

For Immediate Release

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NARUC
National Association of
Regulatory Utility Commissioners

State Utility Commissioners to Represent NARUC with FCC, FERC and NERC Roles

WASHINGTON (January 21, 2026) — The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners congratulates Nebraska Public Service Commissioner Tim Schram, Arkansas Chairman Doyle Webb and Commissioner Pat O’Connell of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission on their new roles representing the interests of NARUC members before three federal agencies.

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr has appointed Schram to the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company as the representative for state telecommunications regulators. He will join six others appointed to the 20-member USAC Board for a term that runs from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027. Members of the Board of Directors provide leadership and guidance in USAC's administration of universal service and do not make policy or interpret statutes.

Schram currently chairs NARUC’s Committee on Telecommunications and brings extensive experience in state utility regulation and universal service issues, with service on multiple boards and advisory bodies focused on public safety, communications security and network reliability.

O’Connell was elected to serve on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Member Representatives Committee for Sector 12 (Government), for a term ending February 2027. The MRC elects independent trustees, votes on amendments to the bylaws and provides advice and recommendations to the NERC Board with respect to the development of annual budgets, business plans and funding mechanisms and other matters pertinent to the purpose and operations of the corporation.

O’Connell is a previous vice chair of NARUC’s Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment, has served on a host of federal and regional boards and advisory committees and is president of the Southwest Power Pool Regional State Committee.

Webb will serve on the Federal-State Current Issues Collaborative, a joint initiative of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and NARUC that serves as a venue for federal and state regulators to share perspectives, increase understanding and, where appropriate, identify potential solutions regarding challenges and coordination on a broad range of matters that impact specific state and federal regulatory jurisdiction.

Webb has a long history of public service and serves on NARUC's Committee on Electricity. He is also an advisory council member of New Mexico State University for Public Utilities. For the Collaborative, he will represent the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

"I am grateful to Commissioners O'Connell, Schram and Webb for representing the interests of state members and their communities in these positions," said NARUC President Ann Rendahl of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. "Each brings an impressive record of public service, substantial policy experience and a clear understanding of our members' needs. We appreciate the recognition by the FCC, FERC and NERC of the importance of state regulatory perspectives."

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About NARUC

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