

2025 Annual Meeting and Education Conference

Session Key

CLOSED — Closed to non-members (Commission members only)

OPEN — Open to all registrants

Saturday, November 8

NARUC Executive Committee

Saturday, November 8

4:30pm – 6:00pm

Room: **Alki Boardroom-4th Flr Pike
St Tower**

CLOSED

Executive Committee

(Invitees Only)

Sunday, November 9

CCIF Networking Breakfast & Kickoff Forum: Energy Security Through Resource Adequacy

Sunday, November 9

7:30am – 9:15am

Room: **Metropolitan A-3rd Flr**

OPEN

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

The Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF) Kickoff will feature state commissioners, consumer advocates, and electric company representatives to introduce CCIF's new topic, ENERGY SECURITY THROUGH RESOURCE ADEQUACY: Resources and Regulation to Reinforce Reliability, Resilience, and Reasonable Rates for Customers.

Separate registration required (no fee but space limited): **REGISTER HERE**

Networking Breakfast: 7:30 – 8:00 AM (buffet sponsored by Edison Electric Institute)

Program: 8:00 – 9:15 AM (in collaboration with NARUC Staff Subcommittees)

Members-Only Workshop (How to Advance Affordability in an Era of Increasing System Costs)

Sunday, November 9

9:30am – 12:30pm

Room: **Ravenna-Union Tower 3rd Flr**

CLOSED

Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

Staff Subcommittee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

Members-Only Workshop

(Separate registration required.)

Click [here](#) to register.

Customer bills have been rising across the country, leading to concerns that affordability will continue to decline as investments are needed to accommodate load growth, modernize the grid, improve resilience, and meet a range of state priorities. Public utility commissions are grappling with how to manage these costs and improve affordability for all customers while ensuring safe and reliable service. During this interactive workshop, participants will explore cost drivers in and across states and discuss challenges that commissions face in assessing and controlling costs for customers. Participants will discuss a range of strategies available to better identify, evaluate, and manage these costs.

This is a closed session, for NARUC and NASUCA members only. Due to space constraints, separate, free registration is required in advance.

Sunday, November 9

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications

Consumer Benefits from Line Extension Programs

Sunday, November 9

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Cedar-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Gas

Staff Subcommittee on Water

Affordability is a foundational pillar of utility service. One of the key contributors to affordability are utility line extension programs. These programs, rooted in foundational economic principles of utility regulation, seek to provide low-cost utility service while expanding service offerings to both current and future customers. This program will examine the foundations of line extension programs, and how utilities currently leverage those programs to provide affordable service to consumers.

SPEAKERS:

Stephanie Wimer

Counsel to Chairman DeFrank

(MODERATOR)

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Juan Alvarado

Managing Director, Energy Analysis

American Gas Association

Geoff Marke

Chief Economist

Missouri Office of the Public Counsel

Jason Stephenson

Vice President, Regulatory Policy & Affairs

American Water

Lunch on Your Own

Sunday, November 9

11:30am – 1:00pm

OPEN

Washington Action

Sunday, November 9

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Room: **Alki Boardroom-4th Flr Pike
St Tower**

CLOSED

Washington Action Program

Sunday, November 9

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Room: **Cedar-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

The Pipeline Safety Trust (PST) is dedicated to advancing pipeline safety through education, advocacy, and partnerships that strengthen collaboration among regulators, industry leaders, and the public.

Executive Director **Bill Caram** will share PST's vision for a future with zero pipeline incidents and discuss the vital role of constructive engagement between state and federal pipeline safety officials, infrastructure owners and operators, and the communities they impact.

His presentation will highlight key issues such as federal pipeline safety reauthorization, updates on Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) rulemakings, developments in CO₂ and hydrogen pipelines, customer methane detection and advanced leak detection technologies, transparency in safety data, and other ongoing PST initiatives aimed at fostering safer and more sustainable energy infrastructure.

SPEAKERS:

Bill Caram

Executive Director
Pipeline Safety Trust

Flexible Interconnection: Excess Capacity Most of the Time

Sunday, November 9

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability and Resilience

What does "no capacity" really mean?

Utilities oftentimes say there is "no capacity" when what they really mean is under worst case scenario modeling a specific feeder may reach it's rated limit for several hours on the hottest days of the year. These "capacity constrained" feeders likely have ample capacity for much of the year, especially during certain hours of the day.

Learn about how utilities, customers, and regulators are developing "Win, Win, Win" solutions to connect loads to the grid faster using interim excess capacity during most of the year while future system upgrades are completed. Flexible interconnection is a fast and low cost way to connect load quickly through increased communication, transparency, and coordination between utilities and customers.

Customer: "Since you have capacity during most of the year, can we connect and use that power during those times of excess capacity?" Utility: "Yes, please sign this flexible interconnection agreement."

SPEAKERS:

Poorani Ramachandran

Director, Office of Technical and
Regulatory Analysis

(MODERATOR)

Public Service Commission,
District of Columbia

Alex Collins

Manager, DERMS Execution &
Operations

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Bill Ehrlich

Charging Policy Lead, North
America

Tesla

Mike Rowand

Senior Advisor

Electric Power Research
Institute (EPRI)

**Subcommittee and Staff Subcommittee on Education and
Research**

Sunday, November 9

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Room: **Medina-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Subcommittee on Education and Research

1:00 pm Welcome & Roll Call

**1:05 pm Approval of July
23, 2025 Minutes**

1:10 pm Updates

- **Center for Partnerships & Innovation Update**
- **NARUC Professional Development**
 - NARUC Rate School
 - Online courses
 - NARUC New Commissioner Regulatory Orientation (NCRO)
- **2025 Summer Internships**

