there a case for gas as a climate solution? How does natural gas compare to alternatives in life-cycle emissions, reliability attributes, and total costs? What other factors should be considered, including the viability of carbon capture and storage? This 30-minute discussion will involve two differ-

ent perspectives about the future of natural gas for electric generation and its role in the energy transition.

● Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac 3

Business Meeting

Introductions - Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Presentation: Modeling of the Impacts of EPA's Proposed Power Plant Rules Under 111(d)

How is the electric system expected to respond to EPA's proposed rule to regulate GHG emissions from power plants and what are models showing as least cost compliance options for the U.S. power fleet? What are the differences in assumptions across various modeling efforts and how do outcomes change when key assumptions are modified? What are the costs and benefits, reliability implications, and overall findings from the modeling?

Moderator: Hon. Stacey Paradis, Illinois

Presenter: Amanda Levin, Director, Policy Analysis, Natural Resources Defense Council

Mary Kilmarx Award Presentation - Hon. Charlotte Mitchell

Resolutions - Hon. Abigail Anthony, Rhode Island

Center for Partnerships in Innovation Update - Danielle Sass Byrnett, Director, Center for Partnerships & Innovation, NARUC

● Committee on Telecommunications

Room: Rock Creek B

Improving BEAD by Heeding the Lessons of RDOF

One third of the budgeted RDOF award money will not make its way to broadband buildout because the winning bidders voluntarily gave up award areas or the FCC found those winning bidders incapable of fulfilling their commitment. This experience offers a cautionary tale for the upcoming and much larger BEAD broadband buildout effort. This panel will discuss those RDOF problems and ways to avoid them in BEAD.

Moderator: Hon. Chris Nelson (SD)

Panelists:

Carol Matthey, Matthey Consulting

Steve Coran, Lerman Senter

Mike Romano, NTCA

Dr. Tamarah Holmes, Virginia Office of Broadband

● **Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Water**

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

Room: Rock Creek A

(Joint Meeting)

Innovative Rate Making

Come listen to a series of short concise presentations on innovative and alternative water rate setting and customer communication approaches occurring across the country. Each speaker will frame the problem, the innovation addressed, the main features of the approach, measurable results, and main challenges. Following each presentation, audience members will have the opportunity to provide feedback.

Moderator: Hon. Márquez Peterson, Arizona

Panelists:

- Jim Jenkins, American Water, SVP Regulatory Service and Chief Regulatory Officer
 - Aaron Silas, Director of Regulatory Operations, Central States Water
 - Kim Joyce, Vice President, Regulatory & Government Affairs, Essential Utilities
 - Patrick Cicero, Pennsylvania Consumer Advocate
 - Laura Fay, Bureau Director, Wisconsin Public Service Commission
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EV Workshop: How Can the Grid Meet Medium-Heavy Duty Vehicle Charging Needs in 2024 and in 2030s

Meeting Room 5

(Open to Commission Staff Only)

Part 1: Near-Term Challenges and Promising Approaches

Register for this Workshop (<https://forms.office.com/r/9ENJg2W8kA>)

12:15 PM-1:30 PM

Lunch On Your Own

1:45 PM-2:45 PM

● Committee on Electricity

● Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac Ballroom

Joint Meeting

TED is Talking DER

How and to what extent could DER provide value to all customers, and not just those who own the DER. There can be a tension between DER, which seeks to optimize opportunity to earn and maximize revenue, and the general body of customers. In theory, DER could be integrated into the electric system and operated in a way that mitigates upward rate pressure, and maybe even reduces costs, for all ratepayers. But, in practice, is this happening?

- Are customers willing to invest their own money in an asset that will provide operational cost savings for the benefit all ratepayers?
- Is anyone planning for large load growth using customer owned DER or shared assets in a way that ensures benefits to all ratepayers?
- How can shared assets or DER be made available to income qualified customers to directly reduce their cost of electricity while also providing benefits to the electric system?
- Can shared assets or DER provide resilience benefits to the electric system and all ratepayers?
- What can Commissions do if there are local, city or county planning and zoning codes that hinder customer-owned DER adoption?
- Can states, with differing decarbonization goals, utilize customer owned DER to create regional emission reductions?

