



N A R U C
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

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Contact: Regina L. Davis, 202-898-9382, rdavis@naruc.org

Montana's Kavulla Testifies on Modernization of PURPA at Energy Hearing

WASHINGTON—Vice Chair of the Montana Public Service Commission, Travis Kavulla, testified at the January 19, 2018, U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Energy hearing, "Legislation Addressing LNG Exports and PURPA Modernization."

Established in 1978 as the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, those policies are now being reexamined in the context of current standards and best practices. Known as *H.R. 4476, PURPA Modernization Act of 2017*, the bill was introduced by Rep. Tim Walberg (MI). Kavulla, who will represent the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, notes in filed testimony that the current policy "takes a dated approach to renewable energy" and that NARUC supports "modernization efforts that will encourage competition as a means toward renewable development."

NARUC addressed the need for PURPA reform in its [recent letter](#) to FERC, which outlined three propositions to help modernize the law. Under the draft bill, of most importance to NARUC are the provisions to allow for competitive processes instead of the mandatory purchase obligations under PURPA that apply administrative forecast pricing.

The legislative text from the hearing may be found at <http://bit.ly/2FLcTII>. See Kavulla's testimony at <http://bit.ly/KavullaPURPA>. A webcast of the hearing is available at <http://bit.ly/2mTpMbH>.

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About NARUC

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