**1:50 pm Any Other
Business**

2:00 pm Adjourn

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Lea Marquez Peterson

(MODERATOR)

Arizona

Hon. Andrew Fay

Commissioner

Florida PSC

Erin Hammel

Senior Director, Professional
Development

NARUC

Danielle Sass Byrnett

Senior Director, Ctr for Partnerships &
Innovation

NARUC

Telephone Numbering after the NANC

Sunday, November 9

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications

For 30 years, the North American Numbering Council (NANC) provided a forum for state commissions, service providers, and other stakeholders to discuss telephone numbering issues and provide input to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding preservation of the North American Numbering Plan. The discontinuance of the NANC raises questions on how state commissions and other stakeholders can resolve challenges that arise regarding telephone number conservation and provide meaningful input to the FCC on possible solutions. This roundtable is designed to obtain input from state commissions, industry, and other stakeholders regarding such questions as:

1. What type of collaborative process, if any, would be beneficial for state commissions, industry, and other stakeholders to have to address number conservation issues?
2. What role should state commissions, industry, and other stakeholders have in numbering conservation going forward?
3. What is the importance of geographic numbers in an IP world?

4. What changes to FCC numbering administration rules are necessary?
5. Are IP numbering rules necessary?

SPEAKERS:

Lara Walt

Attorney Advisor

(MODERATOR)

District of Columbia Public Service
Commission

Demand Roundtable

Sunday, November 9

1:15pm – 3:45pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

The goal of the Demand Roundtable is to bring together a rotating group of seven Public Utility Commissioners, seven large electricity customers, and seven utility/regional transmission operators to discuss the critical issues surrounding increased energy demand over the next decade. The Roundtables aim for open, transparent discussion to foster dialogue that allows state commissioners to better understand energy demand associated with re-shoring, electrification, and data center growth, and what that will mean for individual states.

SPEAKERS:

Jason Berry

Senior Director of Energy & Utilities at
Terawatt Infrastructure

Terawatt

Stacey Crowley

Vice President of External Affairs
CAISO

Hon. Kim David

Commissioner

Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner

Nate Hill

Principal Energy Policy

Amazon Web Services

Lon Huber

Senior Vice President of Integrated
System Planning and Chief Planning
Officer

Xcel

Hon. Jehmal Hudson

Commissioner

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Kevin Hughes

Sr. Vice President, Public Affairs

STACK Infrastructure

David Johns

Regional President

Veolia Water Idaho, Inc

Hon. Mike La Rosa

Chair

Florida Public Service Commission

Hon. Ann McCabe

Commissioner

Illinois Commerce Commission

John McFarland

Vice President, Chief Commercial and

Customer Officer

Portland General Electric

Cheryl Norton

Executive Vice President and Chief

Operating Officer

American Water

Tara Oglesby

Vice President, Energy Solutions and

Business Development

Ameren

Hon. Katherine Peretick

Michigan Public Service Commission

Clift Pompee

Vice President of Power & Emissions

Compass Datacenters

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair

Georgia

Shay Reed

Assistant General Merchandising

Manager

Costco

Hon. Ann Rendahl

Commissioner

Washington Utilities and Transportation
Commission

Clay Rikard

VP, System Planning

Southern Company

Jeff Riles

Director of Energy Markets

Microsoft

Hon. Kevin Thompson

Chair

Arizona Corporation Commission

Mary Throne

General Counsel

Prometheus

Dan Woodfin

Vice President of System Operations

Ercot

Emerald Roast and Networking

Sunday, November 9

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd**

Flr

OPEN

Crossed Wires: Managing Interference Between High-Voltage Transmission Lines and Pipelines

Sunday, November 9

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Room: **Cedar-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

As the nation advances major grid upgrades — including higher-voltage lines and new reconductoring technologies — concerns are growing about an increase in the interference threat with the extensive underground pipeline network. This panel will explore where and how electric transmission and pipeline systems interact, examine the technical and safety risks associated with electromagnetic and construction-related interference, and discuss strategies for coordination among utilities, regulators, and operators. Participants will gain insights into mitigation practices, policy considerations, and collaborative approaches to ensure both grid reliability and pipeline safety.

SPEAKERS:

Commissioner Sheri Haugen-Hoffart

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

North Dakota Public Service

Commission

Cal Chapman, P.E.

President

Chapman Engineering, Inc.

Gordie Halt

Technical Solutions Sr. Staff Engineer

ITC

Cory Mikles

Supervisor – Asset Integrity &
Engineering

Corrosion Services Engineering

Keeping Customer Rates Affordable

Sunday, November 9

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Coal and Carbon Innovation

Subcommittee on Coal and Carbon Innovation

Utilities and regulators face difficult challenges as they navigate the evolving energy landscape and work to strike the right balance between affordability, reliability, and other objectives. In particular, concerns about both customer costs and reliability are increasing. According to the Energy Information Administration, retail electricity prices have increased faster than the rate of inflation over the past three years. From a reliability standpoint, recent federal actions as well as utilities and grid operators have delayed fossil-fuel retirements in response to rapid load growth. This panel will examine how utilities, regulators, and grid operators are addressing affordability and reliability challenges and provide insights on balancing these two objectives.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Edward Lodge

(MODERATOR)

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Jennifer Curran

SVP, Planning and Operations
MISO

Don Gulley

President and CEO
Big Rivers Electric Corporation

Walt Trierweiler

Public Counsel

Staff Subcommittee and Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity ****Closed Meeting****

Sunday, November 9

2:30pm – 3:30pm

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

CLOSED

Staff Subcommittee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

The Staff Subcommittee and Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity will hold a closed meeting for its members.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Maida Coleman

(MODERATOR)

Missouri Public Service
Commission

Emerald Roast and Networking

Sunday, November 9

3:30pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Sunday, November 9

4:00pm – 5:00pm

OPEN

A Fusion of Expertise: Can Nuclear Operators Bridge the Gap to SMR Adoption in New Fleets?

