

# DRAFT AGENDA

*Panel Times, Subjects and Participants May Change*

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

### 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

**Hilton Convention Center  
Baltimore, MD  
November 12-15, 2017**

Registration and all sessions will be in (Peale Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor), unless otherwise noted in the agenda. Dress is Business or Business Casual.

#### Sunday – November 12, 2017

- Noon – 5:30 pm      Registration  
*(Please pick up your meeting materials along with your tickets to the NARUC and NASUCA receptions)*
- 11:30 am – 12:50 pm      Executive Committee Meeting *(Marshall Room - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Lunch Provided)*
- 1:00 pm – 2:45 pm      *DOE/LBNL Sponsored Event: (NASUCA Members Only)*

#### ***Electrification and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure***

The culmination of our October, four-part educational webinar series dealing with electrification and electric vehicle infrastructure policy, this dialog will bring together the webinar participants for an in-person discussion with NASUCA members focused on the issues that should determine who, and under what circumstances public EV charging infrastructure should be built.

#### Moderator:

Hon. Phil Jones      Phil Jones Consulting, Former Commissioner,  
Washington Utilities and Transportation  
Commission

#### Panelists:

Nick Nigro      Atlas Public Policy  
Jim Ross      Director, Electric Vehicle Charging Association  
Max Baumhefner      National Resources Defense Counsel  
Cassie Powers      National Association of State Energy Officials  
Martin R. Cohen      Policy Consultant, Martin R. Cohen & Associates

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm Break-Light Refreshments

3:00 pm – 5:30pm Closed Business Session – NASUCA members only

Association Business:

-Welcome: Robert Nelson-NASUCA President

-Officer Reports

-Secretary's Report (vote on Minutes,)

-Treasurer's Report (vote on 2017 Budget)

-President's Report

-Nominating Committee Report

-Election of 2018 Officers and Executive Committee

-Executive Director Report

-Committee Reports

-Work Resolutions

-Rollcall of the States

(please try to limit comments to 3-4 minutes)

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm *NARUC Opening Reception*

### Monday – November 13, 2017

7:30 am – 9:00 am Registration and Breakfast

*\*\*Breakfast available to all meeting registrants\*\**

### Open Session Begins

8:00 am – 8:05

Welcome:

Robert Nelson, Montana Consumer Counsel, NASUCA President

8:05 am – 8:35 am

FCC or FERC (Invited)

8:40 am – 9:10 am

FCC or FERC (Invited)

9:15 am – 9:45 am

*Critical Needs Pilot Program (CNPP): A Utility-Agency Partnership to Assist Medically Vulnerable Customers*

Learn about the CNPP, a unique partnership between the Maryland Office of People's Counsel, human services groups and Baltimore Gas and Electric Company to better serve medically vulnerable customers.

The CNPP developed protocols to more efficiently restore or maintain utility service to medically vulnerable customers. The panel members will discuss the reasons for the development of the CNPP, the process for developing the CNPP protocols, the goals of the CNPP, and the benefits and challenges of a CNPP process.

Moderator:

Paula Carmody      People's Counsel, Maryland Office  
of People's Counsel

Speakers:

Cynthia Riely,      Director, Consumer Assistance, Maryland Office  
of People's Counsel

David Conn      Energy Assistance Program Manager, Baltimore  
Gas and Electric Company

9:45 am – 10:00 am    Break

10:00 am – 11:30 am    ***Keynote Panel: The Energy-Water-Gas-Telecom Nexus and What It Means for Consumers: A Conversation with Utility CEOs***

Utility activities are increasingly interdependent, pushing companies beyond their traditional “lanes” and into coordinated or integrated activities. This dynamic creates both challenges and opportunities for CEOs, regulators, and consumer advocates, as they each must consider the cost-benefit analysis of new activities that potentially expand a utility’s scope of work. What is the impact of this new dynamic on consumers? Are there opportunities for synergies that can positively impact the consumer experience? At the same time, what are risks to consumers of moving into these uncharted territories?

This panel will explore these issues with CEOs, regulators, and consumer advocates.

Joint Moderators:

Jack Betkoski III      Commissioner, Connecticut Public Utilities  
Regulatory Authority, NARUC President  
Elin Swanson Katz      Consumer Counsel, Connecticut Office of  
Consumer Counsel, NASUCA President Elect

Panelists:

Susan N. Story      CEO, American Water  
Calvin G. Butler, Jr      CEO, Baltimore Gas & Electric  
Pierce H. Norton II      CEO, ONE Gas, Inc.  
Jonathan Chambers      Partner, Conexon

11:30 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch Break.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Heads of Office Lunch (Latrobe Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

1:30 pm – 2:25 pm ***The Affordability of Essential Utility Services: How to Meet the Challenge***

The panelists will address the high energy burden for low income households and the need to optimize the resources invested in providing energy assistance. The discussion will include the panelists' opinions and experiences regarding the kinds of programs that can or must be implemented in order to meet the challenge, including suggestions regarding direct financial assistance programs, the promotion of opportunities for low income customers to participate in distributed energy resources and energy efficiency programs.

