

MACRUC 15th Annual Education Conference Agenda

Sunday, June 27

4:00 - 7:00 **Registration**
4:00 - 5:30 **Members Meeting**
6:00 - 7:00 **Welcome Reception**

Monday, June 28

8:00 – 10:00

Opening General Session: Speakers and Panel

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Welcome and Remarks by The Hon. Mark Christie of Virginia, MACRUC President

NARUC Update by The Hon. David Coen of Vermont, NARUC President

Utilities and The Economy

How do current and likely future economic conditions affect utilities? Specifically, what challenges will utilities face in raising sufficient capital to build the new infrastructure needed in terms of transmission, generation and distribution? What types of rates of return on equity will utilities need to attract sufficient capital? How would a spike in inflation or interest rates affect utilities? How would an extended period of high unemployment affect utilities? And how will all this affect the utilities' ratepayers?

Moderator: The Hon. Arnetta McRae of Delaware

Confirmed Participants: Richard Cortright, Managing Director, Standard and Poor's

Dr. James Hughes, Rutgers University

Carl Seligson, Utility Financial Expert

Stephen Hill, Utility Financial Expert, Hill Associates

10:00 – 10:30

Networking Break

10:30 – 12:00

Concurrent Sessions

Is Nuclear Expansion Poised for Take-Off?

&

The National Broadband Plan—What's In It for the Mid Atlantic?

Is Nuclear Expansion Poised for Take-Off?

The 21st Century began with renewed interest in additional nuclear power as a reliable, cost competitive source of electricity that presents the prospect of curbing greenhouse gas emissions. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 included authority for loan guarantees that were intended to help first-movers get the financial support that could help attract the substantial capital these new reactors would need. Some 17 utilities and consortia are considering 30 new reactors and license applications are being reviewed at the NRC. President Obama recently announced the first loan guarantee for two new units in Georgia and the FY 2011 Budget requests expansion of the loan guarantees to \$54 billion. The session will debate questions about investments of this magnitude in today's struggling economy and the uncertainty over nuclear waste disposal. Attendees will hear from both sides of the issue during this topical discussion to see what the outlook will be for the Mid-Atlantic region and the Nation.

Moderator: The Hon. Larry Brenner of Maryland

Confirmed Participants: The Hon. Garry Brown of New York

Mark Cooper, Sr. Fellow for Energy and Environment, Vermont Law School

Richard Myers, VP Policy Development, Nuclear Energy Institute

Christopher M. Fallon VP of Nuclear Development, Duke Energy

The National Broadband Plan—What's In It for the Mid-Atlantic

The Federal Communications Commission released the National Broadband Plan in March to great National fanfare. The Plan concludes that “broadband is a foundation for economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness and a better way of life. . . It is changing how we educate children, deliver health care, manage energy, ensure public safety, engage government, and access, organize and disseminate knowledge.” This session will address how the FCC's implementation of the Plan's recommendations and the Plan's recommendations to Congress, other Federal agencies and the States will affect the availability, affordability, use and adoption of broadband services in the Mid-Atlantic States.

Moderator: The Hon. Betty Ann Kane of District of Columbia

Confirmed Participants: Sharon Gillett, Bureau Chief, Federal Communications Commission

Karen Jackson, Deputy Secretary of Technology, Commonwealth of Virginia

Rick Cimerman, VP State Government Affairs, National Cable & Telecommunications Association

C. Lincoln Hoewing, VP Internet Technology & Policy, Verizon

Joanne Hovis, President-Elect, National Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors

12:30 – 2:00

MACRUC/NASEO Meeting

Invitees Only

1:00 – 5:30

*Optional Activities
The Hershey Links*

2:00 – 5:00

Smart Grid School: Session One: What is the Smart Grid?

OPEN TO ALL ATTENDEES
Staff Strategic Planning Session
SMART GRID SCHOOL

One of the hardest things about regulating investment in smart grid is that just about anything related to the electric industry has been described as relating to the smart grid. Smart Grid School will be a two-day series of session that will allow Commissioners and Staff to become familiar with the technology and explore what it means for regulators coming to terms with reviewing and approving smart grid investments proposed by regulated utilities.

Session One: What is the Smart Grid?