Sunday, November 9

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Redwood-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Subcommittee on Nuclear Energy

How can established nuclear operators provide operational solutions for small modular reactors, microreactors, and advanced technologies to utilities new to nuclear power? As adopting utilities include nuclear for decarbonization and reliability, discussions will focus on experienced insight about partnerships, training, regulatory support, workforce development, supply chains, and collaboration to address experience gaps.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Eric Skrmetta

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Louisiana

Ray Fakhoury

Energy Policy Manager

Amazon Web Services

Tim Howle

Commercialization and New Business
Development

BWXT

Lisa Williams

Operations, Licensing, and
Environmental Manager

Energy Northwest

Embracing Change while Achieving and Empowering Success

Sunday, November 9

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

This fireside chat will focus on embracing change and maintaining momentum, including suppliers and fostering innovation. Change is constant, and success depends on how effectively organizations and partners adapt. This discussion highlights practical ways the utility supplier diversity initiative continues to grow and strengthen partnerships in an evolving environment. Panelists will share experiences on maintaining momentum, supporting diverse suppliers, and fostering innovation that leads to lasting success across the utility sector.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Maida Coleman

(MODERATOR)

Missouri Public Service
Commission

Rebecca Losli

President
Illinois American Water

Jeanine Robinson

Director of Diversity and
Community Affairs
Illinois Commerce Commission

Hon. Doug Scott

Illinois Commerce Commission

Joint Committee Meeting Agenda

Sunday, November 9

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Cedar-2nd Flr**

CLOSED

Staff Subcommittee on Administrative Law Judges

Staff Subcommittee on Executive Management

Staff Subcommittee on Law

Staff Subcommittee on Executive Management and Staff Subcommittee on Law and Staff Subcommittee of ALJs

Joint Committee Meeting Agenda

NARUC Annual Meeting

November 9, 2025, 4:00 – 5:00

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
2. **Information Session: Overview of CPI,** Danielle Sass Byrnett, Senior Director, Center for Partnerships & Innovation (CPI), An overview of the CPI, which identifies ongoing and emerging challenges and connects commissions with expertise and strategies to navigate complex decision-making.
3. **Federal Update: Recent News and Developments,** James Bradford Ramsay, General Counsel, NARUC, A roundup of recent federal news, including significant court cases, executive actions, and policy updates relevant to state regulatory commissions.
4. **State Record Retention** Open floor for comments and discussion
5. **Open Mic**

6. Conclusion

Announcements: *Save the Date:*
National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys May 3 – 6, 2026 – Phoenix, Arizona (Hilton 4415 East Paradise Village Parkway South, Phoenix, AZ) – Thomas Van Flein – President NCRA 2026, Betsy Barnes – Vice President NCRA 2026, and Nick Walstra – Treasurer NCRA 2026.

Trends and Drivers in State Electricity Prices

Sunday, November 9

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Staff Subcommittee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

Low-cost electricity has long afforded the United States a competitive economic advantage. In recent years, however, retail electricity prices have risen rapidly in nominal terms. Though this increase in national-average retail electricity prices has largely tracked inflation, some states experienced steep price increases exceeding inflation, whereas many others saw reductions in inflation-adjusted prices. This presentation covers LBNL's recent research seeking to better understand recent retail electricity pricing trends and the myriad drivers of changes in state-level prices--including distribution investments, extreme weather and wildfires, load growth, wind and solar deployment, natural gas dependence, and more. The relative influence of these factors varies across states and over time, and relationships may change in the future. The research findings underscore the wide variety of price determinants.

SPEAKERS:

Ann Winstead

Regulatory Analyst

(MODERATOR)

North Carolina Utilities
Commission

Ryan Wisner

Senior Scientist
LBNL

Welcome Reception

Sunday, November 9

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Monday, November 10

Commission Chairs Breakfast

Monday, November 10

7:45am – 8:45am

Room: **Redwood-2nd Flr**

CLOSED

(Commission Chairs Only)

***How to Obtain GREAT Post
Commission Employment***

First Pour and Conversations

Monday, November 10

8:30am – 9:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Welcome and Introductions

Presentation - Costco, Amazon

- Learn which utility programs large customers currently use and what utilities and Commissions can do to help these companies meet their energy and business needs. Energy efficiency, reducing carbon emissions, and meeting renewable energy goals will be on the table, along with novel tariffs and unique cost saving measures.

Roundtable Discussion – Hon. Mike La Rosa, Florida

- Commissioners will share what the current important issues are in their state, the problems their Utilities and Consumers are facing, and what kinds of support and education they would like to receive from the ERE Committee in 2026.

Past ERE Resolution Update – Hon. Stacey Paradis, Illinois

NARUC Center for Partnerships & Innovation (CPI) Update – Jeff Loiter, Technical Director, CPI, NARUC

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Mike La Rosa

Chair

Florida Public Service

Commission

Hon. Stacey Paradis

Illinois Commerce Commission

Shay Reed

Assistant General Merchandising
Manager

Costco

Chris Roe

Director of Worldwide

Environment

Amazon

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Welcome and Introductions by Hon. Floyd McKissick, North Carolina

LIHEAP federal policy update by Katrina Metzler, National Energy & Utility Affordability Coalition

- Impact of rising electricity prices
- Near/long term outlook
- State's role in the changing federal landscape

NASUCA remarks by Nina Suetake, National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates

- Emerging critical topics
- Overview of NASUCA

SPEAKERS:

Katrina Metzler

Executive Director

National Energy & Utility Affordability Coalition

Nina Suetake

Deputy Director of Policy

National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Staff Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure

Business meeting of the Critical Infrastructure Committee and Subcommittee, focused on sharing resources that have recently been developed and discussion of upcoming projects.

