# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

# 2024 MID-YEAR MEETING

Madison Concourse Hotel Madison, Wisconsin June 9-12, 2024

Registration and all sessions will be in the Capital Ballroom A&B unless otherwise noted in the agenda. Dress is business casual or casual (ties not necessary)

# <u>Sunday – June 9, 2024</u>

Noon – 5:00 pm Registration

-Please pick up your meeting name badges

Located at: <a href="https://www.nasuca.org">https://www.nasuca.org</a> or

https://www.nasuca.org/event/2024-nasuca-mid-year-meeting/

-Meeting Agenda

-Bios and Headshots for Speakers

-Meeting Registrants List

## **NASUCA Closed Meeting Begins**

1:30 pm – 5:00pm <u>Closed Business Session</u>

- Officer Reports

- Cindy Schonhaut (CO) - Secretary's Report

(Vote on Minutes from the Annual meeting)

- Patrick Cicero (PA) - Treasurer's Report

(Vote on Treasurer's Report

- Michael Moody (MI) - President's Report

- Executive Director's Report

- Committee Reports

-Work Draft Resolution

- Discussion on Artificial Intelligence

-Roundtable of the States

# **NASUCA Open Meeting Begins**

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm Wine and Cheese Reception (*Wisconsin Ballroom*)

\*\*Open to All Meeting Registrants and Speakers \*\*

Dinner on your own

## Monday - June 10, 2024

7:30 am – 8:15 am Registration and Breakfast (*University Room*)

\*\*Breakfast available to NASUCA meeting registrants and Speakers \*\*

**Open Session Begins** 

8:15 am – 8:30 am *Welcome* 

Michael Moody Division Chief, Special Litigation Division, Michigan

Department of the Attorney General, NASUCA President

Tom Content Executive Director, Wisconsin Citizens Utility Board,

NASUCA Vice President

Hon. Kristy Nieto Commissioner, Public Service Commissioner of Wisconsin

8:30 am - 9:25 am

Consumer Protection panel – Increasing Customer Protections to Reflect Increasingly Extreme Weather

Consumers are facing more frequent and extreme heat waves in the summer and polar vortices in the winter. This panel will address the impact these weather extremes are having on consumers and review strategies and targeted efforts around the country to enhance consumer protections around service shut offs and bill arrearages.

Moderator:

Patrick M. Cicero Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer

Advocate

Speakers:

Karen Lusson National Consumer Law Center

Erin Ford Faulhaber Deputy Director, Arizona Residential Utility Consumer

Office

Kaja Rebane Senior Associate, Electricity - RMI

9:35 am - 10:30 am

# Cocktails to Convictions, Regulatory Capture in the 21st Century

The recent FirstEnergy and ComEd scandals in Ohio and Illinois have made headlines and provided a window into money, power, and influence in utility regulation. However, not all attempts to influence regulatory outcomes rise to the level of criminal activity or result in criminal prosecution. This panel will discuss the concept of regulatory capture and examine the many subtle and not-so-subtle ways many parties try to influence regulatory outcomes.

Moderator:

Susan Satter Chief, Public Utilities Bureau, Office of the Illinois Attorney

General Kwame Raoul

Speakers:

Robert Kelter Senior Attorney, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Mark Toney, Ph.D. Executive Director, TURN—The Utility Reform Network
Angela O'Brien Deputy Consumers' Counsel, Office of the Ohio Consumers'

Counsel

10:30 am – 11:00 am Coffee Break

# 11:00 am – 11:55 am Asking the Right Questions About Water Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is a top concern for our nation's critical infrastructure. However, commissions and consumer advocates are not likely to have in-house expertise on cybersecurity. So, what do we need to know to ask the right questions when facing this issue in a commission case? This panel will help us get to the right questions. "If you do not know how to ask the right question, you discover nothing." – W. Edwards Deming

**Moderator**:

Angela Schaben Missouri Office of Public Counsel

Speakers:

Nicholas W. Santillo Jr. Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer, American

Water

Ben Bolton Senior Energy Programs Administrator, Tennessee Department

of Environment and Conservation

Justin Vargas, Esq. Policy Advisor, Cybersecurity & Risk Management

Illinois Commerce Commission

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Heads of Office Lunch (*Conference I*)

-Open to office heads or their assigned deputy if the office head is not in

attendance

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Others - Lunch Break - grab a friend and go. No one eats alone!

1:30 pm – 1:55 pm Fireside Chat – North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) – Member Representatives Committee (MRC)

Michael Moody Division Chief, Special Litigation Division, Michigan

Department of the Attorney General, NASUCA

Representative, NERC MRC

Jennifer Flandermeyer Director, Cybersecurity Public Policy, NextEra Energy,

Chair, NERC MRC

2:00 pm – 2:55 pm Planning for Hyperscale Load

America's manufacturing resurgence, data center growth due to artificial intelligence, electric vehicle load and other electrification efforts are pushing the limits of what our current electric system can provide. This panel will identify the generation and transmission planning challenges we will face meeting this load growth and will discuss strategies for how advocates can best protect consumers.

