

February 12-15, 2023 Renaissance Washington Hotel Washington, D.C.

## **Agenda**

Filter by Topic -Select a Topic-

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

Staff Subcommittee (S.S) - Meeting open to members only (Closed Meeting)

## Saturday, February 11, 2023

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Subcommittee on Education and Research

Room: Meeting Room 2

3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Executive Committee

Room: Meeting Room 2

(Closed Meeting)

## Sunday, February 12, 2023

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

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

S.S. on Telecommunications

Room: River Birch A

## **Cybersecurity Update for Telecommunications and Broadband Networks**

#### CYBERSECURITY IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADBAND

#### WHAT'S GOING ON AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Recent cybersecurity events in the nation, particularly breaches that resulted in the release of confidential consumer information possessed by some communications providers, and in the the states, including assaults on infrastructure networks, are raising awareness of the work that is being done to enhance the security of our nation's infrastructure networks, particularly the work of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Of the nation's networks, the telecommunications infrastructure is often a critical, if not the critical, gateway to many other consumer-focused networks and infrastructure. The DHS remained focused on cybersecurity this year and will provide an update on their work, particuarly as it pertains to telecommunications and broadband. The FCC also recently issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) addressing security breaches and release of consumer information. Attendees will discuss what DHS staff and industry operators have been doing to enhance the security of our networks. There will be time to ask questions and raise any concerns. This session is open to all attendees.

#### **Moderator:**

Joe Witmer, Pennsylvania

#### Panelists:

Rahul Mittal, Cybersecurity Advisor, Region 3, Department of Homeland Security,

**DHS CISA - Confirmed** 

John McClain, Communications Liaison, ESF-2, Regions V, VI, VII, National Coordinating Center for Communications, Department of Homeland Security - Confirmed

Brian M. O'Hara, Senior Director Regulatory Issues - Telecom & Broadband,

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) - Invited

#### **New Commissioner Forum**

Room: River Birch B

11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

#### **Networking Break**

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

- S.S. on Energy Resources and the Environment
- S.S. on Rate Design

Room: Potomac 1 & 2

(Joint Meeting)

# Can We Meet on the Fifty-Yard Line? Incentives and Rate Design for Futureproofing Electrification

Joint with the Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

This panel will discuss how to best optimize rate design policies, grid charging, and battery export programs to provide grid benefits and prepare for future electrification. Customers choose to purchase and install a battery energy storage system (BESS) for many reasons, and the way the customer uses their BESS and exports excess energy into the grid are often influenced by the customer's payback period to recoup the cost of their system, their utility's net metering structure and/or TOU rates, and personal use cases (i.e., to provide emergency backup power). However, the way a customer operates the BESS may not always be in line with what would best suited for the grid to enhance reliability and/or to provide cost savings. This panel will discuss what programs and policies are needed to enable private incentives to drive societally-optimal outcomes.

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

#### Panelists:

Thad Culley, Senior Manager, Public Policy, Sunrun

Kevin Lucas, Senior Director of Utility Regulation and Policy, Solar Energy Industries Association

#### S.S. on Information Services

Room: Anacostia D

#### **CIO Roundtable**

IT staff and CIO's join for a roundtable discussion on what technologies are working at their commissions and what the future plans are for IT technology upgrades.

#### Sub./S.S. on Nuclear Issues – Waste Disposal

Room: Potomac 3

# Conversations with Leaders: Loan Programs Office Director Jigar Shah and Tennessee Valley Authority President and CEO Jeff Lyash on the Future of Advanced Nuclear

During this fireside chat, Commissioner Tim Echols will speak with Loan Programs Office Director Jigar Shah and Tennessee Valley Authority President and CEO Jeff Lyash about the Future of Advanced Nuclear.

This conversation will provide information about:

- TVA's New Nuclear Program, an effort to lead the electric power sector towards a new era of advanced nuclear generation;
- New authority under section 1706 of the Inflation Reduction Act which includes provisions for retooling, repurposing, and replacing existing energy infrastructure;
- Partnership model opportunities to mitigate costs and risks associated with launching new nuclear technologies;
- The development of innovative project structures to facilitate advanced nuclear deployment at volume and scale; and
- The role of the federal government and utilities in deploying advanced nuclear projects to benefit ratepayers.

Moderator: Hon. Tim Echols, Georgia

#### Speakers:

Jeff Lyash, President and CEO, Tennessee Valley Authority

Jigar Shah, Director, Loan Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy

#### Background:

Advanced nuclear reactors are expected to play a vital role in helping the U.S. reach the Biden-Harris administration's goal of a decarbonized power sector by 2035. The administration sees advanced nuclear as an ideal energy source to complement and supplement renewable energy generation, together

providing reliable, clean, and affordable electricity around the clock. However, despite their technological maturity, advanced reactors need a committed orderbook to attract investment, build the supply chain, develop a trained workforce, and ensure fuel availability. The U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office (LPO) provides loans and loan guarantees, serving as a bridge to bankability for breakthrough energy infrastructure projects. LPO is committed to supporting the first wave of advanced reactor deployments by facilitating access to patient capital, including providing support for Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, the first new nuclear power reactors to be licensed and begin construction in the U.S. in a generation.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has always played a leadership role in electric generation for the southeast region and nation. Founded in 1933 as an agency and instrument of the Federal government, TVA was established to address issues in energy, environmental stewardship, and economic development. Today, TVA provides electricity for 10 million people in Tennessee and parts of six surrounding states. TVA has a storied history with nuclear energy and is entering a new phase. TVA operates the nation's third largest nuclear fleet. TVA's current generation portfolio consists of 39 percent nuclear from seven units at three sites, including Watts Bar Unit 2, the first new nuclear energy brought online in the U.S. in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Looking to the future, TVA is exploring the construction of multiple small modular reactors (SMRs), including consideration of the GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 technology at the Clinch River site in Tennessee, where TVA holds the nation's only early site permit from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

#### S.S. on Telecom.

Room: River Birch A

# Telecommunications State Staff Meeting (Closed) & Consideration of Resolutions (open)

#### **Moderators:**

Joe Witmer, Pennsylvania, Staff Chair

Greg Doyle, Minnesota, Staff Vice-Chair

#### Agenda:\*

11:15 a.m. – 11:40 a.m. State Action Roundup & Queries (Closed)

11:40 a.m. - 12:15 a.m. Resolutions Consideration (Open)

\*Attendees Please Note: The first part of this staff session from 11:15 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. will be closed and limited to state staff and federal staff attendees only. The second part of this staff session from 11:40 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. will be open to all attendees, particularly those interested in addressing any resolutions. If the first part of the session ends earlier then 11:30 a.m., the Resolutions Consideration will NOT begin until 11:30 a.m. Attendees should schedule their participation accordingly.

