

NASUCA Vignette

Renovate INITIATIVE

Regulatory • Process • Innovation

Janet Gail Besser, Managing Director
Regulatory Innovation & Utility Business Models



Smart Electric
Power Alliance

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Renovate Mission

The Renovate mission is to spur the evolution of state regulatory processes and practices to enable innovation, with a focus on scalable deployment of new technologies and operating models, to ***meet customer needs and increasing expectations while continuing to provide all with clean, affordable, safe, and reliable electric service.***

Task Force Roster



Regulators

- **Commissioner Marion Gold**, RI PUC
- **Commissioner M. Beth Trombold**, OH PUC
- **Commissioner Brien Sheahan**, ICC
- **Commissioner Ellen Nowak**, WI PSC
- **Commissioner Letha Tawney**, OR PUC
- **Chairman David Danner**, WA UTC

Legislators

- **Representative Jeff Morris**, WA
- **Assemblymember Chris Brooks**, NV

Utilities

- **Philip Dion**, VP, Customer Solutions and Policy, American Electric Power
- **Pat Reiten**, SVP Government Relations, Berkshire Hathaway Energy
- **Noel Black**, VP, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Southern Company
- **Sheri Givens**, VP, US Regulatory & Customer Strategy, National Grid
- **Val Jensen**, SVP, Strategy & Policy, Exelon Utilities

Solution Providers

- **Julie Blunden**, Chief Commercial Officer, EVgo
- **Kevin Gresham**, VP Government Relations & External Affairs, E.ON North America, LLC
- **Vicki Trees**, VP, Segment Marketing, Landis+Gyr
- **Marisa Uchin**, VP, Global Regulatory Affairs, Oracle
- **Others**, TBD

Consumer Advocates

- **David Kolata**, Executive Director, Citizens Utility Board of Illinois
- **Donald Kreis**, Consumer Advocate, New Hampshire Office of the Consumer Advocate
- **Mark Schuling**, Iowa Consumer Advocate

State Energy Offices/Regional Entities/Investors

- **Sam Brothwell**, Director of Research, Energy Income Partners LLC
- **Ryan Opsal**, Energy Policy Manager, Maryland Energy Administration
- [pending approval] **Asim Haque**, ED, Strategic Policy & External Affairs, PJM

Partner Organizations



- **APPA** - American Public Power Association
- **EEI** - Edison Electric Institute
- **ELPC** - Environmental Law & Policy Center
- **NASEO** - National Association of State Energy Officials
- **NARUC** - National Assoc of Regulatory Utility Commissions
- **NCSL** - National Conference of State Legislatures
- **NGA** - National Governors Association
- **NRECA** - National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- **NRDC** - Natural Resources Defense Council
- **RAP** - Regulatory Assistance Project
- **RMI** - Rocky Mountain Institute
- **[Pending] NRRI** - National Regulatory Research Institute
- **[Pursuing board approval] NASUCA** - National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- **Foundation Observer** - The Energy Foundation

Problem Statements

#1. People & Knowledge

The steep learning curve for policy makers, commissioners, commission staff, industry, and other stakeholders in acquiring knowledge and understanding of new technologies, and their benefits and costs for customers can complicate and lengthen the decision making process.

#2 Managing Risk & Uncertainty

Current regulations and structures favor tried and true technologies, operations and approaches, in the name of prudence, strictly applying the “used and useful” principle. For new technologies and operating practices, there is uncertainty about the processes to identify and quantify benefits and costs, outline the full range of investment and operating options, and communicate and align incentives with agreed goals for the benefit of all customers.

Problem Statements

#3 Managing Increased Rate of Change

Regulatory proceedings on grid investments and customer programs often take so long that relevant technology providing customer benefit has advanced before a commission assessment can be completed or decision can be reached.

#4 Complexity of Objectives / Cross-Coordination

Commissions have a mandate to serve the public interest, but increasingly, numerous priorities must be considered and balanced under an expanding definition of “public interest,” including: reasonable rates, customer choice, customer protection, environmental protection, current system structure, evolving system structure, with both short-term and long-term perspectives.

Renovate Objectives

TOOLS:

- **New Practices and Processes.** Identify new/modified regulatory practices, processes and structures to address/resolve problems.
- **Solution Sets.** Develop solution sets that can be adopted/adapted to different state circumstances & provide demonstrated roadmaps for change.

ACTIONS:

- **Adoption of Proposed Changes.** Legislators and regulators adopt new/modified regulatory practices, processes and structures.
- **Shifted Perspectives & Ongoing Education.** Stakeholders move toward a shared perspective of benefits of a system that enables/manages innovation.

DESIRED IMPACTS:

- **Increased Meaningful Collaboration & Innovation in the Energy System.** Partnerships and collaborations established now and for future that align & advance innovation & protect consumers through improved regulatory process.
- **Better Informed Decisions and Investments Result in Increased Customer and Societal Benefit.** Investments are made that support and promote a clean, modern, reliable, resilient and flexible grid.

Contact Information

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