**Moderator**:

Chris Ayers Executive Director, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Public Staff

**Speakers** 

Greg Poulos Executive Director, Consumer Advocates of the PJM States

Stan Blackwell Director - Data Center Practice, Dominion Energy

Virginia/North Carolina

Matthew J. Satterwhite Senior Vice President, Regulatory Services, American

Electric Power

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

FERC Update - Current Litigation Issues

Jason T. Gray

Partner, Duncan & Allen, Washington, DC

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Coffee and Snack Break

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

"Vignettes"

"noun /vin-yet/: a brief evocative description, account or episode"

- Western RTO Governance Proposal Consumer Advocate Issues Michele Beck – Director, Utah Office of Consumer Services
- 2. EPRI EV Update

Katherine Stainken - Team Lead, Principal, Electric Transportation, EPRI

Declining Reserves for U.S. Electric Grid—Blackouts Predicted
 Thomas Popik - Chairman and President of the Foundation for Resilient Societies

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

# NASUCA Reception

\*\*Open to All Meeting Registrants and Speakers \*\*

Location:

Monona Terrace – overlooking Lake Monona
Outside – Upper Deck (inside if it rains)

1 John Nolen Dr, Madison, WI 53703 (about at 12-minute walk)

# Awards to Be Presented

#### Robert F. Manifold Award (Lifetime of Public Service)

- Christine Maloni Hoover Former Deputy Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate.
- Craig F. Graziano Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate and former NASUCA Consumer Protection Committee Chair

# Irwin "Sonny" Popowsky Award (Exceptional Service to NASUCA)

 Lisa W. Gafken – former Washington State Public Counsel and NASUCA Executive Committee Member

# Service Award (Service to NASUCA)

- Blake Kruger Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate and current NASUCA Accounting and Finance Committee Chair
- Corey Singletary Wisconsin Citizens Utility Board and current NASUCA Electric Committee Co-Chair
- Steve Kihm Wisconsin Citizens Utility Board

Dinner on your own

## Tuesday - June 11, 2024

7:15 am - 8:00 am

Registration and Breakfast (University Room)

\*\*Breakfast available to NASUCA meeting registrants and speakers \*\*

# **Open Session Begins**

8:30 am - 10:30 pm

## DOE/LBNL Technical Training

#### Session 1: 8:30am - 9:25 am

Achieving Large-Scale Resource Flexibility from Distributed Energy Resources

- Can the orchestration of distributed energy resources (DER) deliver scalable value to customers and to the grid?
- What types of barriers could limit the cost-effective deployment of virtual power plants (VPPs) and aggregated DER?
- What tools are available to states to address these barriers and help realize the potential for VPP deployment at scale?
- How can jurisdictions leverage best practices to turn VPPs from a niche opportunity to a large-scale solution.

-Samir Succar - Senior Director, ICF

#### Session 2: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

What Should Grid Resilience Plans Include? Planning Requirements, Emerging Best Practices, and Template

-Josh Schellenberg - Berkeley Lab Affiliate, Principal and COO, H&S Insights

10:30 am - 11:00 am

Break-Coffee and Tea

11:00 am - 12:00 am

#### Certified and Renewable Natural Gas, and Other Low Carbon Technologies

Gas Utilities have proposed using certified and renewable natural gas to continue to provide gas service for customers while meeting emission reduction mandates. This panel will explore these and other technologies the gas industry thinks will help meet net-zero emission goals and provide a critical look at what the implementation challenges may be.

Moderator:

Blaise Michna Public Utility Engineer, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Public Staff, Natural Gas Committee Co-Chair

Speakers:

John Gunnells Senior Manager, State Affairs, American Gas Association
Daniel LeFevers Director, State and Consumer Programs, GTI Energy

Brad Cebulko Founding Partner, Current Energy Group

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Consumer Advocates of the PJM State (CAPS) – Board Meeting (*University Room*) – Contact Greg Poulos

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Others - Lunch Break - grab a friend and go. . No one easts alone!

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – Order 1920

Allison Clements - Commissioner, FERC

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Electric Transmission - FERC's New Transmission Order 1920

On May 13, 2024 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued Order 1920, establishing a new long-term transmission planning process. Is Order 1920 revolutionary? Or does it simply add a few new requirements to the current planning process? This panel will examine what's new, what's expanded and what was left on the cutting room floor, with an eye towards examining how states and state consumer advocates can patriciate in the new process.

Moderator:

Corey Singletary Director, Regulatory Affairs, Wisconsin Citizens Utility Board

Speakers

Rob Gramlich President, Grid Strategies LLC

Lauren Azar Azar Law

Karen Onaran President and CEO, Electricity Consumers Resource Council

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Update on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Office of Public Participation

Nicole Sitaraman – Director, FERC Office of Public Participation Joseph A. Rosenthal – Senior Policy Advisor, FERC Office of Public Participation

3:30pm – 4:00 pm Coffee and Snack

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm "Vignettes"

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- RMI Useful Tools for Consumer Advocate Offices Update
   Joseph Daniels RMI
- Methods for Evaluating Solar Compensation
   Aidan Glaser Schoff Synapse Energy Economics
- 3. AARP Update

-William Malcolm - Government Affairs Director-Utilities, AARP

End of Open Sessions - Dinner on your own

## Wednesday - June 12, 2024

8:30 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast –

\*\*Breakfast open to NASUCA meeting registrants and speakers \*\*

9:00 am – 11:00 am <u>Closed Session for Members of NASUCA</u>

-Informal NASUCA Member Roundtable Discussion

Meeting End

# Save the dates:

2024 NASUCA Annual Meeting – November 10-13, 2024 – Anaheim, CA (with NARUC)