#### Washington Action

Room: Meeting Room 16

(Closed Meeting)

#### **Lunch on Your Own**

1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Sub./S.S. on Clean Coal and Carbon Management

Room: River Birch B

# CCS Infrastructure in the Midwest and the Coal Fleet's Role in Grid Reliability

## Summit Carbon Solutions on Advancing Carbon Capture, Transportation, and Storage Infrastructure in the Midwest

Numerous carbon capture projects are in various stages of development across the country. One project developer, Summit Carbon Solutions, is installing carbon capture technology at ethanol plants across five states. Captured carbon will be compressed and transported via pipeline to a geologic sequestration site in North Dakota. A Summit representative will brief NARUC members and attendees on challenges encountered and lessons learned on building the necessary infrastructure to enable interstate carbon capture projects, focusing on engagement with utility and environmental regulators, state- and county-level siting authorities, and landowners across the project's proposed route.

Speaker: John Satterfield, Director, Regulatory Affairs and ESG, Summit Carbon Solutions

#### The Role of the Coal Power Fleet in Grid Reliability

Grid reliability, particularly the availability of dispatchable generation on extremely cold and hot days, has been an area of growing concern for utilities and regulators. In regions with regional transmission organizations (RTOs), reliability must run (RMR) or system support resource (SSR) agreements are used to keep individual power generators operating past planned retirement dates to prevent reliability problems, guaranteeing cost recovery and a rate of return to the generator in question. However, these agreements are made on a case-by-case basis and do not address the underlying issues threatening grid reliability. In this discussion, panelists will offer their thoughts on the role of the coal power fleet in resource adequacy, differences in RMR and SSR procedures across RTOs, potential growth in or changes to these agreements, and broader risks to reliability going forward.

Moderator: Hon. Ellen Nowak, Wisconsin

Speakers:

Michelle Bloodworth, President and CEO, America's Power

Melissa Seymour, Vice President of External Affairs Central Region and Government Affairs, Midcontinent Independent System Operator

#### S.S. on Consumers and the Public Interest

Room: Meeting Room 16

(Closed Meeting)

- S.S. on Critical Infrastructure
- S.S. on Electric Reliability and Resilience

Room: Anacostia D

(Joint Meeting)

## **Federal Partner Update**

#### **Update of DOE CESER Activities**

Brandi Martin, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER)

S.S. on Gas

Room: River Birch A

## LNG Exports and U.S. Gas Customers

The U.S. exported more liquified natural gas than ever in 2022, and multiple facilities are projected to begin exporting by the end of the decade. What does this mean for U.S. gas utilities and customers? Are rising LNG exports helping or hindering energy reliability, affordability, resilience, and sustainability for American customers? What should policymakers consider when LNG export infrastructure comes before them?

Moderator: Andreas Thanos, Gas Policy Specialist, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities

#### Panelists:

Charlie Riedl, Executive Director, Center for LNG

Rob Smith, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Cheniere Energy

Amy Sweeney, Director, Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, U.S. Department of Energy

Sub./S.S. on Nuclear Issues — Waste Disposal

Room: Potomac 3

## **Business Meeting (closed)**

#### Joint Business Meeting of the Subcommittee and Staff Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues

Closed meeting - subcommittee and staff subcommittee members, speakers, and invited guests only Agenda:

1:30 - 1:35 Welcome - Subcommittee Co-Chair Tim Echols, Georgia

1:35 - 2:00 Discussion of Advanced Nuclear Technologies - Marcus Nichol, Senior Director, New Reactors, Nuclear Energy Institute

2:00 - 2:30 Updates

- Office of Nuclear Energy, U.S. Department of Energy
- Kiera Zitelman, Technical Manager, NARUC Center for Partnerships and Innovation
- Kristy Hartman, Director, Stakeholder Strategy and Engagement, Nuclear Energy Institute
- Katrina McMurrian, Executive Director, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition

2:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

### **Networking Break**

2:45 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Committee on Consumers and the Public Interest

Room: Potomac 3

## Mobilizing Public/Private Partnerships

#### 2:45-3:35 - Panel

The urgency for effective public/private collaboration to adapt our power, water and telecommunication infrastructure is growing as we experience more life threatening extreme weather events along with growing inequitable energy costs and health burdens. Concurrent to this urgency, is the time sensitive opportunity to approve and deploy billions of dollars from the federal government, in conjunction with states, to catalyze a just, resilient energy transformation. Using case studies from AEG Stakeholder Challenges, this panel will discuss best practices for public/private stakeholder mobilization that drives the needed awareness, alignment and accountability to deliver critical results. This panel will also address ways regulators can advance essential, public/private stakeholders beyond traditional engagement to mobilization.

