

WELCOME

- This webinar is being recorded. The presentation and recording will be posted at www.naruc.org/ncep.
- Type questions in the Q&A box at any time.
- Join the NCEP listserv to be notified of future events by selecting NCEP as an interest area in your MYNARUC account at www.naruc.org/mynaruc.



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ELECTRICITY POLICY

NCEP FRAMEWORK RELEASE WEBINAR

August 12, 2026

*NCEP Framework for State Agency
Collaboration on Load Growth*



www.naruc.org/ncep

The National Council on Electricity Policy

Deborah Reynolds

NCEP Director

NARUC Center for Partnerships and
Innovation

dreynolds@naruc.org

www.naruc.org/ncep



The National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP) is a collaborative and member-driven forum for state-level electricity decision-makers throughout the country to examine how we can work together as new technologies, policies, regulations, and markets impact our states and the grid.

NCEP is an initiative under NARUC, supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, convening state officials and staff since 1994.

Agenda

SPEAKERS
Deborah Reynolds , NCEP/NARUC
Dr. Zenon Christodoulou , Moderator
Hyleah O'Quinn , Senior Policy Advisor, NARUC
Kristen Verclas , Senior Managing Director, NASEO
Alex McWard , Senior Policy Specialist, NCSL
Danielle Sass Byrnett , Senior Director, NARUC
Nina Suetake , Deputy Director of Policy, NASUCA
Jenna Johnston , Policy Analyst, NGA

Why This Framework Matters

Large Load Growth Creates:

Opportunities

Economic development
Jobs and tax revenue
Strategic industry growth

Challenges

Reliability
Infrastructure planning
Cost allocation
Permitting

How the Framework was Developed

- NCEP Webinar Series (2025)
- NCEP Annual Meeting Workshop (2026)
- Multi-state, multi-agency collaboration

State Participants Included:

- Utility regulators
- Energy offices
- Consumer advocates
- Legislators
- Governors' offices
- Environmental agencies
- Economic development agencies

Core Framework Objective

**SHIFT FROM:
REACTIVE
DECISIONS**

Project-by-Project
Responses

**SHIFT TO:
PROACTIVE
PLANNING**

System-Level Strategy

**DESIRED
OUTCOMES:**

- Reliability
- Affordability
- Economic growth
- Public trust





NATIONAL COUNCIL
ON ELECTRICITY POLICY

Three Framework Themes

THEMES (foundational and cross-cutting)



COORDINATION

- Clarify roles, authorities, and decision-making
- Early interagency engagement
- Shared goals, transparency, trust, and accountability
- Predictable processes for resolving tradeoffs



DATA AND ANALYSIS

- Consistent, high-quality data and transparent methods
- Shared baselines and assumptions
- Enables planning, permitting, rate setting, and development



RISKS AND BENEFITS

- Cost causation and cost recovery
- Risk mitigation
- Equitable distribution of harms and benefits
- Aligns with broader state policy objectives

6 Key Approaches



EARLY INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Develop and maintain open lines of communication so state and local entities and utilities can share information, clarify roles, and align priorities before key decisions are finalized.

Framework Themes

- Coordination
- Data and Analysis
- Risks and Benefits



SHARED INFORMATION PORTALS

Develop online centralized portal for data and information about large load service requests. Include standards for submissions and appropriate access.



STATE-LEVEL LOAD FORECASTING

Develop state-level load forecasting processes that roll up information from utilities, large load customers, and others. Define terms and uses for the resulting forecasts.



INTERCONNECTION POLICIES FOR LARGE LOADS

Establish physical and financial standards for connecting large load customers to the grid.



LARGE LOAD TARIFFS

Establish tariffs that identify and recover ongoing costs of service caused by large load customers.



SHARED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Align state policy objectives on energy and economic development so state agencies can use resulting goals to prioritize investments and incentives.

