



Center for
Public Utilities
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CURRENT ISSUES 2021

AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
ELDORADO HOTEL ♦ SANTA FE, NM

Hear Industry Leaders and Commissioners
Discuss Important Issues Facing the
Electric, Natural Gas, Water and
Telecommunications
Industries

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

HON. PAUL KJELLANDER,
NARUC President; President, Idaho Public
Utilities Commission

HON. KAREN CHARLES PETERSON,
NARUC Telecom Committee Chair; Commissioner,
Massachusetts Dept. of Telecommunications and Cable

DAVID ANDERSON,
AGA Chair; President and CEO, NW Natural

JEFF GULDNER,
Co-Chair, EEI State Committee; CEO and President, Pinnacle West

CHERYL NORTON,
EVP, Chief Operating Officer &
Chief Environmental Officer, American Water

JC SANDBERG,
Chief Advocacy Officer, American Clean Power
Association

Numerous NARUC Committee Chairs and State
Commissioners

Speakers subject to changed based
on state travel restrictions

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- ♦ Industry Leaders Panel
- ♦ Clean Energy at Scale
- ♦ Balancing Modernization and Regulatory Rules
 - ♦ The Clean Energy Paradigm
- ♦ Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)
 - ♦ 1st Annual Taste of Telecom
- ♦ Emerging Clean Generation Technologies
 - ♦ Affordable Service; No Loan Required

COMMISSIONERS' GRILL

Commissioners Answer Your Questions about Utility and Telecom Issues

Register now at cpu.nmsu.edu ♦ Registration is limited.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021

**6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Registration and
Opening Reception**

MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

Hon. Chris Nelson, Chair, CPU Advisory Council; Chairman, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Joe Gillan, Vice-Chair, CPU Advisory Council; President, Gillan Associates

Jeanette Walter, Associate Director, Center for Public Utilities, NMSU

8:45 a.m. – 11:15 p.m. Industry Leaders' Roundtable

MODERATOR: **Hon. Paul Kjellander**, NARUC President; President, Idaho Public Utilities Commission

SPEAKERS: **David Anderson**, AGA Chair; President and CEO, NW Natural

Jeff Guldner, Co-Chair EEI State Committee; CEO and President, Pinnacle West

Cheryl Norton, EVP, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Environmental Officer, American Water

Hon. Karen Charles Peterson, Chair, NARUC Telecom Committee; Commissioner, Massachusetts Dept. of Telecommunications and Cable

11:15 – 12:00 noon Clean Energy at Scale

The new decade will be a transformative one for energy. Clean energy technologies deployed on our grids are growing, with enthusiastic investment as well as high consumer demand. What do state regulators need to know; how can we maximize the value for consumers during this transformation; how do regulators stay informed and make smart decisions for the short- and long-term evolution of our electric sector?

SPEAKER: **JC Sandberg**, Chief Advocacy Officer, American Clean Power Association

1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. How Do We Get it Right?

Panel will explore the need, use and approval of programs for new cutting-edge technologies and infrastructure modernization that are being enabled by regulatory changes and oversight.

MODERATOR: **Hon. Julie Fedorchak**, Commissioner, North Dakota Public Service Commission

SPEAKERS: **Suedeek Kelly**, Partner, Jenner and Block; former Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission; former FERC Commissioner

Matthew McCaffree, Senior Director Regulatory Strategy, Itron, Inc.

Matthew R. Tomc, Director and Associate General Counsel, Ameren Services Company

RESPONDERS: **Hon. Tricia Pridemore**, Chairman, Georgia Public Service Commission

Hon. Ann Rendahl, Chair, NARUC Committee on Electricity; Commissioner; Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

Hon. Jason Stanek, Chair, Maryland Public Service Commission

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. The Clean Energy Paradigm: Balancing Consumer Demands for Greener Power with the Need for Affordability and Reliability.

As natural gas and renewables become a larger part of the electricity fuel mix, power markets and regulators face complicated new issues. How much renewable energy penetration is possible? What are the roles of subsidies and state renewable goals? What is the future of competitive markets?

MODERATOR: **Hon. D. Ethan Kimbrel**, Chair, NARUC Gas Committee; Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission

SPEAKERS: **Lewis Binswanger**, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Nicor

Chuck Harder, Deputy Attorney General, Office of Arkansas Attorney General

David Holt, President, Consumer Energy Alliance

Clair Moeller, President and COO, MISO

Dena Wiggins, President and CEO, Natural Gas Supply Association

Lynnae Willette, Director, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, EDF Renewable Energy

RESPONDERS: **Hon. Gary Hanson**, Commissioner, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Brad Johnson, Vice Chair, Montana Public Service Commission

Hon. C.J. Manthe, Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Environmental, Social and Governance Principles at Work

Stakeholders expect corporations to provide leadership and make an impact on environment, social, and governance (ESG) principles. How are utilities and regulators balancing workforce diversity, affordability, consumer privacy and sustainability with financial stability and ROI? Do conventional regulatory policies and processes need to change to address these challenges?