#### Moderator

Hon. Odogwu Obi Linton, Maryland

#### **Panelists**

Divesh Gupta, Director, Utility of the Future, BG&E

Maria Bocanegra, Former Illinois Commissioner, Chief Legal Officer, Port of Cleveland

HG Chissell, Founder and CEO, Advanced Energy Group (tbc)

#### 3:35-3:45 - Committee Meeting

**Discussion Topic: Succession Planning** 

#### Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Room: Anacostia D

## **Federal Partner Update**

#### **Briefing from Our Federal Partners on Physical and Cyber Security Issues**

Manny Cancel, NERC Unclassified EISAC Briefing - 2:45-3:15

Hon. Diane Solomon, New Jersey, CI Committee Business Meeting - 3:15-3:45

**Joseph McClelland**, FERC, Director of the Office of Energy Infrastructure Security, Priorities and Initiatives and the Role of State Regulators - 4:00-4:30

Ben Sooter, EPRI, Program Manager for Cyber Security - 4:30-5:00

#### Committee on International Relations

Room: River Birch B

- Welcome & Introductions Hon. Ellen Nowak, Wisconsin; Chair, IRC
- Update on NARUC's International Department Erin Hammel, Senior Director of International Programs
- New NARUC International Workstreams: European Energy Crisis, Southeast Europe Market Coupling, Morocco - Hisham Choueiki, PhD, Principal Technical Advisor, International Programs
- USAID/NARUC Advancing Women Leaders in Energy (AWLE) Initiative Hon. Ellen Nowak, Wisconsin; Chair, IRC
- Canadian energy update Hon. David Morton, Chair, CAMPUT; Co Vice Chair, IRC
- Open Forum

#### Sub./S.S. on Pipeline Safety

S.S. on Gas

Room: River Birch A
(Joint Meeting)
(Closed Meeting)

# Safer and More Efficient Pipeline Inspections with Drones - A Texas Railroad Commission Case Study

(Closed session) Members and Invitees only.

**Speaker:** Cade Harris, Manager, Inspection and Enforcement, Surface Mining and Reclamation Division, Railroad Commission of Texas

2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

S.S. on Electricity

Room: Anacostia F

#### **Power Markets Simulation - Interactive Demonstration**

Join us for a hands-on interactive learning session on wholesale power markets. You will have an opportunity to step into the shoes of power generators and electricity suppliers, experiencing first-hand how laboratory economics experiments can aid in informing regulatory policy. Economics experiments are also a great educational tool and team building exercise for professionals in the power sector that you may want to consider for your organization. So, join the Staff Subcommittee on Electricity for an engaging and exciting kickoff of the NARUC Winter Policy Summit with Dr. Lynne Kiesling (University of Colorado Denver) and Dr. Rimvydas Baltaduonis (Gettysburg College) and bring your colleagues with you!

This event is free and open to all registered NARUC meeting attendees. The Staff Subcommittee is seeking <u>commissioners and commission staff</u> to volunteer as team captains/co-captains for the simulation. No advance knowledge is required! Non-commissioners/commission staff are encouraged to participate as team members. Please fill out this registration form (https://forms.gle/dSZbdQpRpxhpF6Gw7) to indicate your interest as a team captain/co-captain.

3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

## **Networking Break**

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Committee on Critical Infrastructure

Room: Anacostia D

Agenda to be distributed onsite.

S.S. on Water

Room: River Birch B

## **Business Meeting**

- · Welcome and Introductions
  - o Krystle Sacavage, Chair
- Association Updates
  - NAWC
    - April Ballou, General Counsel
  - NASUCA
    - Karen H. Stachowski, Chair, Water Committee
- Lead Service Line Replacement and Customer Outreach
  - Mark K McDonough, President, New Jersey American Water Company
- State Member Updates
  - o Open state issue discussion
- Other Business

Sub./S.S. on Pipeline Safety

Room: River Birch A
(Closed Meeting)

5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

## **Welcome Reception (Casual Attire)**

Room: Foyer and Potomac 1 & 2

## Monday, February 13, 2023

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

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.

#### **Commission Chairs Council Breakfast**

Room: Anacostia F

For State Commission Chairs

Join us for breakfast, networking and a panel discussion on methods to position your Commission for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

#### Panelists:

- · Megan Decker, Chair of Oregon Public Utility Commission
- Ted Thomas, Founder of Energize Strategies
- · Jeff Ackerman, Senior Policy Advisor for the Center for the New Energy Economy

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

### Winter Wake-Up Coffee Break

9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

## **Opening General Session**

Room: Potomac Ballroom

## The Changing Energy Landscape and Regulatory Challenges: The Hon. Jennifer Granholm, Secretary of Energy, DOE

## The Wright Touch: A Conversation with David Wright

A one-on-one with the Hon. David Wright, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and past president of NARUC.

## **Measuring Equity: The Energy Equity Roundtable**

## The Changing Energy Landscape and Regulatory Challenges: The Hon. Jennifer Granholm, Secretary of Energy, DOE

## The Wright Touch: A Conversation with David Wright

The Hon. Tricia Pridemore, Georgia, will host a one-on-one with the Hon. David Wright, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and past president of NARUC.

## Measuring Equity: The Energy Equity Roundtable

The IIJA and IRA will provide more than \$1 trillion in investments to address climate change and a just energy transition. In these significant investments there is a clear focus on equity—most visibly is the Justice40 Initiative. With the established goal to achieve an equitable distribution of resources, such that 40 percent of the federal investment spending should benefit disadvantaged and underserved communities. But how do you measure success? The goals of equitable opportunities, allocation of resources, and impact of programs cannot be achieved without a clear measure of what constitutes equity. Because that is how we should measure success.

The proposed session will use a roundtable, talk show format to bring together key energy equity stake-holders, including from the current administration, corporate leaders, energy regulators, and community engagement experts. The roundtable will discuss and examine existing initiatives to probe for a universal definition of equity. Participants will further discuss evaluative tools to assess community needs and strategic approaches for policymakers who must direct efforts to achieve equitable impacts for underserved and disadvantaged communities. Discussions overall will center on big-bucket energy issues such as: Infrastructure; Transportation/EV; Energy manufacturing/innovation and Workforce development. This session will stimulate collaborative conversations that lead to action solutions, so that the great energy transition leaves no community behind.