Co-Moderators

Hon. John Hammond, Idaho

Hon. Angie Hatton, Kentucky

Panelists:

Jen Downing, Loan Programs Office, DOE

John Greene, Policy and Regulatory Affairs Manager, Piclo

Lindsay Griffin, Regulatory Director, Northeast, Vote Solar

Philip B. Jones, Executive Director, Alliance for Transportation Electrification (ATE)

Anne McKibbin, Principal Director, Policy, Elevate

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- **Committee on Gas**
 - **Committee on Critical Infrastructure**
 - **Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest**

Room: Anacostia D/E
Joint Meeting

Beyond Extreme Weather: Challenges to Ensuring Resilience for Gas Infrastructure and Lessons Learned from Third-Party Damage

Beyond Extreme Weather: Challenges to Ensuring Resilience for Gas Infrastructure and Lessons Learned from Third-Party Damage

Protecting natural gas infrastructure from non-weather related, third-party damage events is of paramount importance for providing safe and reliable service to customers. The panel will share lessons learned by a natural gas utility following a recent outage incident that cut off gas to almost 40,000 customers. The panel will also share insights from Nevada's recent successes in improving its Call Before You Dig program and what a successful resiliency program looks like. Attendees will also learn how gas utilities can engage and communicate with community members to build a collaborative approach to gas system resiliency.

Moderator: Hon. Ann Rendahl, Washington

Panelists:

Alicia Gibbs, Director of Natural Gas, Avista

Max Kieba, Director, Office of Pipeline Safety – Program Development Division, US DOT, PHMSA

Paul Maguire, PE, P. Eng, Engineering Manager, Nevada Public Utilities Commission

● **Committee on Telecommunications**

Room: Rock Creek B

Preemption and Reclassification

The FCC's plan to reclassify broadband as a Title II service includes a proposal to preempt state regulations to create a single regulatory regime. This panel will explore the current status of broadband regulation and how that might change under Title II. It will review the proposed changes and evaluate the need to standardize regulation.

Moderator: Hon. Tim Schram (NE)

Panelists:

Harold Feld, Public Knowledge
Daniel Lyons, Boston College Law/AEI
Thomas M. Johnson, Jr., Wiley Rein LLP
Matt Wood, Free Press

● Committee/Staff Subcommittee on Water**● Committee on International Relations**

Room: Rock Creek A
(*Joint Meeting*)

International Approaches to Water Economic Regulation and Management

Water pricing, capital investment, and quality of service are important issues across the globe. While the overarching issues facing different areas may be similar, the economic regulatory approaches in place to address these issues can vary significantly across states as well as across countries. Come listen to water professionals with first-hand knowledge of the water economic regulatory framework in countries outside of the United States talk about their experiences – what’s the same, what’s different, and most importantly, what lessons can we learn that could inform our own work.

Moderator: Hon. Jennifer Nicholson, Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

Panelists:

- Karine Rouge, CEO, Veolia North America
 - Hon. Jeffrey Hughes, North Carolina
 - Sam Huston, Division Chief, Water and Sanitation Technical Services, REFS/Center for Water Security, Sanitation and Hygiene, U.S. Agency for International Development
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EV Workshop: How Can the Grid Meet Medium-Heavy Duty Vehicle Charging Needs in 2024 and in 2030s

Meeting Room 5
(*Open to Commission Staff Only*)

Part 2: Longer Term Capacity Needs, Data, and Planning

Register for this Workshop (<https://forms.office.com/r/9ENJg2W8kA>)

2:45 PM-3:15 PM

Power Sips and Connections

Foyer

3:15 PM-4:30 PM

General Session

Room: Potomac Ballroom

A Dialogue with the Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Followed by