MODERATOR: *Hon. Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chair, NARUC Committee on Critical Infrastructure; Chair, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission*

SPEAKERS: *Elin Swanson Katz, Managing Director, Energy Consulting and Associate General Counsel, Tilson Technology Management*

Sandy Nessing, Managing Director, Corporate Sustainability, American Electric Power

Leslie Rich, Managing Director, JP Morgan

RESPONDERS: *Hon. Maria Bocanegra, Chair, NARUC Water Committee; Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission*

Hon. Ellen Nowak, Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Hon. Jason Stanek, Chair, Maryland Public Service Commission

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 1st Annual Taste of Telecom

The pandemic has put broadband deployment issues front and center, making telecom panels much more interesting as of late. This panel will address those issues, as well as providing a multi-perspective look at the most pressing current issues, including funding sources for broadband (federal, RDoF, state initiatives) and efforts to map unserved areas; lessons from the FCC's RDoF auction; the fragmentation of the universal service mandate across multiple technologies and providers; the expanded role of the electric IOUs and coops (or, at least, some of them) in broadband deployment; the significance of the SpaceX StarLink service (expected to be operational in northern latitudes for those with attitudes), and USF contribution reform (fact or fiction?). How do these pieces fit and how do they affect you and your state? Come and find out.

MODERATOR: *Hon. Sarah Freeman, Chair, NARUC Education Subcommittee and CPU Liaison; Commissioner, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission*

SPEAKERS: *Bryce Freeman, Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate*

Jose Lovato, Operations Manager, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative

Pamela Sherwood, CPU 2nd Vice Chair, Associate General Counsel-State Regulatory, Lumen Technologies

Torry Somers, Vice President, State Regulatory, Charter

RESPONDERS: *Hon. Dana Murphy, Commissioner, Oklahoma Corporation Commission*

Hon. Chris Nelson, Chair, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Brandon Presley, Commissioner, Mississippi Public Service Commission

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Emerging Clean Generation Technologies

This panel will highlight how the generation industry could shift to a spectrum of emerging technologies such as new nuclear, renewable technologies, carbon capture and sequestration methodologies, and storage. The panel will discuss how the new technologies work, the status of research and timeline for deployment, and issues around commercial viability and cost, as well as regulatory issues confronting deployment and operation.

MODERATOR: *Hon. Jeremy Oden, Chair, NARUC Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management; Commissioner, Alabama Public Service Commission*

SPEAKERS: *Jeff Merrifield, Esq, Partner, Pillsbury Law Firm, Former NRC Commissioner*

Rich Powell, Executive Director, ClearPath Foundation

Rob Trautz, Technical Executive Advanced Gen CO2 Capture, EPRI

Cameron Schilling, Vice President, National Hydro Association

RESPONDERS: *Hon. John Betkoski, Vice Chair, Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority*

Hon. David Danner, CPU Vice Chair; Chair, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Tuesday schedule continued

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Affordable Service; No Loan Required**

Will costly new technologies push customers off public utility networks? How can investor-owned utilities meet unprecedented challenges to affordability and universal service, especially for vulnerable customers, in the face of new technologies, COVID-19, and rising costs? What is Wall Street's view of this challenge and how might Wall Street contribute to its solution? How might new technologies themselves promote cost containment and reduce rates in other ways? Could costs be cut by in-house (or cooperative) RD&D, and licensing beyond the utility world? What is the role of government and private infrastructure financing? How is affordability achieved without compromising reliability, safety, service quality, or stewardship of the environment?

MODERATOR: *Hon. Floyd McKissick, Commissioner, North Carolina Utilities Commission*

SPEAKERS: *Lynne Fowler, President and CEO, Astera Group*

Julie Janson, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Duke Energy Carolinas

Jerrold Oppenheim, Principal, Democracy and Regulation

Sean Twomey, President - Bermuda and Great Basin Water Co., Corix

Paul Vasington, Director, Public Policy, Verizon (tentative)

RESPONDERS: *Hon. Mary-Anna Holden, Commissioner, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities*

Hon. Thad LeVar, Chair, Public Service Commission of Utah

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Commissioners' Grill**

CO-MODERATORS: *Hon. Paul Kjellander, NARUC President; President, Idaho Public Utilities Commission*