Moderator: Hon. Michael A. Caron, Connecticut

#### Panelists:

Sheri Givens, President & CEO, Smart Electric Power Alliance

Larry E. Glover, CEO, The Glover Group

Tony Reames, PhD, Deputy Director for Energy Justice, Department of Energy

Advancing Clean Energy for Global Energy Security and Resilience: A View from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources: Anna Shpitsberg, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Transformation

10:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

## **Networking Break**

10:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

## S.S. on Pipeline Safety

Room: Sycamore Room (Ballroom Level)

(Closed Meeting)

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac 2

# Overcoming the Transmission Bottleneck: Exploring Federal Funding and Regional Planning to Support Transmission Expansion for a Clean Energy Future

Over the past two decades, approximately 200 GW of wind and solar were added to the U.S. power grid, and recently enacted federal incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) will only accelerate the deployment of clean energy and storage across the U.S. Currently, a large amount of potential clean power capacity is struggling with the wait times and costs of connecting to the transmission grid, and the declining construction of new high-voltage transmission lines over the last decade. A lack of sufficient transmission capacity stands to be a potential barrier to fully achieving IRA's emissions reduction potential, which studies have shown will require a doubling of the historical pace of electricity transmission expansion that we've seen over the last decade. This panel will cover how IRA, IJJA, and DOE funding can be leveraged to support transmission projects, including by deploying capacity-enhancing Grid Enhancing Technologies (GETs) on existing transmission infrastructure, as well as exploring ways to engage in effective regional infrastructure planning.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Jason Stanek, Maryland

#### Panelists:

Jeffery Dennis, Deputy Director - Transmission Grid Deployment Office, U.S. Department of Energy

Hilary Pearson, Vice President - Policy & External Affairs, LineVision

Terron Hill, Director - Clean Energy Development, National Grid

Digaunto Chatterjee, Vice President - System Planning, Eversource

- Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment
- Select Committee on Regulatory and Industry Diversity

Room: Potomac 3

(Joint Meeting)

# Continuing the Journey from Intern to C-Suite: How Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Impacts Us All

#### Joint with the Select Committee on Regulatory & Industry Diversity

The White House Talent Pipeline Challenge encourages training partnerships to build pathways for women, people of color, and underserved workers, including rural, tribal communities, and communities with persistent poverty. Employers are encouraged to invest in available federal resources like tuition assistance, child-care, transportation costs, and emergency aid. This panel will broadly discuss the commitments to invest resources and policies that support equitable workforce development focused on the critical infrastructure sectors: broadband, construction, and electrification.

#### Co-Moderators:

Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Hon. Carrie Zalewski, Illinois

#### Panelists:

Hon. Willie Phillips, Acting Chairman, FERC

Harin Contractor, National Economic Council, The White House

Missy Henriksen, Executive Director, Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD)

Christopher Metzler, SVP- Corporate Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, National Urban League

Kevin Walker, President & CEO, Duquesne Light Company

- Committee on Gas
- Committee on Water

Room: Anacostia D

(Joint Meeting)

## The Rise of ESG: How Will It Impact the Utilities Sector?

ESG criteria — a framework that examines investments and companies through the lens of environment, social, and governance concerns — is reshaping financial markets and whole industries. Socially conscious investors use this framework to examine the business practices of companies and steer funding toward businesses that further ESG goals. The rapid growth of ESG investment funds, with over \$500 billion flowing into ESG-integrated funds in 2021, is encouraging businesses to adopt and showcase practices that, for instance, address climate change as well as those that improve relationships with customers, communities, suppliers and employees while providing greater transparency. This panel will explore how ESG has impacted gas and water utilities and provide a regulator's perspective on ESG practices and how this concept impacts traditional ratemaking and regulatory processes.

#### Moderators:

Hon. Gabriella Passidomo, Florida

Hon. Lea Márquez Peterson, Arizona

#### **Panelists**

Colleen Arnold, President, Aqua

Colette Honorable, Partner, Reed Smith

Edith Naegele, VP Membership & Strategic Development, American Gas Association

Ryan Wobbrock, VP Senior Credit Officer, Moody's

Room: River Birch A

# Broadband Funding, Offices, and Coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration

A discussion with state commissions and broadband offices as to how they are communicating and coordinating with each other to ensure they are taking full advantage of the broadband funding available to the states, implementing the processes and programs (including their 5-year plans), and attempting to assess the broadband needs of their states. Panelists will discuss the partners that they work with to fully address what needs to be done to expand broadband to their residents, while ensuring they are utilizing broadband funds to the fullest extent without recreating policies, processes and offices that may already be in place to address the broadband need while also determining how to address customer complaints about service issues. Panelists will also discuss the recently released FCC maps, and any concerns regarding the maps or the challenge process.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Tim Schram, Nebraska

#### Panelists:

Cullen Robbins, Director, NUSF & Telecommunications, Nebraska PSC

Sarah Morris, Senior Advisor, NTIA

Anna Read, Senior Officer, Broadband Access Initiative, The Pew Charitable Trusts

Kenrick Gordon, Director, Maryland Office of Statewide Broadband

12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

#### **Committee Chairs Luncheon**

(Invitation Only)

Room: Meeting Room 5

12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m.

#### **Lunch on Your Own**

1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac 2

## Making the Smart Grid Smarter Through Intelligent Rate Design

As the array of distributed energy resources (DERs) available to customers expands and diversifies, the ability to facilitate an increasingly flexible, efficient, and cleaner "grid of the future" becomes more important than ever. In the past decade or so, billions of dollars have been spent on "smart" meters and other advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) to modernize the grid, improve grid resilience, increase DER participation, and reduce costs to ratepayers. However, the benefits of a "smart" grid can't be realized without implementing rates that are intelligently designed to activate changes on the demand-side. Rate design is therefore central to optimizing DERs and the other benefits of AMI for customers and the grid. From designs that provide price signals to charge and discharge battery storage to options that incentivize EV owners to charge their cars during off-peak hours, states are piloting and exploring DER optimized rate designs. This panel will explore the wide variety of time-varying and dynamic rate design options available to facilitate optimized DER adoption, grid resilience, and increased customer benefits.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Ann Rendahl, Washington

#### Panelists:

Drew Slater, Delaware Public Advocate - Division of the Public Advocate

Angela Navarro, Head of State Regulatory Affairs, Arcadia

Lon Huber, Senior Vice President - Pricing and Customer Solutions, Duke Energy

Travis Kavulla, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, NRG

Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac 3

## **Keeping Track of Clean Energy**

In any given power pool, emissions associated with energy consumption is like a zero-sum game. If one user is claiming to use energy that is cleaner than the average system emissions, the remaining users must be assigned energy with higher-than-average emissions. Today, states and various market participants rely on different legal and voluntary definitions and standards for emissions accounting, which could lead to inefficient and confusing outcomes such as entities that are more than 100% renewable, or actual emissions that escape allocation. This panel includes some of the world's largest companies that are driving investment in renewable energy through voluntary clean energy purchases, officials from states that are addressing emissions accounting in their regulations, and will answer what additional work is needed to support utilities, states, and customers as they track and demonstrate compliance?