Approach 1: Early Interagency Coordination

KEY FEATURES

- Clear lead agency
- Early project engagement
- Broad stakeholder participation
- Shared timelines and assumptions
- Community engagement
- Proactive statewide planning



EARLY INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Develop and maintain open lines of communication so state and local entities and utilities can share information, clarify roles, and align priorities before key decisions are finalized.

Benefits of Early Coordination

Fewer delays

Better process efficiency

Reduced stranded investments

Improved public trust

Reduced reputation risk

Statewide alignment

Approach 2: Shared Information Portals

KEY FEATURES

- Shared agency platform
- Project tracking
- Standardized data
- Confidentiality controls
- Regular data updates
- Trusted governance



SHARED INFORMATION PORTALS

Develop online centralized portal for data and information about large load service requests. Include standards for submissions and appropriate access.

Benefits of Shared Information Portals

- Better planning
- Improved transparency
- Increased trust
- Faster permitting
- Reduced overbuilding
- Improved workforce planning

Approach 3: State-Level Load Forecasting

KEY FEATURES

- State-led forecasting
- Utility coordination
- Shared assumptions
- Uncertainty ranges
- Milestone-based forecasting
- Regular updates



STATE-LEVEL LOAD FORECASTING

Develop state-level load forecasting processes that roll up information from utilities, large load customers, and others. Define terms and uses for the resulting forecasts.

Benefits of StateLevel Load Forecasting

Better planning and budgeting

Greater transparency

Improved resource adequacy

Common statewide vision

Reduced forecast inconsistencies

Approach 4: Interconnection Policies for Large Loads

KEY FEATURES

- Clear queue requirements
- Defined milestones
- System impact disclosure
- Early constraint identification
- Standardized timelines
- Cost-causation principles
- Transmission coordination



INTERCONNECTION POLICIES FOR LARGE LOADS

Establish physical and financial standards for connecting large load customers to the grid.



Benefits of Interconnection Policies

- Greater market certainty
- Supports reliability
- Encourages development
- Supports public interest
- More efficient agency processes

Approach 5: Large Load Tariffs

KEY FEATURES

- Large-customer rate structures
- Financial guarantees
- Take-or-pay provisions
- Exit fees
- Cost allocation rules
- Multi-year commitments



LARGE LOAD TARIFFS

Establish tariffs that identify and recover ongoing costs of service caused by large load customers.

Benefits of Large Load Tariffs

- Manages speculative projects
- Protects ratepayers
- Minimizes risk
- Supports economic development
- Encourages community benefits
- Improves cost transparency

Approach 6: Shared Economic Development Goals

KEY FEATURES

- Statewide goal-setting process
- Leadership buy-in
- Public engagement
- Agreed priority industries
- Clear benefit metrics
- Defined tradeoff framework
- Community impact mitigation