- Presentation and update on Cyber Baselines for Distribution and DER.
- Presentation on the Critical Infrastructure Resource Repository.
- Gather input for 2026 projects

SPEAKERS:

Hon. David Veleta

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

IS Concurrent Session: Making IT Matter - Strategic Planning for Real Results

Monday, November 10

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

OPEN

Making IT Matter - Strategic Planning for Real Results

Learn how to align technology initiatives with organizational goals to drive measurable outcomes. This session explores practical strategies for IT planning, performance tracking, and building stronger collaboration between IT teams and leadership. Information Systems Session

SPEAKERS:

Hillory Courtney

Executive Counselor
Info-Tech Research Group

Ray Wisdom

Senior Regional Director
Info-Tech Research Group

Northern Exposure: Issues Shaping Canada's Energy Sector & the Canada-US Energy Partnership

Monday, November 10

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on International Relations

Recent developments thrust the Canada-US energy partnership into the media spotlight. Lost amidst the headlines is a discussion of the issues shaping Canada's energy sector. Topics include: (1) geopolitical and trade pressures (Buy Canada Act), and (2) regional and political divisions over energy policy, which can impact reliability. An international panel explores these developments and considers how Canada and the United States' energy systems are different.

SPEAKERS:

Philip Bartlett II

Chair

Maine PUC

François Émond

Régie de l'énergie

Fritz Hirst

Vice President, Government Affairs

North American Electric Reliability Corporation

Amy Sopinka

Director, Market Policy

Powerex

First Pour and Conversations

Monday, November 10

10:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Electricity

1. Vote on Resolutions
2. Wildfire Update from First Vice President Ann Rendahl
3. Update from GDO Deputy Director David Parsons
4. GEAR Update from President Pridemore
5. NARUC Center for Partnerships and Innovation (CPI) Update, Margerie Snider

SPEAKERS:

Hon. John Hammond

(MODERATOR)

Idaho

David Parsons

Deputy Director

Grid Deployment Office

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair

Georgia

Hon. Ann Rendahl

Commissioner

Washington Utilities and Transportation

Commission

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Gas

- Welcome by Hon. Stephen DeFrank, Pennsylvania
- Vote on Resolutions
- Update on the Taskforce on Gas-Electric Alignment for Reliability (GEAR) by Hon. Tricia Pridemore, Georgia

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Stephen DeFrank

(MODERATOR)

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair
Georgia

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Telecommunications

Business Meeting

Monday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Committee on Water

Water Committee Business Meeting

Agenda:

- Opening Remarks
 - Hon. Michael Bange, New Jersey
- National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) Update
 - Robert Powelson, President and CEO, NAWC
- Leak Detection Programs
 - Malay Patel, Manager, Echologics
- Wildfire Partnerships between Water Utilities and Universities
 - Erik Porse, PhD, Director, California Institute for Water Resources, Cooperative Extension Specialist, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Advanced Metering Rollout
 - John Tang, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and Government Relations, San Jose Water
- State Commissioner Issue Roundtable

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Michael Bange

(MODERATOR)

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

Malay Patel

Manager

Echologics

Dr. Eric Porse

Director

California Institute for Water Resources

Robert Powelson

President and CEO

National Association of Water

Companies

John Tang

Vice President Regulatory Affairs and

Government Relations

San Jose Water Company

IS Concurrent Session: Case/Docket Management System

Monday, November 10

10:30am – 11:30am

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

OPEN

Case/Docket Management System

Discover how modern case and docket management solutions streamline regulatory processes and enhance transparency. Presenters will share real-world examples of how agencies are leveraging Salesforce-based systems for efficiency and better stakeholder engagement. Information Systems Session

SPEAKERS:

Terry Boedeker

Account Manager-Public Sector
Salesforce

Scot Dorger

President
Dorger Software Associates

Deena Tearney

CEO
Pacific Point

Lunch on Your Own

Monday, November 10

11:30am – 1:00pm

OPEN

Opening General Session

Monday, November 10

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Welcome

Hon. Brian Rybarik

Washington

President's Remarks

Officer Elections

In Memoriam

Fireside Chat with James Danly, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President

(MODERATOR)

Georgia

Hon. James Danly

Deputy Secretary

U.S. Department of Energy

Regulation Without Borders: Regulatory Leadership Across Jurisdictional Lines

Many utilities operate across state lines, triggering the need to juggle multiple jurisdictional prerogatives. The possibility of increased merger and acquisition activity may increase this phenomenon. This session will explore the challenges and opportunities associated with regulation across jurisdictional borders, with a focus on

providing regulators and utilities practical advice on improving efficiency and customer outcomes.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair

(MODERATOR)

Georgia

Noel Black

Chief Regulatory and External Affairs Officer

Algonquin

Michele Canino

VP Regulatory & Political Affairs
NextEra Energy Resources

Josiah Cox

President

Central States Water Resources

Richard Leger

Senior Vice President

CenterPoint Energy

Emerald Roast and Networking

Monday, November 10

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd**

Flr

OPEN

General Session 2: From Silos to Synergy: The GEAR Task Force

Monday, November 10

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

From Silos to Synergy: The GEAR Task Force

In 2023, NARUC Pres. Fedorchak established the Gas - Electric Alignment for Reliability Taskforce. GEAR is comprised of a representative from each portion of the gas generation for electricity value chain and 7 state commissioners. After two years, and hundreds of hours of meetings and negotiations, GEAR has wrapped their work. Learn how it all happened from every GEAR member and get details on their report premiering at the 2025 NARUC Annual Meeting.

