



NARUC

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

NARUC TASK FORCE ON NATURAL GAS RESOURCE PLANNING

Overview & Status Update

January 22, 2024

www.naruc.org/GasTaskForce



Task Force Scope: Gas Distribution

Fuel for Heating, Cooking, Industrial Processes

NOT Gas Transmission | NOT Power Generation



21 Participating States

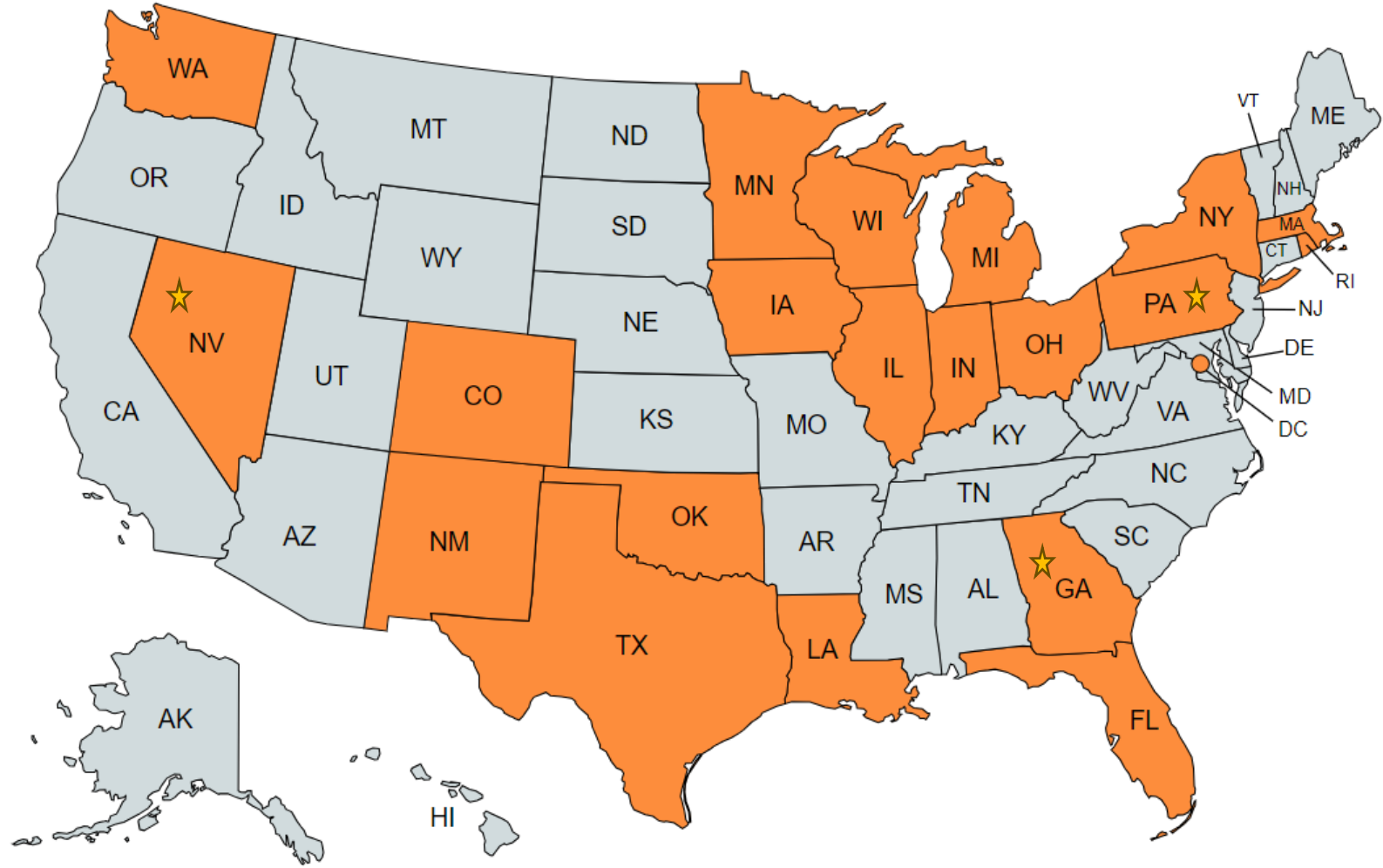
Chair: Hon. Fitz Johnson, Georgia

Co-Vice Chairs:

