

AGENDA
63rd Annual NECPUC Symposium
Ocean Edge Resort
Brewster, Massachusetts – 16-19 May 2010

Sunday, 16 May

4:00	Registration desk opens	Hotel Lobby
6:00	Welcome Reception	Ocean Terrace
7:00	Dinner	Mansion Ballroom
8:30	After-Dinner Reception	Carriage House

Monday, 17 May

7:00	Continental Breakfast	Carriage House
7:30	Registration	Mansion Ballroom Foyer
8:00	63 rd Annual NECPUC Symposium Opens	Mansion Ballroom

Opening Remarks

Hon. Tim Woolf, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and President, NECPUC

Welcome and Remarks on Energy

8:15 *Keynote Address*

Thierry Vandal, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hydro-Quebec

9:00 Plenary Session

Mansion Ballroom

Is Competition Dead?

Hon. Paul J. Hibbard, Chairman, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities

This Plenary will explore the increasingly complex intersection of transmission/resource planning and competition in electricity markets. Over a decade ago our region embarked on a path towards a fully competitive market framework for power supply at the wholesale level. Yet recently we appear to

be in retreat, with increasingly administrative solutions emerging to meeting resource needs in

- *capacity market design (i.e., out-of-market designations, administrative price rules),*
- *wholesale pricing formulas for price responsive demand,*
- *regional efforts to procure renewable resources under long-term contracts with distribution utilities, and*
- *the emergence of aggressive efforts to codify federal integrated resource planning (FIRP) in U.S. law, and require that load pay for generation interconnection transmission projects.*

Are these necessary complements to competitive market constructs, or is competition “against the ropes,” struggling to maintain relevance in a world facing down the carbon challenge?

- Daniel M. Allegretti, Vice President—Energy Policy, Constellation Energy
- Peter Fuller, Director of Regulatory and Governmental Affairs, NRG Energy
- Hon. Sue Tierney, Principal, The Analysis Group
- Gordon van Welie, President and Chief Executive Officer, ISO-New England

10:15 Networking Break Mansion Ballroom Foyer

10:30 Keynote Address – Remarks on Energy, Telecommunications, and the Economic Future of the Commonwealth

Hon. Deval Patrick, Governor of Massachusetts

11:45 Lunch Bay Pines Pavilion

Hon. Tim Woolf, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and President, NECPUC

George Dunn Award—2010 NECPUC Staff Appreciation Award

1:00 Address: Mansion Ballroom

**Hon. Sharon Gillett, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau,
Federal Communications Commission**

Federal Communications Regulation

1:45 Plenary Session Mansion Ballroom

The Evolving Role of State Regulation in a Changing Industry

Hon. Geoffrey G. Why, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of
Telecommunications and Cable

Increasing competition (both intra and intermodal), new technologies (e.g., IP-based telephony and the shift to broadband-based platforms), and new unforeseen players (e.g., Google) are fundamentally changing the telecommunications industry, and forcing state regulators to re-examine their role going forward. This panel will explore in detail the factors changing the face of the telecommunications industry, and the ways that state regulation should evolve consistent with a rapidly changing industry, so that state commissions can most effectively apply their expertise and competencies to maximize consumer welfare. Questions that will be addressed include: What regulatory activities should states no longer perform or perform in a different manner? What new areas of responsibility should states shift their attention to? And how can state regulators best adapt to the changing industry?

- Susan Baldwin, Consultant (public-sector agencies)
- Peter Bluhm, Consultant, Rolka Loube Saltzer Associates
- Robert Munnely, Jr., Partner, Murtha Cullina, LLP
- Karlen Reed, Senior Regulatory Counsel, National Telecommunications Cooperative Association
- Nicholas Vantzelfde, Founder and Managing Partner, Communications Media Advisors
- Paul Vasington, Director of State Public Policy, Verizon

6:00 Reception	Ocean Terrace
7:00 Dinner	Mansion Ballroom
8:30 After-Dinner Reception	Carriage House

Tuesday, 18 May

7:00 Continental Breakfast	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:15 <i>Keynote Address</i>	Mansion Ballroom C/D

**Ralph Izzo, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer,
Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc. (PSEG)**

9:00 <u>Concurrent Session A</u>	Mansion Ballroom C/D
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**Alternatives to Investing in Transmission and Distribution
Capacity – Some Emerging Opportunities**

Hon. Clifton C. Below, Commissioner, New Hampshire Public Utilities
Commission

This panel will look at commercialized and emerging energy storage technologies designed to shave the need for peak transmission and distribution capacity, at both the load and supply ends, and help firm intermittent renewable generation sources. We will also examine how one utility in Vermont is walking the talk and integrating distributed energy resources, including geo-targeting of energy efficiency, into its transmission and distribution planning. With respondents, we will discuss opportunities and barriers for improving consideration and deployment of cost-effective non-transmission alternatives in our regional planning processes, including cost allocation and recovery issues.