SHARED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

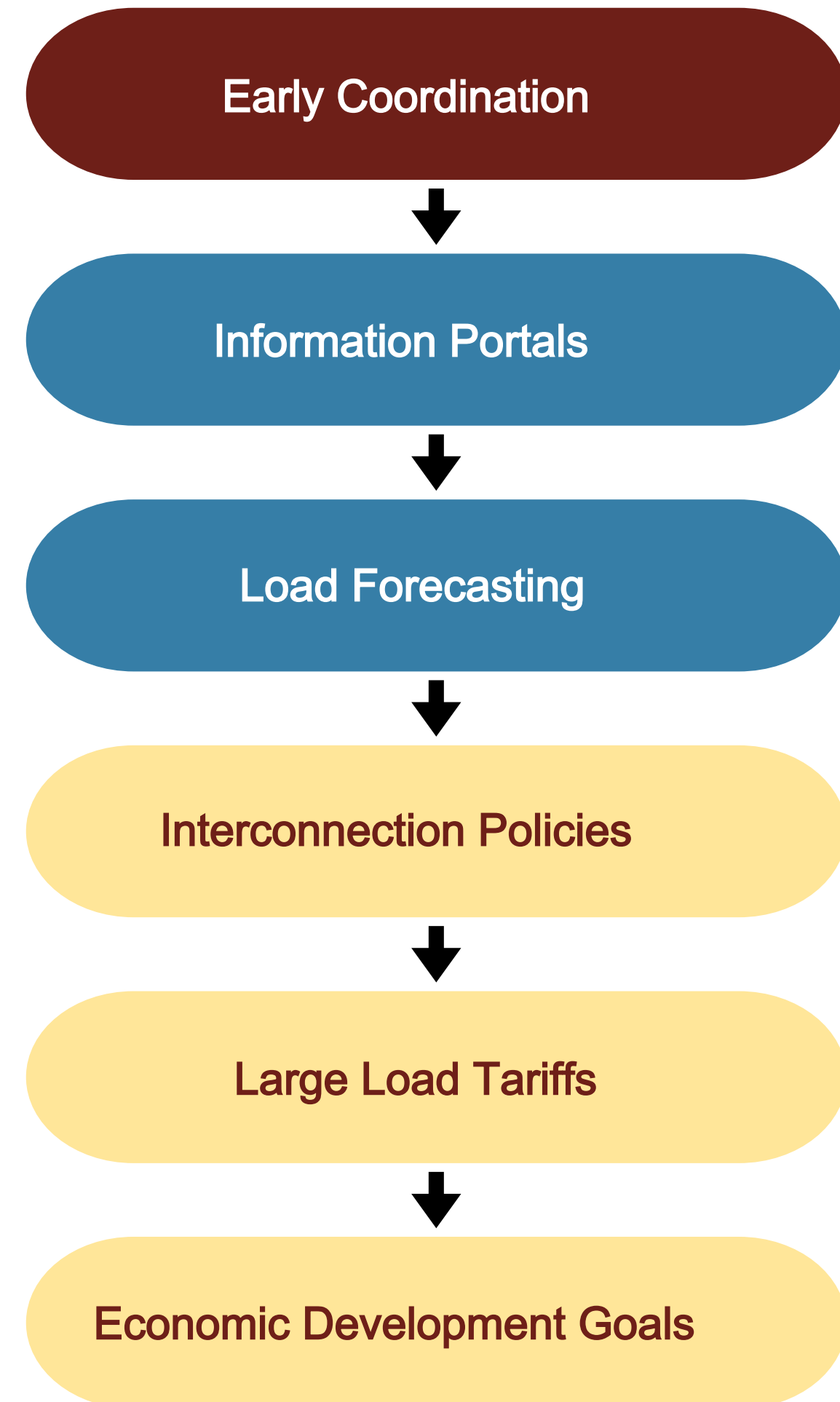
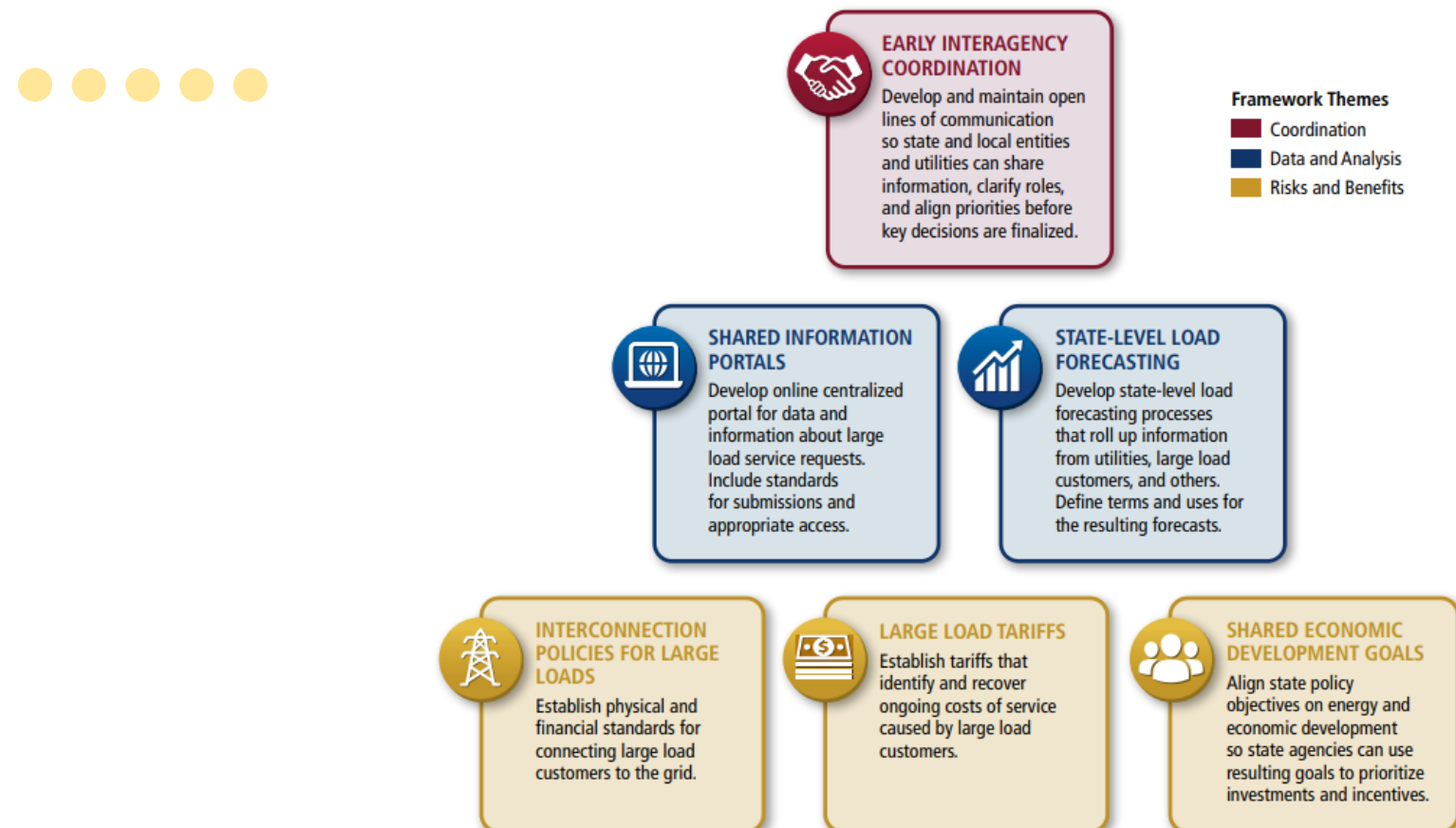
Align state policy objectives on energy and economic development so state agencies can use resulting goals to prioritize investments and incentives.

Benefits of Shared Economic Development Goals

- Increased competitiveness
- Faster response to developers
- Improved efficiency
- Better public-interest outcomes
- Stronger negotiation position
- More durable community benefits

How the 6 Approaches Work Together

Outcome: Reliable, Affordable,
Strategic Growth



Key Takeaways

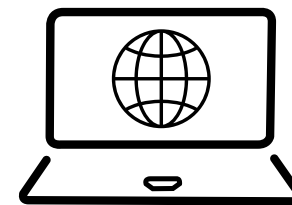
- Large load growth presents both opportunity and risk.
- Coordination should begin early.
- Shared data improves decisions.
- Consistent goals and standards help manage risk.



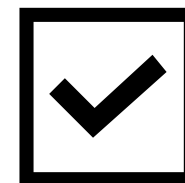
Questions & Answers



Stay up to date on NCEP activities!



Visit the NCEP webpage to find resources:
www.naruc.org/ncep



Join the NCEP listserv:
www.naruc.org/mynaruc