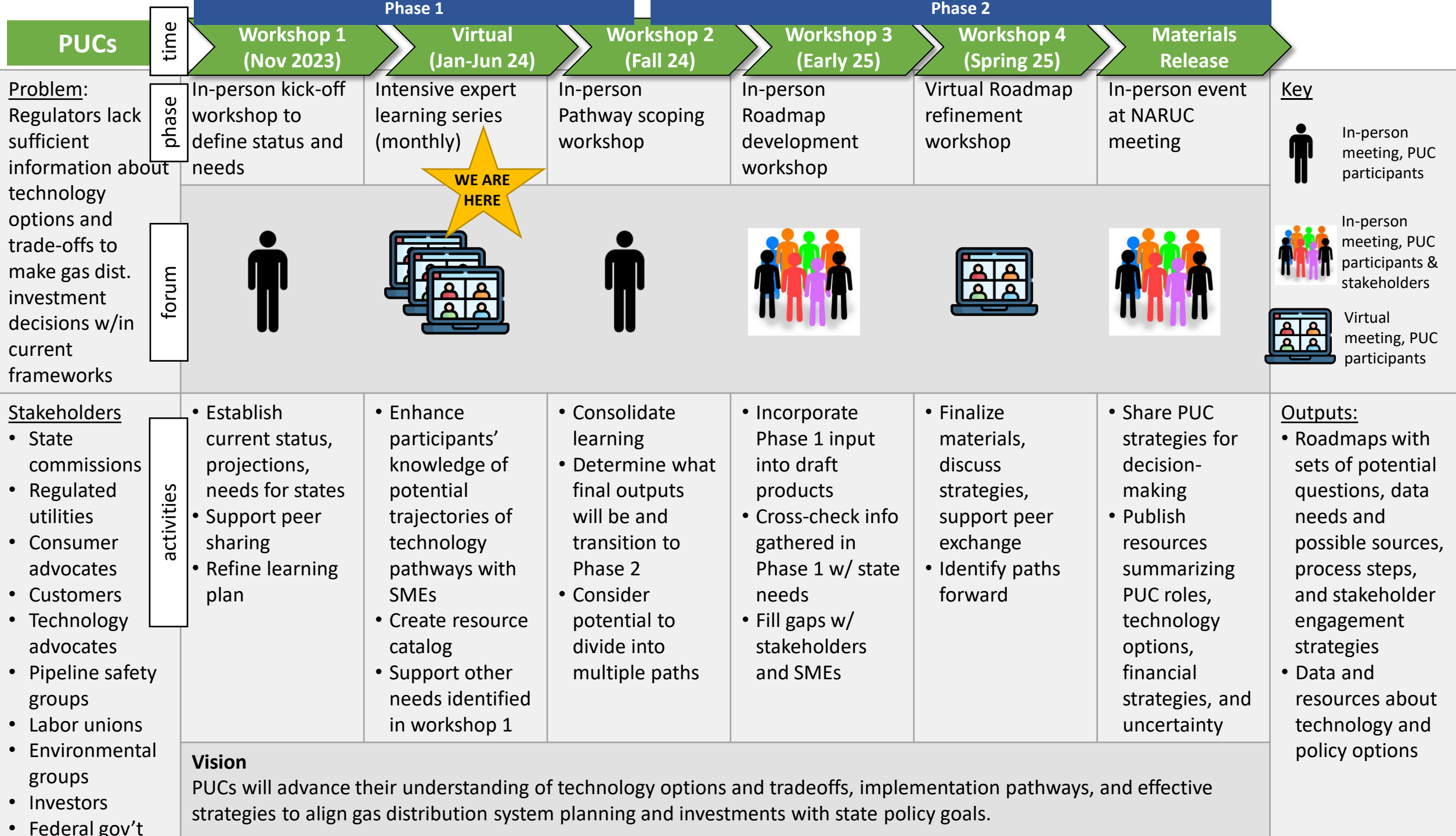
- Hon. Katie Zerfuss, Pennsylvania
- Hon. Tammy Cordova, Nevada

Members reflect the diversity of NARUC's membership:

- Geography
- Planning approaches
- Economies
- State goals



Website: www.naruc.org/GasTaskForce | Factsheet: bit.ly/46u1xVi



Expert Learning Series: Schedule & Topics

Meeting Date (1–3 p.m. ET / 10 a.m.–12 p.m. PT)	Topic	Task Force Volunteers to Share Lessons Learned
Wednesday, January 31	Gas Integrated Resource Planning	Georgia; Illinois; Colorado; Washington; Minnesota
Wednesday, March 6	Infrastructure Investments	Louisiana; Illinois
Wednesday, March 27	Volatility in Demand, Supply, and Price	Wisconsin; New Mexico; Oklahoma; Ohio
Wednesday, April 24	Emerging Technologies	Massachusetts; Texas; Michigan
Wednesday, May 29	Ratemaking and Affordability	Louisiana; Illinois
Wednesday, June 26	Coordination Between the Gas and Electric Sectors at the Distribution Level	<i>TBD</i>



Expert Learning Series: Format

Format will consist of three parts.

Part 1 and Part 2 are open to all interested NARUC members.

Part 1: Features outside expert presentation(s) on the topic of the month. Recordings of presentations and related materials will be posted to the Task Force's website:

www.naruc.org/GasTaskForce.

Part 2: Includes Q&A with the expert presenter(s). This portion will **not** be recorded.

Part 3: Features Gas Task Force Member volunteers informally sharing lessons learned related to the meeting topic. This portion will be for **Gas Task Force members only** and will **not** be recorded.



Appendix

Optional Slides & Additional Details

Charting a Course Towards Enhanced Planning

Task Force Purpose: Connect state utility regulators with tools, expertise, and platforms to share information and develop their own refined visions for commission-led planning processes that will help them navigate gas distribution investment decision making.

Outcomes

- Commissions will advance their understanding of technology options and tradeoffs, implementation pathways, and effective strategies to align gas distribution system planning and investments with state policy goals.

Outputs

- Roadmaps with sets of potential questions, data needs and possible sources, process steps, and stakeholder engagement strategies to assist NARUC members
- Identified data gaps to influence research and ultimately help inform decision-makers

Participants

- 1 commissioner + 1-2 staff from 21 states (all who applied)
- Invited experts and stakeholders at key points
- Note: NARUC members are primary audience and participants; input from stakeholders will be sought throughout

Process

- 2-year effort to include 3 in-person workshops, 1 virtual workshop, webinars & peer sharing calls, and work in between
- Workshops will be charrette-style working meetings with Chatham House rules
- Professional facilitation team fluent in technical / policy issues



Two-Phase Effort

Phase 1: Baselineing and Information Gathering (Summer 2023 – 2024)

- Launch Task Force and recruit members, July - August 2023
- In-person kick-off workshop w/ peer-to-peer direction setting, November 2023
- Intensive expert + peer learning series, January - July 2024
 - Virtual sessions; approx. one per month
- NARUC + participants determine what final outputs will be and prepare for Phase 2

Phase 2: Roadmapping (Summer 2024 - 2025)

- Translate Phase 1 input plus state progress into questions for commissions and related resources
 - Consider breaking into multiple paths (e.g., technology questions, financial questions)
- Series of workshops to develop materials, discuss strategies, support peer exchange, incorporate stakeholder insights
 - Three workshops in second year: two in-person, one virtual
- Publish and publicize toolkit outputs
 - High quality, strategic, and tactical resources that can be immediately used by state commissions
 - National launch to include in-person release at a NARUC summer 2025





Modified Chatham House Rules: You may share who was there and what was said, but not who said what



Interest in gaining knowledge about evolving gas infrastructure planning process options and technologies



Embody a spirit of collaboration



Ability to step outside of day-to-day role when needed to constructively contribute to this broader visioning effort



Participate without bringing a disruptive agenda to the workshop

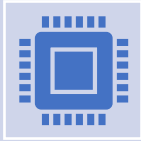


Make contributions (distinct from observing) while practicing democracy of time so all voices can be heard

All members agreed to the Task Force Ground Rules in your expressions of interest



Key Questions Commissions and Stakeholders are Asking



What are the likely trajectories for the full range of technology options? What technologies can be deployed in the near- and long-term to progress towards state goals while ensuring customers have access to safe, reliable, and affordable energy services?



Where gas distribution utilities are required to achieve emissions reductions, how should the costs and benefits be quantified?



How might PUCs evaluate and prioritize investments in gas distribution infrastructure given the multi-decade lifetimes for many of these assets and the timing of interim / final targets for state goals?



What strategies can PUCs consider to limit the risk of stranded assets, especially considering that those stranded assets may become a substantial financial burden of those who can least afford it?