SPEAKERS:

Tony Clark

NARUC

(MODERATOR)

Executive Director

Mike Bryson

Senior Vice President

PJM

Hon. Josh Byrnes

Iowa

Michael Calviou

Senior Vice President, U.S. Policy & Regulation

National Grid

Hon. Ron Gerwatowski

Rhode Island

Hon. Dwight Keen

GEAR Vice Chair

Kansas

Hon. Lea Marquez Peterson

Arizona

William Mojica

Senior Vice President, Gas Operations
NiSource

Chris Moser

Senior Vice President, Head of
Competitive Markets and Policy
NRG Energy

Rob Perkins

Vice President, Pipeline Management
Kinder Morgan

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair
Georgia

Ben Schoene

Director NG Regulatory Affairs
ConocoPhillips

Hon. Daniel Scripps

Michigan

Hon. Katie Sieben

Minnesota

Commissioner Emeritus Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

MACRUC Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Jefferson-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

MARC Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Seneca-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

NECPUC Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Columbia-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

SEARUC Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **University-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

Western Meeting

Monday, November 10

4:15pm – 5:00pm

Room: **Virginia-4th Flr Unions St
Tower**

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

Tuesday, November 11

Commissioner Only Breakfast

Tuesday, November 11

7:30am – 8:45am

Room: **Metropolitan A-3rd Flr**

CLOSED

(Commissioners Only)

Beyond the Docket: Protecting Regulators and Public Discourse in an Era of Heightened Conflict

The job of utility regulator involves balancing stakeholder interests while ensuring safe and reliable essential utility services. It is a public role, in which sound decision-making includes gathering feedback from the public and interested parties. The proceedings overseen by regulators are also increasingly contentious, with issues like climate change policy, permitting and siting, and utility costs receiving significant attention. Given recent events, regulators and their staff are increasingly cognizant of physical security threats, particularly during public hearings. These forums may involve heightened emotions and disruptive behavior, with the threat of targeted harassment, intimidation, and violence extending to regulators and staff in their workplaces and personal lives. This Commissioner-only session will explore the topic of commission security at the intersection of regulatory oversight and public engagement.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Jehmal Hudson

Chair

(MODERATOR)

First Pour and Conversations

Tuesday, November 11

8:30am – 9:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Concurrent Session A1: Demand Growth in the Electricity Sector

Tuesday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Remarks from Redmond: Microsoft's Energy Outlook

Bobby Hollis, Vice President of Energy,
Microsoft

Public Purpose, Private Pressures: Navigating Demand Growth in the Not- for-Profit Utility Sector

This session will focus on demand growth in the electricity sector. Attendees will first hear from Microsoft, followed by a panel of experts from not-for-profit utilities.

Not-for-profit utilities are facing demand growth pressures that are similar to investor owned utilities, yet they have a distinct business model for financing these large-scale investments. This session will discuss how the nation's public power and cooperative utilities are addressing the need for more electricity to power the nation's increasing demand.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Angie Hatton

Chair

(MODERATOR)

Kentucky

Annalisa Bloodworth

President and CEO

Oglethorpe Power

Javier Fernandez

President and CEO

Omaha Public Power District

Vanessa Kisicki

Chief Customer Executive

Salt River Project

Scott Simms

CEO and Executive Director

Public Power Council

Concurrent Session A2: Where Have All the Workers Gone? The Future of Workforce Development in the Utility Sector

Tuesday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Where Have All the Workers Gone? The Future of Workforce Development in the Utility Sector

There is a looming talent gap in utility sector. This is not just a problem for utilities because there is evidence that there is a connection between operator quality and utility performance.

Panelists will discuss their most pressing workforce challenges related to hiring, employee retention, salary, and benefits. Panelists will share successful workforce programs and partnerships, insights into attracting and retaining the next generation of utility professionals, and skills needed for the future of the industry.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Michael Bange

(MODERATOR)

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

Colleen Arnold

President

Aqua America

Kris Hamner

Chief Human Resource Officer

California Water Service Group

David Johns

Regional President

Veolia Water Idaho, Inc

Concurrent Session A3: Pole Attachments Part Deux

Tuesday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Pole Attachments Part Deux

As BEAD funds are distributed to the states and construction of broadband infrastructure ramps up, pole attachments become a key issue in ensuring that end users get access to broadband on an expedited basis. Both telecom providers and electricity companies must work together to ensure that broadband infrastructure is deployed in a timely manner. The FCC's Fifth Report And Order, Fourth Further Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking, And Orders On Reconsideration seeks to promote fast and efficient deployment and ensure that "access to the vital infrastructure of utility poles [is] "swift, predictable, safe, and affordable, [and]to ensure that broadband providers can continue to enter new markets and deploy facilities that support high-speed broadband." Pole owners and "attachers" agree that changes are needed to meet this goal, but differ on requirements and processes. This panel follows up on July's discussion of the best way to ensure that issues with pole attachments do not impede the swift installation and deployment of broadband across the nation.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Karen Charles
Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Massachusetts Department of
Telecommunications and Cable

Hon. Mary Pat Regan

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Kentucky

Brent Bischoff

General Manager/CEO

Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative

Maria Browne

Partner

Davis, Wright, Tremaine LLP

Brett Freedson

Member

Lerman Senter

Pamela Sherwood

Vice President, Federal and State

Regulatory

Brightspeed

Concurrent Session A4: Federal Emergency Orders in Energy Emergencies

Tuesday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Federal Emergency Orders in Energy Emergencies