Nick Wagner, VP - CO Regulatory Affairs and Policy, Black Hills Corporation

INVITED COMMISSIONERS

Hon. Theresa Becenti-Aguilar, NM

Hon. John Betkoski, CT

Hon. Maria Bocanegra, IL

Hon. Jefferson Byrd, NM

Hon. Karen Charles Peterson, MA

Hon. Maida Coleman, MO

Hon. David Danner, WA

Hon. Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, PA

Hon. Julie Fedorchak, ND

Hon. Stephen Fischmann, NM

Hon. Sarah Freeman, IN

Hon. Cynthia Hall, NM

Hon. Gary Hanson, SD

Hon. Mary-Anna Holden, NJ

Hon. Brad Johnson, MT

Hon. Dwight Keen, KS

Hon. Paul Kjellander, ID

Hon. D. Ethan Kimbrel, IL

Hon. Thad LeVar, UT

Hon. Odogwu Obi Linton, MD

Hon. CJ Manthe, NV

Hon. Joseph Maestas, NM

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Hon. Chris Nelson, SD

Hon. Ellen Nowak, WI

Hon. Jeremy Oden, AL

Hon. Tremaine Phillips, MI

Hon. Brandon Presley, MS

Hon. Ann Rendahl, WA

Hon. Matt Schuerger, MN

Hon. Eric Skrmetta, LA

Hon. Jason Stanek, MD

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HON. ABIGAIL ANTHONY, Chair, NARUC Energy Resources and the Environment Committee; Commissioner, Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

HON. THERESA BECENTI-AGUILAR, Chair, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

HON. JOHN BETKOSKI, Vice Chair, Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

HON. MARIA BOCANEGRA, Chair, NARUC on Water Committee; Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission

HON. TONOLA BROWN-BLAND, Co-Chair, NARUC Washington Action Program; Commissioner, North Carolina Utilities Commission

HON. JEFFERSON BYRD, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

HON. KAREN CHARLES PETERSON, NARUC Chair on Telecommunications; Commissioner, Massachusetts Dept. of Telecommunications and Cable

HON. MAIDA COLEMAN, Commissioner, Missouri Public Service Commission

HON. DAVID DANNER, CPU Second Vice Chair; Chair, Washington Utilities and Transportation

HON. GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE, Chair, NARUC Committee on Critical Infrastructure; Chair, Pennsylvania Public Service Commission

HON. JULIE FEDORCHAK, Commissioner, North Dakota Public Service Commission

HON. STEPHEN FISCHMANN, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

HON. SARAH FREEMAN, Chair, NARUC Education Subcommittee and CPU Liaison; Commissioner, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

HON. ART GRAHAM, Commissioner, Florida Public Service Commission

HON. CYNTHIA HALL, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

HON. GARY HANSON, Commissioner, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

HON. MARY-ANNA HOLDEN, Commissioner, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

HON. BRAD JOHNSON, Vice Chair, Montana Public Service Commission

HON. DWIGHT KEEN, Commissioner, Kansas Corporation Commission

HON. PAUL KJELLANDER, President, NARUC; President, Idaho Public Utilities Commission

HON. D. ETHAN KIMBREL, Chair, NARUC Gas Committee; Commissioner, Illinois Commerce Commission

HON. THAD LEVAR, Chair, Public Service Commission of Utah

HON. ODOGWU OBI LINTON, Chair, NARUC on Consumer Affairs and the Public Interest; Commissioner, Maryland Public Service Commission

HON. CJ MANTHE, Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

HON. JOSEPH MAESTAS, Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

HON. DANA MURPHY, Commissioner, Oklahoma Corporation Commission

HON. CHRIS NELSON, Chair, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

HON. ELLEN NOWAK, Chair, NARUC Committee on International Relations; Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

HON. JEREMY ODEN, Commissioner, Alabama Public Service Commission

HON. KIMBERLY O'GUINN, Commissioner, Arkansas Public Service Commission

HON. TREMAINE PHILLIPS, Commissioner, Michigan Public Service Commission

HON. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Chair, Public Service Commission of District of Columbia

HON. BRANDON PRESLEY, Commissioner, Mississippi Public Service Commission

HON. ANN RENDAHL, Chair, NARUC Committee on Electricity; Commissioner, Washington Utilities and Transportation

HON. MATT SCHUERGER, Commissioner, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