Moderator:

Molly Knoll Assistant People's Counsel, Maryland Office of People's Counsel

Panelists:

Roger D. Colton Fisher, Sheehan & Colton

Martin Insogna Chief, Consumer Advocacy, New York Department of Public Service (*Tentative*)

2:30pm – 3:30 pm ***The State of Play for State Telecommunications Oversight***

Historically, state regulators are charged to ensure that voice service is reliable, affordable and universally available without discrimination. Broadband data is now widely considered to be an essential service. The rapid evolution of network technology has prompted changes in state and federal regulatory oversight including reduced regulation of voice services, proposals to alter local authority over permitting, and sometimes conflicting efforts by states and the Federal Communication Commission to encourage broadband deployment. This panel will explore the challenges and opportunities for states as they adapt to a changing playing field.

Moderator:

Regina Costa Telecommunications Policy Director, The Utility Reform Network

Panelists:

Stefanie A. Brand Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm Break

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm ***In Search of a Common Numerator: Measuring Shutoffs Across the Country***

Shutoff data is valuable for many policy purposes, including obtaining adequate funding for energy assistance programs such as LI-HEAP. NASUCA has long supported the collection of such data. Dr. Sandoval will discuss a current initiative at TURN to collect and analyze data from across the country, to the extent such data are available

Gabriela Sandoval Research Director, TURN - The Utility Reform Network

4:20 pm – 5:20 pm ***“Vignettes”***  
*“noun /vin-yet/: a brief evocative description, account or episode”*

1. Utilities United Against Scams (UUAS)  
-Sheri Givens, President, Givens Energy
2. Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC)  
-Sara Baldwin Auck, Director, Regulatory Program
3. The Rise of Residential Advanced DER/Storage Rates  
-Lon Huber, Strategen Consulting

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm ***NASUCA Reception***  
*\*\*Open to All Meeting Registrants-Ticket Required\*\**

*Location: McCormick and Schmick’s  
Pier 5, Inner Harbor  
711 Eastern Ave, Baltimore, MD 21202*

*Honorees: Tim Schneider, Former Maine Public Advocate  
-Receiving the Popowsky Outstanding Service Award*

## **Tuesday – November 14, 2017**

7:00 am – 7:50 am Executive Committee Meeting  
(Marshall Room - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor)

8:00 am – 9:30 am Registration and Breakfast  
*\*\*Breakfast available to all meeting registrants\*\**

Open Session Begins

8:00 am – 9:00 am ***Breakfast Ethics – CLE hour for lawyers***  
*(Note, we will provide you copies of the materials, but you must apply to your home state ethics council to receive CLE credit)*

Linda Randell Attorney, Governance and Regulated Industries  
Consultant

9:05 am – 9:45 am ***National Verifier Launching December 5<sup>th</sup> – What you need to know***

The National Verifier program for lifeline service will be officially launched on December 5, 2017 in 6 states and at one federal agency. USAC will update us on the launch process.

Michelle Garber Vice President of the Lifeline Division, Universal  
Service Administrator Company (USAC)

9:45 am – 10:00 am Break-Coffee and Tea

10:00 am – 10:55 am ***Analyzing the Role of Natural Gas In Future Energy Markets***

Natural gas, once embraced as a “bridge fuel” to a zero-carbon energy future, particularly as a replacement for coal, is increasingly being seen by many as environmentally-damaging as coal. The panel will discuss the future of natural gas, siting issues associated with interstate pipelines and the impact of gas on climate change.

Moderator:

Joseph W. Rogers Assistant Attorney General, Massachusetts  
Office of Ratepayer Advocacy

Panelists:

David Dismukes Professor and Executive Director, Center for  
Energy Studies, Louisiana State University.

TBD

11:00 am – 12:00 am TBD

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch on your own.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Consumer Advocates of PJM (CAPS) Board Meeting  
(Latrobe Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

1:30 pm – 2:25 pm *20 Years of RTO Meetings and We're Still Not Done?*

Stakeholders throughout the electric industry have committed untold hours to the development the very complex regional transmission organizations (RTOs) that we know today. Today a growing proportion of retail utility customers' bills comes directly through the RTOs. This panel will explore the current round of hot issues in RTOs, ranging from the never-ending redesign of energy and capacity markets (including the development of RTO-style energy markets in the west and current debates about how to account for state public policy initiatives) to the adequacy of RTO governance processes.

Moderator:

Robert G. Mork Deputy Consumer Counselor for Federal Affairs, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Panelists:

TBD

2:30 pm – 3:15 pm TBD

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm Break

3:30 pm – 4:20 pm *Regulatory Accounting Issues for Replacing Lead Water Pipes*

As more jurisdictions discuss and encourage lead water line replacements, some novel accounting questions come into play. Will the utility will bear the cost to replace the customer owned portion of a lead service line, and if so, who owns the pipes in that circumstance? Should the cost be amortized or depreciated? If negative net salvage is included in the depreciate rate this will lead to different recovery rates. Our panelists will explore some of the accounting raised by lead line replacements.

Moderator:

Margaret Stull Senior Utility Analyst, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Panelists:

TBD

4:30 pm – 5:15pm *Pole Attachments: Jurisdiction and Challenges*

Moderator:

Tim Schneider                      General Counsel, Tilson Technology, Inc.

Panelists:

TBD

**Wednesday – November 15, 2017**

8:30 am – 10:00 am Continental Breakfast

*\*\*Breakfast open to all meeting registrants\*\**

9:00 am – 11:00 am Closed Session for Members of NASUCA

-Informal NASUCA Member Roundtable Discussion

*Meeting End*

**Save the date: NASUCA Mid-Year Meeting – June 24-27, 2017 – Minneapolis, Minnesota**