

DRAFT

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

**Marriott Convention Center and Homewood Suites Hotels
Anaheim, California
November 10-13, 2024**

Registration and all sessions will be in the Ballrooms Platinum 8-10 at the Marriott Convention Center unless otherwise noted in the agenda. Dress is business or business casual (ties not necessary).

Sunday – November 10, 2024

Noon – 5:00 pm Registration
 -Please pick up your meeting name badges

Located at: <https://www.nasuca.org> or
<https://www.nasuca.org/event/2024-nasuca-annual-meeting/>
-Meeting Agenda
-Bios and Headshots for Speakers
-Meeting Registrants List

NASUCA Meeting Begins

1:30 pm – 5:00pm *Closed Business Session*

- Officer Reports
 - Cindy Schonhaut (CO) - Secretary's Report
(Vote on Minutes from the Mid-Year meeting)
 - Patrick Cicero (PA) - Treasurer's Report
(Vote on Treasurers Report, 2025 Proposed Dues and, 2025 Proposed Budget)
 - Nomination Committee Report
(Vote on 2025 Officers and Executive Committee)
 - Michael Moody (MI) - President's Report
- Executive Director's Report
- Committee Reports
 - Work Draft Resolution
- Roundtable of the States

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm NARUC Reception

Dinner on your own

NASUCA is the essential voice of utility consumers, representing and supporting utility consumer advocates in their efforts to achieve safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility services.

Monday – November 11, 2024

7:30 am – 8:15 am Registration and Breakfast (Platinum 7)
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

8:30 am – 9:25 am **Low-Income Program Design – Giving Consumers a Voice in Program Design**

Designing an effective low-income program is challenging. Rules, regulations and government structures tend to overshadow any input from customers and other stakeholders that may have valuable insights into how to make a program more usable. This panel explores the idea that consumers and other stakeholders should have a voice in how programs are designed and will examine approaches to including these ideas in the design process.

Moderator:

Patrick M. Cicero Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer
Advocate

Speakers:

Courtney Henderson Hawks Peak Strategies, Founder & President
TBD
TBD

9:35 am – 10:30 am **Tech Transitions and Reliable Public Safety Communications**

The panel would address the challenges to reliable public safety communication posed by the evolution of networks. This would include a discussion of issues such as the risks associated with single points of failure involving network equipment, and the concentration of traffic on high-capacity fiber, and the need for power in both networks and at the home. We will also hear about the FCC's efforts to improve reliability for Next Generation 9-1-1, and the transmission of text, photos, videos and data.

Moderator:

Regina Costa TURN—The Utility Reform Network

Speakers:

Brian Rosen Brian Rosen Technologies, LLC
FCC Invited
TBD

10:30 am – 11:00 am Coffee Break

- 11:00 am – 11:55 am **Integrity Management Costs in a Decarbonizing Environment**
- Industry leader and regulators discuss the concerns and costs of maintaining a reliable and safe pipeline system alongside decarbonization goals and increasing incentives for customers to disconnect.”
- Moderator:
Blaise Michna
- Speakers:
Benjamin Turner Senior Director Asset and Risk Management, NiSource
TBD
TBD
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch Break – grab a friend and go...
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Heads of Office Lunch (Platinum 7)
-Open to office heads or their assigned deputy if the office head is not in attendance
- 1:30 pm – 2:25 pm **Load Growth/Data Centers/Manufacturing (Using the Regulatory Process to Protect Consumers From The Risk of Large Load Additions – or – Collocating Large Loads at Existing Generation Facilities)**
- Moderator:
Chris Ayers Executive Director, North Carolina Utilities Commission
Public Staff
- Speakers
TBD
TBD
TBD
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Federal Speakers**
1. FCC Digital Equity
-Sanford S. Williams, Esq., MBA, Deputy Chief of Staff for Chairwoman Rosenworcel
 2. FERC - Invited
- 3:30pm – 4:00 pm Coffee and Snack Break
- 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm **“Vignettes”**
“noun /vin-yet/: a brief evocative description, account or episode”
1. Barbara Tyran – National Hydropower Association
 2. TBD
 3. TBD

5:30pm – 7:30pm

NASUCA Reception

Open to All Meeting Registrants and speakers

Location: TBD

Awards to Be Presented

Popowsky Awards (Exceptional Service to NASUCA)

Spotlight Award

Service Award (Service to NASUCA)

Dinner on your own

Tuesday – November 12, 2024

7:15 am – 8:00 am

Registration and Breakfast (Platinum 7)

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 – 9:10 am

Using Virtual Power Plants to Provide Real Grid Services and Cost Savings

Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) are aggregations of distributed energy resources (DERs) such as smart appliances, rooftop solar with batteries, EVs and chargers, and commercial and industrial loads that can balance electricity demand and supply and provide grid services like a traditional power plant. During this session, we will discuss VPP implementation in the US (with a focus on retail markets), identify grid services they are providing and highlight examples of how VPPs are cost-effective resources.

- Natalie Mims Frick – Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Session 2: 9:15 am – 10:30 am

Objectives-Based Decision Framework for Investing in Local Grids

State policies and regulations set goals, objectives, and priorities that define long-term, high-level outcomes for grid capabilities and functionality. A new interactive decision framework funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity walks through a stakeholder-informed process for grid investment decisions to address state goals, customer needs, and evolution at the grid edge. Each step of the framework explains what it is, why it's important, stakeholder roles and responsibilities, current and emerging best practices, analytical tools, and resources for more information. A discussion with NASUCA members will follow the presentation.

- Lisa Schwartz – Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Break-Coffee and Tea

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11:00 am – 12:00 am

Build It and They Will come? Not Always. . . How To Increase Enrollment in Low-Income Programs in Water Utilities

To have a successful low-income program, a utility needs to have strong participation by its customers. There can be many barriers. For example, the automatic enrollment of low-income water customers in Jackson, Mississippi, is on hold due to the objection of the Department of Justice regarding the direct access of a government water utility to the confidential personal information of SNAP benefit participants. This panel will discuss the barriers to customer participation, opportunities to ease the application process for customers, and possible performance metrics.

Moderator:

Karen H. Stachowski Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Advocate Division,
Tennessee Attorney General's Office

Speakers:

Juliet Ellis Head of Utilities Practice, Promise
Hon. Sarah Freeman Commissioner, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
TBD

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch Break – grab a friend and go...

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Consumer Advocates of the PJM States (CAPS) - lunch and Board Meeting
(Platinum 7)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Western Advocates - Lunch (Platinum 8-10)

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Transmission Panel (either FERC Order 1920 Compliance – or – the Challenges of Local Project Oversight)

Moderator:

TBD

Speakers

TBD

TBD

TBD

2:35 pm – 3:30 pm

Federal or Industry Speaker

1. Transportation Electrification and EPRI Roadmap Update
Britta Gross – EPRI
2. TBD

3:30pm – 4:00 pm

Coffee and Snack Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

“Vignettes”

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

1. TBD
2. TBD
3. TBD

End of Open Sessions - Dinner on your own

Wednesday – November 13, 2024

8:30 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast –
Breakfast open to NASUCA meeting registrants and speakers

9:00 am – 11:00 am Closed Session for Members of NASUCA
-Informal NASUCA Member Roundtable Discussion

Meeting End