This session will examine existing federal statutes and tools available to address widespread, multi-state, grid or fuel emergencies with specific case studies of their benefits and limitations. Recently, U.S. DOE has issued a request for information about approaches that could accelerate speed to power and has invoked emergency authority of the Secretary of Energy to keep open plants that were otherwise closing—in some cases in spite of opposition from the affected state. In other cases, there are potential gaps in authority and unclear procedures to address issues like widespread fuel emergencies resulting from cyber or physical attacks affecting the grid. This panel will review these challenges from the perspective of state commissions seeking to protect the consumers they serve.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Josh Byrnes

(MODERATOR)

Iowa

Joan Dreskin

General Counsel

Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

Craig Glazer

Vice President, Federal Government
Policy

PJM Interconnection

Jim Kerr

President and CEO

Southern Company Gas

Kyrstin Wallach

Associate, Energy Regulatory

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom

LLP

IS Concurrent Session: Cybersecurity Starts at the Top, A CIO's Guide to Action

Tuesday, November 11

9:00am – 10:00am

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

OPEN

Cybersecurity Starts at the Top, A CIO's Guide to Action

Cybersecurity success begins with leadership. This session outlines the essential steps executives can take to establish a security-first culture, manage risk, and ensure long-term resilience through proactive planning and governance. Information Systems Session

SPEAKERS:

Hillory Courtney

Executive Counselor
Info-Tech Research Group

Ray Wisdom

Senior Regional Director
Info-Tech Research Group

First Pour and Conversations

Tuesday, November 11

10:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd Flr**

OPEN

General Session 3

Tuesday, November 11

10:30am – 12:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Fireside Chat on Data Centers

Stan Connelly, COO, Southern Company

Craig Sundstrom, Senior Manager, Energy and Environment Public Policy, Amazon Web Services

State of the Gas Utility Industry

Sid McAnnally, President and CEO, ONE Gas

NARUC Awards Program

NARUC 2025-2026 President's Installation Remarks

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tricia Pridemore

NARUC President & GEAR Chair

(MODERATOR)

Georgia

Stan Connally

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Southern Company

Sid McAnnally

President and CEO
ONE Gas

Hon. Ann Rendahl

Commissioner

Washington Utilities and Transportation
Commission

Craig Sundstrom

Senior Manager, Energy and
Environment Public Policy

Amazon Web Services

Lunch on Your Own

Tuesday, November 11

12:00pm – 1:30pm

OPEN

**Concurrent Session B1: Save the Pipes! Tips and Tricks for
Successful Asset Management.**

Tuesday, November 11

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Save the Pipes! Tips and Tricks for Successful Asset Management

Threats to utility assets come from all directions – weather events, cyber criminals, aging pipes. Utility asset management is essential to ensuring the longevity of infrastructure and the safety and reliability of service.

Recognizing the importance of adequate asset management, some state utility commissions have begun to implement policies to ensure that all utilities, regardless of ownership structure, are effectively managing their infrastructure. This panel will share ideas for how to manage utility assets proactively and effectively to the benefit of the customer.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Stephen DeFrank

(MODERATOR)

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Bruce Hauk

President & COO

H2O America

Joe Karney

Vice President, Engineering & Utility Operations

NW Natural

Garrett Word

Vice President, Facilities Reliability and

Concurrent Session B2: Promoting Consumer Protections for Gas Supply Choice Customers in Regulatory Frameworks

Tuesday, November 11

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Promoting Consumer Protections for Gas Supply Choice Customers in Regulatory Frameworks

Gas supply choice programs are widely leveraged by consumers across the country. A concern for many consumers and stakeholders alike are the protections offered to consumers that participate in these programs. In certain jurisdictions, such as Georgia's retail natural gas market, there exists a robust regulatory framework that promotes consumer choice, market competition, and innovation. This program will further dive into regulatory frameworks for gas supply choice programs, and how those frameworks protect customers both today and in the future.

SPEAKERS:

Hon Jason Shaw

Chairman

(MODERATOR)

Georgia Public Service Commission

Kevin Greiner

President and CEO

Gas South

Jim Kerr

President and CEO

Southern Company Gas

Andy Tubbs

President and CEO

Energy Association of Pennsylvania

Maureen Willis

Consumer' Counsel

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

**Concurrent Session B3: Managing Interconnection Complexity:
Proven State Strategies to Accelerate DER Adoption**

Tuesday, November 11

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Managing Interconnection Complexity: Proven State Strategies to Accelerate DER Adoption

Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) are essential to the energy transition, yet interconnection is increasingly complex – balancing federal and state rules, rising load demand, rapid DER adoption, and aging grid infrastructure. Efficiently managing this process is critical to keeping costs affordable, ensuring reliability, and meeting clean energy goals. This session shares practical, regulator-relevant solutions from across the U.S.: New York’s cost-sharing and hosting capacity maps; Maine’s IOU Grid Plans; Massachusetts’ fixed cost limits and faster timelines; Ohio’s HB 15 to accelerate behind-the-meter generation; and Hawaii’s partnership with Enphase to clear solar backlogs using smart inverters and high-resolution grid data. Attendees will gain actionable insights to adapt these proven approaches to their own states, accelerating DER deployment while maintaining reliability and affordability.