Moderator: Hon. Abigail Anthony, Rhode Island

#### Panelists:

Todd Bianco, Chief Economic and Policy Analyst, Public Utilities Commission of Rhode Island

Tanuj Deora, Director for Clean Energy, Council on Environmental Quality

Ellen Zuckerman, Energy Specialist and Analyst, Google

#### Committee on Gas

Room: Anacostia D

## Assessing the State of U.S. Natural Gas Infrastructure

Policymakers have long emphasized "energy independence" as a goal for U.S. energy policy. Nearly one year after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the global gas market has experienced noticeable volatility as domestic production rose to its highest levels yet. As power generators, industrial customers, and an expanding fleet of LNG export facilities continue to rely on natural gas, is U.S. infrastructure keeping pace with rapidly changing supply and demand? Where is new infrastructure needed to support energy reliability and affordability? How should alternatives to new infrastructure be evaluated by policymakers? This panel will explore the impacts of fundamental shifts in global gas markets on U.S. production, processing, transportation, and storage infrastructure, as well as state policies to right-size infrastructure and avoid unnecessary costs. Panelists will also discuss policy proposals to streamline infrastructure permitting and siting, focusing on impacts to state utility commissions.

#### **Moderators:**

Hon. James Brown, Montana

Hon. John Reynolds, California

#### Panelists:

Kevin Book, Managing Director, ClearView Energy Partners

Mark LeBel, Senior Associate, Regulatory Assistance Project

Dustin Meyer, Vice President, Natural Gas Markets, American Petroleum Institute

Tommy Oliver, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Strategy, Roanoke Gas Company

#### Committee on Telecommunications

Room: River Birch A

## **Business Meeting**

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Discussion and Vote on Resolutions
- 3. Presentation (TBD)
- 4. Other Business
- 5. Adjourn

# Reexamining Customer Policies and Practices from an Equity and Effectiveness Perspective

Are your customer policies and practices doing what they were designed to do? Come hear practitioners discuss their efforts to assure their policies (both internal and customer facing) involving customer disconnections, fees, and arrearage management are fair and equitable as well as effective. The results may surprise you. This session will focus primarily on water utility policies but the concepts and issues that will be discussed are equally applicable to gas, electric, and telephone services.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Jeffrey Hughes, North Carolina

#### Panelists:

Hon. Darcie Houck, California

Deb Degillio, Chief Customer Officer, American Water

Heidi Hackett, Assistant Director of Customer Service, Cape Fear Public Utility Authority

2:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

## **Networking Break**

3:15 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.

Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Anacostia D

## **Business Meeting**

Introductions: Hon. Abigail Anthony, Rhode Island

#### **Mary Kilmarx Award Presentation**

**Presentation:** In February 2022, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), and the U.S. Departments of Transportation and Energy signed a memorandum of understanding

(https://www.naseo.org/Data/Sites/1/documents/tk-news/naseo-aashto-joet-nevi-mou-signed-final.pdf) (MOU) to ensure the "strategic, coordinated, efficient, and equitable" investment of electric vehicle charg-

ing station infrastructure. The MOU provided a framework for collaboration in response to the \$5 billion National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program to build and operate a nationwide network of EV charging stations across the country.

Representatives from AASHTO and NASEO will share their perspectives and provide updates on progress among state departments of transportation and state energy offices in moving forward with NEVI planning and implementation. Commissioners will also learn how these agencies' are approaching utility and charging company collaboration, and what expertise can be leveraged to add another dimension to their understanding of EV charging plans and needs.

Moderator: Hon. Michael Richard, Maryland

#### **Presenters:**

- Cassie Powers, Senior Managing Director, National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)
- Joshua Rodriguez, Program Director for Environment, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

Center for Partnerships and Innovation Update - Danielle Sass Brynett, Director

- Committee on Gas
- Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac Ballroom

(Joint Meeting)

## Playing from the Same Sheet of Music: Harmonizing Gas-Electric Coordination

Two years after Winter Storm Uri knocked out power and drove up energy costs for millions of customers across Texas and the Central U.S., state and federal utility regulators, grid operators, policymakers, utilities, and other stakeholders continue to discuss and implement methods to increase energy reliability by enhancing coordination between the natural gas and electric power industries. At the request of FERC and NERC, the North American Energy Standards Board convened a gas-electric harmonization forum in August 2022 to hear from stakeholders and develop recommendations in 2023. This session will explore the barriers to gas-electric coordination, highlight key takeaways from the NAESB forum, and offer perspectives on how state regulators can improve gas-electric reliability and resilience.

#### **Moderators:**

Hon. Kent Chandler, Kentucky

Hon. James Huston, Indiana

#### Panelists:

Hon. Lori Cobos, Texas

Matthew Agen, Chief Regulatory Counsel, Energy, American Gas Association

Michael Bryson, Senior Vice President of Operations, PJM Interconnection

Clair Moeller, President and Chief Operating Officer, Midcontinent Independent System Operator

#### Committee on Telecommunications

Room: River Birch A

## Robocalls, Spam Texts, Call-based fraud, Oh my!

The increased frequency and severity of robocall activity is a generally recognized nuisance as according to the FCC, Americans receive close to 48 Billion such calls annually. The financial costs of fraud related to these activities have been estimated to cost \$10 Billion a year. Both the FCC and the FTC list robocalls and call related fraud as leading the list of complaints received from consumers. The scourge has eroded trust in the ecosystem to the point that a recent survey indicated that over 70% of respondents answered that they will ignore a call if they don't recognize the calling number or if it is unidentified. The scammers seem to be shifting focus as recent research indicates that spam text activity increased 58% to almost 88 billion in 2021 according to Robokiller's Phone Scam insights. This session will discuss current threats and detail how regulators and industry members are employing technological, policy and regulatory solutions to combat this persistent and constantly evolving scourge and restore trust in our communications systems.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Karen Charles, Massachusetts