- Chris Tomasini, Regional Manager—Northeast, Ice Energy
- Dax Kepshire, Ph.D., President & Co-Founder, SustainX—Energy Storage Solutions
- Bruce Bentley, Director, Integrated Planning and Regional Transmission, Central Vermont Public Service Company

9:00 Concurrent Session B

Mansion Ballroom A/B

How do Commissioners, Consumer Advocates and Water Utilities Balance the need for Quality Service and Sustainable Water Infrastructure while considering the Effect of Rate Increases on Customers in Difficult Economic Times?

Hon. John W. Betkoski, III, Vice Chairman, Connecticut Department of
Public Utility Control

Customers require quality and reliable water service at a fair and reasonable rate. It is clear that water systems need major infrastructure investment to assure and maintain acceptable service and to meet customer expectations while providing service to those who may not have it. In difficult economic times maintaining the proper balance is even more challenging.

- Mary Healey, Consumer Advocate, Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel and President, National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- Eric Thornburg, President and Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Water Company
- Debra Coy, First Vice President/Research—Water, Janney Montgomery Scott, LLP

10:30 Networking Break

Mansion Ballroom Foyer

10:45 Concurrent Session C

Mansion Ballroom C/D

Resources, Pipelines, and HF--What will be the Future Natural Gas Mix in New England?

Hon. Amalia Vazquez Bzdyra, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control

Over the past two decades the role of natural gas in New England fuel mix has increased steadily. New interstate pipeline projects in the 1990s and early 2000s brought abundant supply to the Region from both the Southwest and from the Canadian Northeast. The concern in the early 2000's that gas supply might plateau has been replaced by the new significant potential of shale gas development and the new and potential increase of offshore Liquid Natural Gas.

What does this mean for New England? Will the new shale gas actually be available? What is the potential environmental effect of Hydraulic Fracturing (HF) used to access shale gas economically? Will the necessary pipeline infrastructure be built? And what about the cost? Today's panel will discuss these issues and more.

- John P. McGinnis, Senior Vice President Exploration & Development, Seneca Resources Corporation,
- Hon. Bob Anthony, Chairman, Oklahoma Corporation
- William T. Yardley, Senior Vice President, Spectra Energy

10:45 Concurrent Session D

Mansion Ballroom A/B

Cybersecurity and Consumer Privacy

Hon. Anthony Palermino, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control

This panel will discuss industry and state government practices dealing with cybersecurity (including smart grid applications), while providing for infrastructure security and consumer privacy protections.

- Christopher Boyer, Assistant Vice President Public Policy, AT&T
- Vicki Helfrich, Strategic Planning Coordinator, State of Mississippi ITS
- Jose Jimenez, Executive Director Regulatory Policy, Cox Communications
- Roy Lathrop, Vice President—State Government Affairs, National Cable and Telecommunications Association
- Robert H. Mayer, Vice President – Industry and State Affairs, United States Telecom Association

12:30 Lunch

Bay Pines Pavilion

Hon. Clifton C. Below, Commissioner, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, NECPUC Vice President (President, effective 1 October 2010)

Hon. David C. Coen, Commissioner, Vermont Public Service Board
President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

1:45 – Plenary Session

Mansion Ballroom

Off-Shore Wind – Challenges and Solutions

Hon. Jolette Westbrook, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities

The issues that will be discussed include the role of off-shore wind in the U.S., opportunities for development in light of the Massachusetts Ocean's Management Plan, lessons learned from the European markets, and technological advances.

[This session should end by 3:30 p.m.]

7:00 Reception

Linx Pavilion

8:00 Dinner

Linx Pavilion

**[These are the last public Symposium sessions.
Wednesday sessions are for commissioners, staff, and invitees only.]**

Reminder: Dress is business casual—sport shirts, no ties or jackets required—for all sessions. You may want to dress up for dinner—jackets but still no ties.