HON. ERIC SKRMETTA, Commissioner, Louisiana Public Service Company

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- JUSTIN BROWN**, Vice President, Regulation and Public Affairs, Southwest Gas Corp
- LORI BURROWS**, Vice President and General Counsel, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation
- LYNN BUTLER**, Director- State and Legislative Strategy, AT&T Services, Inc.
- RICK CIMERMAN**, Vice President, External & State Affairs, NCTA- The Internet & Television Association
- RON DARNELL**, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Public Service Company of New Mexico
- KARA FORNSTROM**, Director, State Regulatory Policy, Southwest Power Pool
- ROBERT GEE**, President, The Gee Strategies Group LLC
- JOE GILLAN**, CPU Chairman; President, Gillan Associates
- TODD HILLMAN**, Senior VP & Chief Customer Offer, MISO
- JOHN (BUTCH) HOWARD**, President, Howard Connections
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- BARBARA LOCKWOOD**, GM, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, Arizona Public Service Company
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- ERIN O'CONNELL-DIAZ**, President, FutureFWD, Inc.
- TERI OHTA**, National Director, State Regulatory Affairs, T-Mobile
- DANIEL PFEIFFER**, VP of Government Affairs, Itron
- JAMES BRAD RAMSAY**, General Counsel, NARUC
- PATRICK REINHART**, VP - Regulatory Relations and Policy, CenterPoint Energy
- KYLE ROGERS**, Vice President, External Affairs, Spire, Inc
- PAMELA SHERWOOD**, CPU 2nd Vice Chair; Associate General Counsel, State Regulatory, Lumen Technologies
- SUSAN SLOAN**, Vice President, State Policy, American Clean Power Association
- MALCOLM SMOAK**, President and COO, AEP SWEPCO
- TODD SNITCHLER**, President and CEO, Electric Power Supply Association
- WILLIAM STEELE**, President, Bill Steele and Associates, LLC
- KRISTA TANNER**, President, ITC Midwest
- BROOKE TRAMMEL**, Regional Vice President, Rates & Regulatory Affairs, Xcel Energy
- PAUL VASINGTON**, Director, Public Policy, Verizon
- NICK WAGNER**, VP CO Regulatory Affairs and Policy, Black Hills Corporation
- GREG WHITE**, Executive Director, NARUC
- DENA WIGGINS**, President and CEO, Natural Gas Supply Association

CONSUMER ADVOCATES

- CHRISTOPHER AYERS**, NASUCA President, North Carolina Utilities Commission
- BRYCE FREEMAN**, Administrator, Wyoming Office of Consumer Advocate
- CHUCK HARDER**, Deputy Attorney General, Office of Arkansas Attorney General
- JERROLD OPPENHEIM**, Principal, Democracy and Regulation
- DAVID SPRINGE**, Executive Director, NASUCA

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION: The conference will be held at the **Eldorado Hotel, 309 W. San Francisco, Santa Fe, New Mexico.**

RESERVATIONS: A block of rooms has been reserved at a special rate of **\$196 per night**, single or double.

To ensure the special rate, each participant should make his/her own reservations by **August 13, 2021.**

- Online: <https://be.synxis.com/?adult=1&arrive=2021-08-29&chain=17123&child=0¤cy=USD&depart=2021-09-01&group=2108PUBLIC&hotel=63150&level=hotel&locale=en-US&rooms=1>
- Phone: Call **1.505.995.4500** and mention the **NMSU Public Utilities conference**

TRAVEL: Travel time to Santa Fe from the Albuquerque Airport ("ABQ") is 60 minutes by car or 75 minutes by shuttle.

Groomer Transportation provides transportation between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Call **505-474-5696** for schedule or see their website at <https://groometransportation.com/santa-fe/>. Shuttle is approximately \$36 plus tax one way.

REGISTER EARLY – REGISTRATION IS LIMITED

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT IF REGISTRATION IS MADE BY AUGUST 13, 2021

REGISTRATION FEE IF MADE BY AUGUST 13, 2021

- **\$1,295** Company Representative
- **\$1,095** Center Sponsors and 501-C-3 Non-profit Organizations
- **\$895** All Government Entities

*Fee does not include travel or hotel accommodations

REGISTRATION FEE AFTER AUGUST 13, 2021

- **\$1,695** Company Representative
- **\$1,495** Center Sponsors and 501-C-3 Non-profit Organizations
- **\$995** All Government Entities

REGISTRATION MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE: ONLINE REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED

Choose one of the following:

- Online <https://registercurrentissues.nmsu.edu/>
- Mail completed registration form to address on registration form.
- E-mail registration form to jeawalte@nmsu.edu
- Call Jeanette Walter at **575-649-4812**

CANCELLATIONS: Due to Covid-19 and the possibility of continued travel restrictions, there will be no cancellation fee. However, we do ask that you let us know if you will be unable to attend by August 10, 2021.

CLE CREDITS: CLE Credits are awarded for this conference in most states. We do not apply to each state; therefore, you must apply as an individual. Please contact Jeanette Walter at jeawalte@nmsu.edu or **575.649.4812** for more information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Center for Public Utilities MSC 3MPD New Mexico State University Box 30001 Dept. 3MPD Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8001 • **Jeanette Walter:** Call: **575-649-4812** • E-Mail: jeawalte@nmsu.edu

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