#### Panelists:

Chris Frascella, Law Fellow, Telephone Subscriber Privacy, Electronic Privacy Information Center

Linda Vandeloop, AVP, AT&T

Brent Struthers, STI-GA Director, ATIS

Justen Davis, Senior Director, Industry Relations & Public Policy, SOMOS

#### Committee on Water

Room: River Birch B

## **Business Meeting**

4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

## **Commissioner Emeritus Meeting**

Room: Meeting Room 9

### **Regional Meetings**

MACRUC - Meeting Room 3

MARC - Meeting Room 5

**NECPUC - Meeting Room 8** 

SEARUC - Meeting Room 4

Western - Meeting Room 2

### **Commission Staff Power Hour**

Room: Anacostia F

## Tuesday, February 14, 2023

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

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.

## **Commissioners-Only Breakfast**

Room: Anacostia D

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

## **Winter Wake-Up Coffee Break**

#### **General Session**

Room: Potomac Ballroom

## GSA-Utility Partnerships Will Cut Emissions and Lower Energy Costs for Nation's Largest Energy Consumer

Featuring: Administrator Robin Carnahan, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)

## GSA-Utility Partnerships Will Cut Emissions and Lower Energy Costs for Nation's Largest Energy Consumer

The federal government is the single largest consumer of energy in the country and also the country's biggest landlord, overseeing nearly 350,000 buildings. The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has committed to 100% Carbon Pollution-Free Electricity on a Net Annual Basis by 2030, including 50% on a 24/7 basis. GSA is continuing its work to eliminate onsite carbon pollution in newly constructed facilities and facilities undergoing major modernization to achieve Net-Zero Emissions Buildings by 2045, including a 50% reduction by 2032. Through these actions, GSA is creating innovative economic opportunities that advance clean energy goals, create jobs, develop healthy and prosperous communities, and save taxpayer money. Partnerships are a critical component of success, including with utilities regulated by NARUC's members. Panelists will discuss the impact and implementation of these goals as well as the role of utility regulators and stakeholders.

Moderator: Hon. Julie Fedorchak, North Dakota

Featuring: Administrator Robin Carnahan, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)

Kathleen L. Barrón, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Constellation

Laura Landreaux, President and Chief Executive Officer, Entergy Arkansas

Ted Thomas, former Chairman, Arkansas Public Service Commission

10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

## **Networking Break**

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac Ballroom

## First Do No Harm: Siting EV Charging Infrastructure

Joint with Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Electrification, including transportation electrification (TE), has the potential to be a source of downward pressure on rates. In order to allow for this potential, infrastructure that is necessary to serve TE load must be sited strategically to avoid locations that will require costly and time-consuming upgrades to support additional load on the electric system. Moreover, as we prepare for the disbursement of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program funds, planning for and siting infrastructure in locations that will require less investment in the grid will stretch those funds. However, to ensure that ratepayers paying for all or a part of this infrastructure get the most benefits for their cost, charging infrastructure should be placing in high traffic areas and locations that are convenient for EV users to maximize usage. To ensure both of these deciding factors are taken into consideration, regulators and utilities will have to partner with local traffic planners to determine if and where optimal traffic-based locations also have minimal grid upgrades and associated costs.

#### **Co-Moderators**

Hon. Ellen Nowak, Wisconsin

Hon. Carleton Simpson, New Hampshire

#### Panelists:

Anne Blair, Director of Policy, Electrification Coalition

Eric Rensel, 2023 ITE Technical Councils Chair, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Gannett Fleming

Brian Wilkie, Director, Business Development, NY Transportation Electrification, National Grid

#### Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac Ballroom

## First Do No Harm: Siting EV Charging Infrastructure

#### Joint with the Committee on Electricity

Electrification, including transportation electrification (TE), has the potential to be a source of downward pressure on rates. In order to allow for this potential, infrastructure that is necessary to serve TE load must be sited strategically to avoid locations that will require costly and time-consuming upgrades to support additional load on the electric system. Moreover, as we prepare for the disbursement of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program funds, planning for and siting infrastructure in locations that will require less investment in the grid will stretch those funds. However, to ensure that ratepayers paying for all or a part of this infrastructure get the most benefits for their cost, charging infrastructure should be placing in high traffic areas and locations that are convenient for EV users to maximize usage. To ensure both of these deciding factors are taken into consideration, regulators and utilities will have to partner with local traffic planners to determine if and where optimal traffic-based locations also have minimal grid upgrades and associated costs.

#### **Co-Moderators**

Hon. Ellen Nowak, Wisconsin

Hon. Carleton Simpson, New Hampshire

#### Panelists:

Anne Blair, Director of Policy, Electrification Coalition

Eric Rensel, 2023 ITE Technical Councils Chair, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Gannett Fleming Utility TBD

#### Committee on Gas

Room: Anacostia D

## **Business Meeting**

- 1. Discussion and vote on resolutions (if needed)
- 2. Update on gas-electric harmonization In August 2022, the North American Energy Standards Board launched a gas-electric harmonization forum to support improved coordination between the natural gas and electric markets following Winter Storm Uri's impacts on energy infrastructure in February 2021. Co-chairs Robert Gee, Sue Tierney, and Pat Wood III have facilitated six discussions with interested stakeholders representing diverse perspectives across the gas and electric markets. The Gas Committee welcomes Robert Gee, President, Gee Strategies Group, to update members on the status of the forum and his expectations for the remainder of the effort in 2023. Time will be available for Q&A with members.
- 3. State member roundtable
- 4. Other business

#### Committee on Telecommunications

Room: River Birch A

## Legacy Network Discontinuance: Limitations, Impacts, and Unregulated Services

With the significant influx of federal and state funding being used to deploy broadband service, now is the time to discuss if the states will begin to see further retirements of the legacy networks and discontinuance of landline service throughout the country. Panelists will discuss concerns regarding the lack of jurisdiction of these unregulated alternative services, as well as further discussion as to whether the states and/or the FCC should implement changes to the current discontinuance processes. The panelists will also examine the impact that these alternative services will have on customers, such as the reliability of 911 and 911 location identification, quality of service (especially in remote areas), and the difference between fiber vs. wireless alternatives. Lastly, panelists will discuss the future of Carrier of Last Resort, Eligible Telecommunications Carriers, and the impact if the FCC were to designate Voice over Internet Protocol as Title II.