SPEAKERS:

Hon Carrie Gilbert

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Maine Public Utilities Commission

Vishal Ahirrao

Director, Customer Energy Integration

National Grid

Suman Gautam

CEO

Aadi Advisory

Marc Monbouquette

Sr. Manager, Policy and Government

Affairs,

Enphase Energy

Hon Colin Yost

Commissioner

Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Concurrent Session B4: Hot Rocks! Turning Up the Heat with Next-Gen Geothermal

Tuesday, November 11

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Hot Rocks! Turning Up the Heat with Next-Gen Geothermal

Next-gen geothermal systems and superhot rock drilling can access heat nearly anywhere, offering up to 90–300 GW of potential capacity by 2050. Geologic studies show that 36 states have at least moderate next-gen geothermal potential at 7 km deep, and all 48 contiguous states meet that threshold at 10 km. With existing strong federal incentives, bipartisan support, and new technologies reducing cost and risk, 1+ GW of new geothermal capacity could come online by 2028. Still, next-gen geothermal faces steep hurdles: high upfront capital needs, long and unpredictable permitting, limited procurement pathways, and minimal regulatory guidance. What regulatory and permitting reforms are needed to accommodate deep-drilled geothermal in planning proceedings, interconnection queues, and procurement planning? What new financing and ownership models can help share risk and attract investment? And how can regulators weigh the resilience and land-use benefits of geothermal alongside its risks and costs?

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Pat O'Connell

(MODERATOR)

New Mexico Public Regulation
Commission

Lucy Darago

Chief Commercial Officer
XGS Energy

Ben Serrurier

Director of Government Affairs & Policy
Fervo Energy

Lucia Tian

Head of Advanced Energy Technologies
Google

Staff Subcommittee on Information Services Discussions

Tuesday, November 11

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

Staff Subcommittee on Information Services

Emerald Roast and Networking

Tuesday, November 11

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Concurrent Session C1: Shovels in the Ground for New Nuclear

Tuesday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Metropolitan B-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Shovels in the Ground for New Nuclear

Lights, camera, action! New nuclear energy is ready for its closeup as several sites begin to move dirt and start construction. Hear about progress on research and commercial reactors, including phased approaches to construction and an update from our neighbors to the north in Canada. Learn how policies like executive orders and the ADVANCE Act are also helping to expedite nuclear deployment as numerous states prepare to pursue new nuclear.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Nick Myers

(MODERATOR)

Arizona Corporation Commission

Natalie Houghtalen

Senior Policy Advisor for Nuclear Energy

ClearPath

Hilary Lane

Senior Director, Strategic Partnerships
Nuclear Energy Institute

Andrew Richards

Vice President, Government Relations
TerraPower

Concurrent Session C2: Future Proofing the Grid: Overcoming Inverter-Based Resource Reliability Challenges

Tuesday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Future Proofing the Grid: Overcoming Inverter-Based Resource Reliability Challenges

States play an enormously consequential role driving clean energy policies and as a result, renewable inverter-based resources (IBRs) comprise an increasing share of bulk power system. However, recent ERO Enterprise assessments identified significant reliability gaps associated with IBRs, primarily wind and solar assets, which threaten grid security. In response, FERC issued Order 901 to address these reliability challenges and recently approved new NERC rules that require bulk power system connected IBRs to comply with existing NERC Reliability Standards.

SPEAKERS:

Courtney Hjaltman

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

PUC Texas

Elliot Mainzer

President and CEO

CAISO

Jim Robb

President and CEO

NERC

Carrie Zalewski

Vice President, Markets & Transmission
American Clean Power

Concurrent Session C3: Watts Up With That? The Latest on Resource Adequacy

Tuesday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

State commissions are responsible for ensuring the safety, reliability, and affordability of electricity service for customers within their state. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, national electricity demand is forecasted to increase by 15.8% by 2029, raising new concerns about resource adequacy to ensure a reliable system. In this session, regional leaders will explain how they establish and maintain resource adequacy in a variety of regulatory settings. Speakers will share how they engage with state regulators that oversee utility planning.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Marcus Hawkins

(MODERATOR)

Wisconsin

Timothy Burdis

Director of State Policy Solutions

PJM

Sarah Edmonds

CEO

Western Power Pool

Aubrey Johnson

Vice President

MISO

Eric Johnson

Executive Director, External Affairs

ISO New England

Concurrent Session C4: Legal Ethics Session

Tuesday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Legal Ethics Session: Views from the Bench

All attorneys are bound to abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct for the states in which they are admitted to practice law. These rules set standards for professional behavior before all legal tribunals including state public service commissions. This panel will outline issues that they have personally encountered and how they or the affected person handled the situation and/or hypothetical scenarios that an attorney may face while practicing before a commission. Panelists will discuss the ethics of these scenarios as they relate to the duty of candor. Panelists will also address civility and professionalism among the members of the bar appearing before our commissions.

SPEAKERS:

Hon Mike Robinson

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Wyoming

Hon. Angie Hatton

Chair

Kentucky

Hon Greg Nibert

Commissioner

New Mexico

Hon. Eric Skrmetta

Commissioner

Louisiana
Hon Summer Strand
Chair
Wisconsin

Staff Subcommittee on Information Services Discussions, IS Session

Tuesday, November 11

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

CLOSED

Staff Subcommittee on Information Services

NARUC Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, November 11

4:15pm – 5:30pm

Room: **Metropolitan A-3rd Flr**

OPEN

NARUC Board of Directors Dinner

Tuesday, November 11

7:00pm – 9:00pm

CLOSED

(Invitees Only)

Wednesday, November 12

First Pour and Conversations

Wednesday, November 12

8:30am – 10:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Concurrent Session D1: Permitting Critical Energy Infrastructure: The Role of States and the Stakes of Reform

Wednesday, November 12

9:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Metropolitan-3rd Flr**

OPEN

Permitting Critical Energy Infrastructure: The Role of States and the Stakes of Reform