Pathways to Decarbonization: Part I

Achieving a net zero economy while serving customers affordably and reliably will require massive investments in new technologies and resources while also maximizing and maintaining the value of existing infrastructure. With policy timelines ticking and regulations looming, utilities and state regulators are making choices today that have long-term impacts on the system and ratepayers. This general session will feature a dynamic discussion among leaders of the electric, gas, and nuclear industries. They will advocate on behalf of their industry's perspectives on the comparative strengths, advantages, and disadvantages of renewable, nuclear, and gas technologies. While doing so, they will shine a light on tradeoffs regulators inherently make in resource choices and discuss headwinds such as supply chains, workforce, permitting challenges, resource availability, and land-use battles regulators should consider.

Facilitator

Hon. Ann Rendahl, Washington

Participants

Jeffrey Lyash, President & CEO, Tennessee Valley Authority, and NEI Chair

Jerry Norcia, Chairman & CEO, DTE Energy, and, Chairman, AGA Board of Directors

Pedro J. Pizarro, President and CEO, Edison International, Chairman Edison Electric Institute

Part 2 will be held during the Summer Policy Summit in July.

Pathways to Decarbonization (Part 1)

7:30 PM-9:00 PM

NARUC Leadership/Sponsor Reception

Location will be announced on the invitation.

(Invitation Only)

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Registration Open 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

7:30 AM-9:15 AM

Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting

Room: Anacostia D/E

8:45 AM-9:30 AM

Metro Morning Coffee

Foyer

9:30 AM-11:00 AM

General Session

Room: Potomac Ballroom

A Day in the Life of an Operator in Crisis

This unique session will highlight the challenges of gas-electric coordination in a real-world way. The panel features experts representing five different perspectives: Producers, pipeline operators, grid operators, investor owned gas/electric utility, competitive generator. The format incorporates a scenario where the experts will be asked tough questions about how they would approach a challenging situation. Attendees will gain a greater appreciation of the challenges and complications of making electric and gas systems work, especially in a crisis.

Moderator:

Hon. Tricia Pridemore, Georgia

Participants:

Scott Hallam, President and COO, Boardwalk Pipelines

Tori Kuykendall, VP Commercial Risk, Data, Regulatory and Market Analysis, ConocoPhillips

Bruce Rew, Senior Vice President of Operations, SPP

Sam Siegel, Vice President, Wholesale Strategy, Luminant

Scott Teel, SVP Operations, Southern Company

Cyber Baselines: What We Need to Know

Hon. Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, North Dakota

Puesh Kumar, Director, Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security and Emergency Response at DOE

A Day in the Life of an Operator in Crisis

Cyber Baselines: What We Need to Know

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Interactive Workshop

Room: Rock Creek

Virtual Power Plants: Insights on Planning and Implementation

NARUC, with support from the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy and Loan Programs Office and from the Smart Electric Power Alliance, is hosting an inclusive, interactive workshop to help state officials plan for, assess, and implement Virtual Power Plants (VPPs). This workshop will cover practical approaches and lessons learned from recent implementations and extend the work and content from two previous VPP workshops.

The workshop will feature:

1. Presentations from utilities and their VPP solutions partners who are currently operating VPPs and VPP programs.
2. Commentary from utility commissioners, state energy offices, and other state agencies on how they have worked with utilities and others to assess and approve (or deny) VPP plans and projects.
3. An interactive session where participants develop a detailed outline for a "VPP playbook" for state agencies and utilities.

SEPARATE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED, REGISTER EARLY BELOW.

Click here to register. (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HqV3IMjIFESV8RnLVmodtEltxpZ9_itJh3bFSnz965tUQTdRRFgzNEtWNVVJSjkyRIVTQURaS0FIQi4u)

1:30 PM-5:00 PM

Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission

Room: Anacostia D/E

Open to the public. No separate registration required. **Learn more here.** (<https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/news/ferc-naruc-joint-task-force-transmission-announces-eighth-meeting>)

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