

**For Immediate Release**

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**NATIONAL COUNCIL  
ON ELECTRICITY POLICY**

## **Paul Kjellander Honored with National Council on Electricity Policy Brinch Award for Collaboration in Public Service**

**WASHINGTON** (October 23, 2023) — Paul Kjellander, administrator at the Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy, was awarded the Jan Brinch Award for Collaboration in Public Service by the National Council on Electricity Policy at its Annual Meeting on September 27 and 28, 2023.

The Brinch Award was established by NCEP in 2019 in memory of Jeannette “Jan” Brinch, to honor public servants who similarly view their positions as opportunities to bring people together to accomplish public interest goals in the electricity sector. Brinch energetically facilitated NCEP from 2014 to 2018. Jan’s family created a [video dedication](#) in her honor.

Kjellander’s outstanding history of public service with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, NCEP and the state of Idaho has engendered his nomination for the 2023 award. Starting with his appointment to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission in 1999, Kjellander has shown great commitment to public service, specifically in the realm of enhancing collaboration between federal and state entities.

He has served as president of both NARUC (2020-2021) and NCEP (2018-2021), providing him with a unique understanding of their respective missions, challenges and goals. His background also serves to make him robustly aware of the complexities of the electricity issues facing the United States.

During his time as NARUC president, Kjellander emphasized the need for constructive dialogue and engagement among all parties by launching a multi-year theme focused on “Connecting the Dots.” This theme explored the many different emerging technologies and innovations affecting electricity, natural gas, telecommunications and water/wastewater utilities.

In 2021, Kjellander played a major role in establishing the Federal-State Taskforce on Electric Transmission. This effort displayed his understanding and values surrounding the need for cooperation. Members of this task force continue to explore transmission-related issues to identify and realize the benefits that transmission can provide, while ensuring that the costs are allocated efficiently and fairly.

Upon receiving the award, Kjellander remarked, “It is an honor to have my name mentioned in the same sentence as Jan Brinch. To be a recipient of an award in her name is humbling. She worked tirelessly to bring people together to help shape the dialogue on important issues impacting the energy sector. And the work of NCEP continues to build on her efforts. I was better for having known Jan and hope that my remaining years of work in this space will continue to mirror her ‘honest broker’ approach.”

“It has been my pleasure to work with Paul Kjellander during his tenure at NARUC and NCEP and saw his commitment to cooperation and public service firsthand,” said NCEP President and North Carolina Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland. “He is most deserving of this honor and

has consistently embodied the ideals and character represented by the Jan Brinch Award. To learn more about NCEP, visit [www.naruc.org/ncep](http://www.naruc.org/ncep).

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### **About NCEP**

The National Council on Electricity Policy is a platform for all state-level electricity decision makers to share and learn from diverse perspectives on the evolving electricity sector. Our community includes over 200 representatives from public utility commissions, air and environmental regulatory agencies, governors' staffs and state energy offices, legislatures, and consumer advocates. We are an affiliate of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Center for Partnerships and Innovation, with support from the U.S. Department of Energy.