As the U.S. modernizes and builds-out critical infrastructure in a time of surging energy demand, permitting has emerged as a pivotal challenge. This session explores the state role in permitting critical energy projects. With growing pressure to streamline processes, permitting reform debates raise fundamental questions about regulatory safeguards, community engagement, and state authority. Join us for a discussion amongst State Members of the Federal and State Current Issues Collaborative, who have been engaged in thoughtful dialogue about the evolving landscape, key reform proposals, and the implications for states navigating the policy terrain.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Kelsey Bagot

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Philip Bartlett II

Chair

Maine PUC

Hon. Pradip Chattopadhyay

Commissioner

New Hampshire Public Utilities
Commission

Hon. Karen Kemerait

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Hon. Sarah Martz

Chair

Iowa Utilities Commission

Hon. Nick Myers

Arizona Corporation Commission

Hon. Stacey Paradis

Illinois Commerce Commission

Hon. Gabriella Passidomo Smith

Florida Public Service Commission

Brian Rybarik

Chair

Washington UTC

Hon. Kathryn Zerfuss

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Concurrent Session D2: How Much Water Does AI Drink?

Wednesday, November 12

9:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Grand Ballroom D-2nd Flr**

OPEN

How Much Water Does AI Drink?

Energy demand has been the focus around data centers and AI — but data centers also require significant water resources. Water quality and quantity keep many regulators up at night even before AI moves into the neighborhood. Panelists will share various options for minimizing water use in data center operations. The resulting conversation will help regulators, utilities and others find ways to include both water and energy resources in the discussion and decision making around data center growth. Recent reports on data center water use will be highlighted.

SPEAKERS:

Hon Tammy Cordova

(MODERATOR)

Nevada

Chris Franklin

Chairman & CEO

Essential Utilities

Hon. Erik Helland

Iowa

Jonathan Kleinman

Principal

47N Energy

Mike Obradovitch

VP

Global Data Center Solutions

Beau Schilz

Principal Water Strategy and

Technology
Amazon Web Services

Concurrent Session D3: After BEAD, What's Next for Broadband?

Wednesday, November 12

9:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Willow-2nd Flr**

OPEN

After BEAD, What's Next for Broadband?

By the end of this year, the U.S. will be on a path towards universal broadband availability. With that issue solved, what's next for the broadband sector and what role should states play in this new environment? Numerous issues still remain to be addressed, notably boosting broadband adoption rates, addressing affordability concerns, and equipping more users with core digital literacy skills. Should states play a lead role on these issues? What about pursuing formal regulation of broadband and other advanced services? The FCC has all but abandoned the regulation of these services, leaving an opening for states to pick up the slack. Is state regulation of these services necessary? This panel will explore where states stand post-BEAD and where they might go.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Tim Schram

(MODERATOR)

Nebraska

Rick Cimerman

Vice President External & State Affairs
NCTA

Ernesto Falcon

Program Manager, Communication and
Broadband Policy
CA PUC

John Heitmann

Partner

Nelson Mullins, representing National Lifeline Association (NaLA)

Hon Laura Nichols Sams

Commissioner

Virgin Islands

Michael Santorelli

Director, ACLP

New York Law School

IS Concurrent Session: An Artificial Intelligence Journey - Microsoft

Wednesday, November 12

9:00am – 10:30am

Room: **Boren-4th Flr Union St Tower**

OPEN

An Artificial Intelligence Journey - Microsoft

Join Microsoft for an inside look at how artificial intelligence is transforming business operations, decision-making, and customer service. Learn practical steps to implement AI responsibly and effectively within your organization.

Information Systems Session

SPEAKERS:

Michael Cruz

Cloud + AI Specialist

Microsoft

First Pour and Conversations

Wednesday, November 12

10:30am – 10:45am

Room: **Grand Ballroom Foyer-2nd
Flr**

OPEN

Closing General Session 4

Wednesday, November 12

10:45am – 12:00pm

Room: **Grand Ballroom A-C-2nd Flr**

OPEN

Remarks by US Senator Tim Sheehy (R-MT)- (virtual)

Blazing Trails: Policy and Technology Innovation in Wildfire Resilience and Response

Wildfires are no longer a distant risk—they're here and they're reshaping how every utility and community must prepare and respond. From Maui to the Texas Panhandle to Long Island, the consequences can be devastating. In response, NARUC's members, utilities and others have focused over the last year to develop a workbook for states focused on Managing Wildfire Risk in the Electric Utility Sector, sharing the efforts of states, utilities and others to mitigate and reduce the risk to utilities, customers and communities. Drawing from industry leaders and wildfire resilience experts, this panel will highlight innovations in regulatory policies, strategies and technologies, including through the use of AI, to support cost effective wildfire risk assessment, mitigation planning, grid hardening and community resilience while balancing safety, affordability, and reliability.

The audience will learn: How utilities

and regulators analyze wildfire risks and develop mitigation plans and strategies to enhance wildfire resilience and balance grid reliability with wildfire safety and customer affordability. How innovative technology deployment and collaboration between utilities and state and local entities is enhancing wildfire preparedness. How regulators and policymakers are managing financial risks and improving wildfire preparedness and resilience.

SPEAKERS:

Hon. Ann Rendahl

Commissioner

(MODERATOR)

Washington Utilities and Transportation
Commission

Sam Davis

CEO

Bridger Aerospace

Hon. Karen Kemerait

North Carolina Utilities Commission

Mary Kipp

President and CEO

Puget Sound Energy

Rebecca O'Neill

Advisor

PNNL

Arvind Satyam

Co-Founder & Chief Commercial
Officer,

Pano

Bryan Spear

CEO