Moderator: Hon. Chris Nelson, South Dakota

Panelists:

Diana Eisner, VP Policy & Advocacy, US Telecom

Alex Minard, VP & Lead Legislative Counsel, NCTA

Thaddeus Johnson, Assistant People's Counsel, District of Columbia

Ben Aaron, Assistant Vice President, State Regulatory Affairs, CTIA

#### Committee on Water

Room: River Birch B

## Can Regulated Water Infrastructure Help Facilitate Carbon-Free Hydro-Electric Generation?

There are about 90,000 impoundments in the United States, but only about 3% of them produce hydroelectric generation. That small number of facilities produces about 80,200 MW of generation - about 7% of U.S. electricity - and in 2019 about one-third of all electricity from renewables. In addition to serving generation load, given its installed capacity, hydropower punches well above its weight to provide ancillary services in nearly every region and metric including black start, 1-hour ramps, frequency regulation, and reserves. Untapped hydropower resources represent a vast reservoir of 100% domestic carbon-free generation that, as a nation, we simply do not utilize. This panel will address why this underutilization has occurred and how NARUC and state regulators may work to realize the generation, grid management, and resiliency potential of retrofitting hydropower to existing water infrastructure built for purposes other than electric generation (drinking water, irrigation, flood control, recreation).

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Ralph V. Yanora, Pennsylvania

#### Panelists:

Lindsay Baxter, Manager, Regulatory and Clean Energy Strategy, Duquesne Light Co.

Shaun Chapman, Senior Director, State Policy, Brookfield Renewable U.S.

Michael Kerr, Founder and CEO, New England Hydropower

Erik Steimle, Vice President, Rye Development

Jennifer Garson, Director, Water Power Technologies Office, DOE

Bruce Aiton, Vice President, Pennsylvania American Water

12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

#### **Lunch on Your Own**

1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

### Committee on Electricity

Room: Potomac 2

## **Business Meeting**

#### Business meeting agenda:

- 1. Acting Chair Willie Phillips (FERC) remarks and discussion
- 2. Honorary Resolutions
- 3. Bob Gee (NAESB) Update on Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum
- 4. Other Business

#### Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Room: Potomac 1

### Will the IRA Reduce Inflation? What If Some States Choose Not To Play?

The Senate's Inflation Reduction Act promises to reduce energy bills for Americans through clean energy tax credits, but leaves implementation to the states. How can regulators ensure these benefits flow to ratepayers while meeting other state policy goals? What other programs in the federal legislative package (including the IIJA/BIL), such as energy efficiency rebates, weatherization assistance, increases in LIHEAP, and government loan guarantees, may put downward pressure on utility rates and bills? What if states lack the resources or the ability to access and deploy these federal funds? Are federal funds available to assist states in supplementing their staffs or engaging implementation contractors to seek federal funding on behalf of ratepayers? Do PUCs have authority to require utilities to maximize federal funding opportunities? If federal funds flow directly to customers that participate in utility EE/DR/DER programs, how do these resources affect utility cost-effectiveness tests and utility shareholder incentives from an EM&V standpoint. How can the benefits be equitably spread to all states and citizens?

Moderator: Hon. Eric Blank, Colorado

#### Panelists:

Mike O'Boyle, Director of Electricity Policy, Energy Innovation

James Campbell, Director, Innovation and Sustainability Policy, Rocky Mountain Power

David Terry, President, National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)

Taresa Lawrence, Director of State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Policy, Office of Policy, Department of Energy (DOE)

#### Committee on Gas

Room: Anacostia D

## Federal and State Regulatory and Technology Approaches to Reduce Methane Emissions from the Natural Gas Network

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed new, more stringent source performance standards and emissions guidelines for existing oil and natural gas sources with the intent to issue a final rule in early 2023. EPA responded to industry requests to provide a proposal with compliance options that allows flexibility to use innovative and cost-effective methane detection technologies and leverages data from remote sensing technology to quickly identify and fix large methane leaks. Along with new developments in low-carbon fuels such as renewable natural gas and hydrogen, this proposal is expected to have significant impacts on the natural gas market. This panel will review the proposed rule and how it fits into broader industry efforts to reduce emissions, share perspectives on how the gas industry is responding to new guidelines, and dig deeper into how state utility regulators should be thinking about and responding to these developments.

#### **Moderators:**

Hon. Megan Gilman, Colorado

Hon. Dan Scripps, Michigan

#### Panelists:

Melissa Adams, AVP Climate Solutions & Commercialization, Washington Gas & Light Kevin Culligan, Senior Policy Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, EPA Jim Kibler, Executive Director, Our Nation's Energy Future Doug Sahm, CTO, ZEVAC

#### Committee on Telecommunications

Room: River Birch A

## Affordable Connectivity Program: Improving Outreach and Increasing Enrollment

Now that the ACP has been active for a little over a year, it is important to review and learn from the efforts and methods that have been used throughout the states to foster outreach and awareness of the program, as well as increase enrollment. As a follow-up to NARUC's resolution passed at the 2022 Summer Policy Conference requesting various parties to collaborate and promote awareness of the ACP, panelists will discuss different methods used to improve awareness and increase enrollment, including any partnerships that may exist between ACP providers and state agencies, non-profits, etc. Panelist will also discuss any unexpected issues that may have been encountered during the past year, as well as any customer complaint or reliability issues. Panelists will review FCC ACP programs such as the ACP Outreach Grant Program, as well as the ACP Outreach Pilot to Housing Assistance Recipients and discuss the impact that these may have on the ACP.

#### **Moderator:**

Hon. Sarah Freeman, Indiana

#### Panelists:

Danielle Perry, Chief Compliance Officer, TruConnect

Ilene Albert - AVP, Broadband Affordability & Digital Equity Programs, Cox

Olivia Wein, Staff Attorney, National Consumer Law Center

Caroline Siegel Singh, Program Manager, Greenlining Institute

#### Committee on Water

Room: River Birch B

## The Unknown Unknowns: Water Quality Challenges beyond PFAS

The emergent threat of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water has resulted in a comprehensive response from water utilities, regulators, environmentalists, and the courts. Federal and state governments have enacted a variety of measures meant to address PFAS contamination and some regulations, standards and thresholds are not consistent leaving water utilities to navigate the policy uncertainty. Adding to the dilemma is that PFAS are only one of many emerging contaminants that threaten public health and safety, and current detection and treatment options that are effective for today may not effectively treat new contaminants of tomorrow. This panel will explore water quality challenges beyond PFAS, as well as technologies, regulatory approaches and informational/educational customer messaging approaches meant to address these emergent threats.

Moderator: Hon. Patrice Bubar, Maryland

Panelists:

Ben Grumbles, Executive Director, Environmental Council of States

Lauren Weinrich, PhD, Principal Scientist, American Water

**EPA Representative (TBD)** 

2:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

### **Networking Break**

3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### **General Session**

Room: Potomac Ballroom

## Looking Back--and Forward--at FERC-State Engagement

Managing energy policies that affect the entire nation is a daunting but necessary task for regulators. This session looks at the relationship between state regulators and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in recent history, often with NARUC serving as an important facilitator in these dialogues.

We have reached a point where communication and engagement has increased, with all players having to, at times, navigate through an atmosphere of politics while staying focused on serving the public interest. Managing and respecting different and competing priorities is not a simple feat and we've reached this point through very intentional measures.

The panelists, all former members of FERC, look at how the relationships with state regulators have evolved and offer insights on how to ensure that the relationship continues in the right direction.

**Part I:** NARUC President Michael Caron (Connecticut) talks to Rich Glick about his tenure at FERC and how he envisions the future of state-federal interactions.

**Part II:** Hon. Jehmal Hudson (Virginia) gets perspectives from several past members of FERC and their ideas on how cooperative federalism works in principle and in practice:

#### Panelists:

Neil Chatterjee, Senior Advisor, Hogan Lovells

Tony Clark, Senior Advisor, Wilkinson, Barker, Knauer LLP

Colette D. Honorable, Partner, Reed Smith LLP

Joseph T. Kelliher, Principal, Three Acorns

## Wednesday, February 15, 2023

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

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

## Winter Wake-Up Coffee Break

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

#### **General Session**

Room: Potomac Ballroom

Gabe Klein, Executive Director, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

Introduction: Hon. Abigail Anthony, Rhode Island

#### From Cyber Hacks to Physical Attacks: Protecting Critical Infrastructure

The security of our nation's critical infrastructure is at risk. The recent attacks on electric substations in North Carolina, coupled with the relentless uptick in cybersecurity threats against the grid underscore this growing trend. Minimizing physical and cybersecurity risk to critical infrastructure is a priority for state regulators and utilities alike.

This session will explore viable physical and cyber risk mitigation strategies, discuss avenues to improve rapid response and recovery following a successful security incident, and highlight how regulators and industry can work together to identify and overcome challenges to ensuring long-term, robust security and resilience of critical infrastructure in a cost-effective manner.

Moderator: Hon. Dianne Solomon, New Jersey

#### Panelists:

Hon. Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Pennsylvania

Lynn P. Costantini, PhD; Deputy Director, NARUC Center for Partnerships and Innovation

Matthew B. Green, SVP, Chief Information & Digital Officer, PPL Corporation

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

#### Update on National Petroleum Council Studies to Inform the U.S. Department of Energy

The National Petroleum Council (NPC) is a federal advisory committee to advise and inform the Secretary of Energy. Its membership includes representatives of oil and gas companies as well as other stakeholders. In 2021 and 2022, Secretary Jennifer Granholm requested that the NPC undertake two studies: *Deployment of Low Carbon Intensity Hydrogen Energy at Scale* and *Reducing Emissions of Greenhouse Gases from the U.S. Natural Gas Supply Chain*. Both studies seek to answer the Secretary's questions about technology readiness, research and development trajectories, infrastructure needs, environmental and health impacts, and policy and regulatory actions to facilitate the beneficial deployment of hydrogen and methane mitigation technologies. Both studies use a committee structure, with coordinating subcommittees involving diverse membership representing industry, non-governmental organizations, academia, and federal and state government overseeing planning and progress on each report. As an appointed member of the coordinating subcommittee for the *Hydrogen Energy at Scale* study representing state public service commissions, Commissioner Diane X. Burman, New York, will provide an overview of the NPC studies, timelines, and opportunities for state regulators to engage with the studies as the committees work towards their completion in late 2023 – 2024.

Hon. Diane Burman, New York

Announcements and Adjourn: President Michael Caron, Connecticut

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Room: Anacostia D

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

### **Bonus Workshop**

Room: River Birch Ballroom

Demystifying Virtual Power Plants: What is a VPP? How are VPPs deployed today? What are the opportunities and challenges for regulators, utilities, and other stakeholders?

NARUC, U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity and Loan Programs Office, and the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA), are hosting a workshop following the NARUC Winter Policy Summit that will describe the fundamentals of virtual power plants (VPPs), including applications in vehicle-to-grid, solar+storage and DERs and demand response. Panelists include leaders from across regulatory, utility, and private sector organizations who will share their expertise and case-studies on how VPPs have been deployed and their vision for VPPs as a tool to meet decarbonization, resilience, and cost-reduction goals. **Register in advance** 

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoVdwcuUa1tWVd6q5yHzjHtgG9XanBinyvdpSmVT\_CLB phMA/viewform). Policy Summit registration not required.

1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission Meeting**