This session will focus on describing what the smart grid is and what technologies and applications are being deployed, including new resource integration, bulk transmission technology and uses, distribution system improvements, advanced metering infrastructure, and appliances and everything else behind the meter. This session will also explore technical and cost issues that have been explored as part of pilot projects.

Moderator: Miles Keogh, NARUC

Participants: The Hon. Paul Centolella of Ohio

Ellen Petrill, EPRI

Christian Grant, Booz and Company

Joe Miller, Horizon Energy

Roger Levy, Lawrence Berkeley Labs

Alison Silverstein, US Synchrophasor Initiative

Tuesday, June 29

8:00 – 9:30

General Session & Prize Drawings

Keynote Address: The Honorable Philip Moeller, FERC

Potential Benefits and Challenges to “Smart Grid”

Over the next few years State utility regulators will be asked to review and approve billions of dollars of investments in the Smart Grid. The long-term cost structure and operational character of the grid will hinge on these approvals. Bringing information and control to the end user is a central pillar of the Smart Grid and much of that work rests on the metering and communications infrastructure that exists or needs to be built. This session will review experiences in states where Smart Grid has been rolled out on a wide scale. Attendees will hear about problems and resolutions in Texas and California. Participants will explain what components of the Smart Grid are likely to help customers reduce their bills and what has been the level of customer acceptance where AMI/Smart Grid has been rolled out. Questions on whether there is a role of telecommunications companies in Smart Grid and whether Smart Grids are likely to get cheaper as economies of scale take hold and more manufacturing competitors enter the field will be debated.

Moderator: Frederick Butler, Executive Vice President, Salmon Ventures Limited, Former NARUC and MACRUC President and NJ Commissioner

Participants: The Hon. Jeanne Fox of New Jersey

Rich Creegan, Itron Vice President of Product Marketing

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

George Potts, Vice President, Business Transformation, Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Seth Hulkower, Strategic Energy Advisory Services

Jeffrey Dygert, Executive Director Public Policy, AT & T

Luke Clemente, General Manager, Metering & Sensing Systems, General Electric

Michael Jung, Silver Spring Network

9:30 – 9:45

Networking Break

9:45 – 11:00

Concurrent Sessions

Water Infrastructure Challenges in the Mid-Atlantic – Where are we and Where should we be?

&

Has Increased Supply, such as Marcellus Shale, Made Natural Gas the New "Low Carbon, Low Price" Fuel?

Water Infrastructure Challenges in the Mid-Atlantic – Where are we and Where should we be?

The Congressional Budget Office and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have estimated the investment gap of replacing outdated, aging and deteriorating water infrastructure over the next 20 years to be hundreds of billions of dollars. This panel will discuss what companies are doing to meet this challenge. Attendees will hear how State regulators can help meet this infrastructure need. Participants debate the pros and cons of consolidating smaller water companies into larger ones.

Moderator: The Hon. Pat Acampora of New York

Participants: The Hon. Robert Powelson of Pennsylvania

William Varley, President, Long Island American Water

Walton Hill, Sr. VP, Regulatory Relations, United Water Management & Services

Christine Hoover, Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate

Debra G. Coy, Principal, Svanda & Coy Consulting

Has Increased Supply, such as Marcellus Shale, Made Natural Gas the New "Low Carbon, Low Price" Fuel?

Is price volatility for natural gas now a thing of the past, enabling gas to be the silver bullet addressing carbon issues? Will environmental concerns keep shale fields from the market? Is pipeline capacity a barrier? This panel will address these issues, highlighting experience from the Marcellus Shale natural gas field, which stretches across the MACRUC states of Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, and Virginia. The discovery that shale natural gas resources can be tapped has changed the outlook for natural gas reserves and the natural gas industry as a whole. This panel will discuss concerns about regulation and the best way to guarantee that the mining processes do not harm surface and ground water supplies. Attendees will hear how supply projections and power and gas prices could be impacted.

Moderator: The Hon. Judy Jagdmann of Virginia

Participants: The Hon. Tyrone Christy of Pennsylvania

Andrew Bradford, Manager Northeast Team, BENTEK Energy LLC

John Somerhalder, Chairman, President and CEO, AGL Resources

Jack Dahl, Director, Bureau of Oil and Gas Regulation Division of Mineral Resources, NY DEP

11:00 – 11:15
Networking Break

11:15 – 12:30
Concurrent Sessions

Can Interstate Transmission Lines Bring Renewable Energy to the MACRUC Region?
&

Intercarrier Compensation

Can Interstate Transmission Lines Bring Renewable Energy to the MACRUC Region?

With Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) policies enacted in a majority of states, as well as significant tax incentives and anticipation of federal climate legislation (with the potential for a federal RPS), wind and other renewable resources will contribute increasingly to our mix of generation resources. This session will focus on the how best to deliver these unconventional resources to high load centers in the MACRUC region, including the potential for a high voltage interstate backbone transmission system.

Moderator: The Hon. Dallas Winslow of Delaware

Participants: The Hon. Philip Moeller of FERC

The Hon. Jon McKinney of West Virginia

The Hon. Joseph T. Kelliher, EVP, NextEra Energy, Inc.

Elias Farrah, Esquire

Intercarrier Compensation Reform – Emerging Issues

The FCC's National Broadband Plan recommends the adoption of a framework for long-term intercarrier compensation reform that creates a "glide path" to eliminate per minute switched access charges starting with reducing *intrastate* terminating switched access rate levels in equal increments over two to four years. The Plan recommends offsetting the impact of decreasing ICC revenues by allowing ILECs to increase subscriber line charges or deregulating SLC rates. Furthermore, the Plan encourages States to rebalance local service rates to offset the impact of lost interstate and intrastate access revenues. Participants will discuss what impact the FCC initiatives will have on CLEC-to-ILEC, ILEC-to-CLEC, CLEC-to-CLEC, WC-to-ILEC and WC-to-CLEC intrastate ICC policies? Attendees will learn how the States treat VoIP traffic for ICC? Also discussed will be the impact interstate ICC reform will have on residential local service rates in the Mid-Atlantic States?

Moderator: The Hon. James Cawley of Pennsylvania

Confirmed Participants: Joe Gillan, President, Gillan & Associates

Dr. Michael Pelcovits, Principal, Microeconomic Consulting and Research Associates, Inc.

Chris Van deVerg, General Counsel, Coretel

Rich Morris, Director, State Government Affairs, Sprint Nextel Corp.

David Bonsick, Sr. Attorney, Century Link

12:45 – 2:00

MACRUC/PJM Meeting

Invitees Only

2:00 – 5:00

Smart Grid School: Session Two: Smart Regulation for Smart Infrastructure

OPEN TO ALL ATTENDEES
Staff Strategic Planning Session

Session Two: Smart Regulation for Smart Infrastructure

This session will explore the key market, regulatory, and economic issues confronting Commissions that arise from the deployment of smart grid. It will examine what laws, standards, and funding sources are driving smart grid investment. It will also look at rate design, revenue, and other regulatory implications of smart grid deployment. Representatives from Commissions that have weighed these issues will present some of their lessons learned. Commissioners and staff will be able to explore the value propositions behind different aspects of the smart grid and ask questions about how to weigh these investments in a regulatory context.

Moderator: Miles Keogh, NARUC
Participants: The Hon. Paul Centolella of Ohio
Christian Grant, Booz and Company
Joe Miller, Horizon Energy
Roger Levy, Lawrence Berkeley Labs
Alison Silverstein, US Synchrophasor Initiative

7:00 – 9:30

MACRUC President's Installation Dinner/Cook-Out
The Installation Dinner has a new look!

This year MACRUC will be dining under the stars (weather permitting) on the Formal Lawn of The Hotel Hershey.
Dress is casual and comfortable. Flat shoes recommended.

Wednesday, June 30

9:00 – 10:15

Concurrent Sessions
Coping with Uncertainty: Federal Climate Policy
&
Ethics

Coping with Uncertainty: Federal Climate Policy

The conventional wisdom is that sooner or later CO2 emissions will be capped or otherwise restricted, and it's just a matter of how and when. In the meantime, generators and utilities are reluctant to make needed investment in infrastructure when they don't know what environmental requirements they will face down the road. The result is a growing crisis of uncertainty that threatens system reliability and affordability of electricity. This panel will focus on how state regulators can cope with this uncertainty. Attendees will learn about federal climate policy and discuss strategies that can help utilities manage risk effectively, preserve options, and minimize long-term costs.

Moderator: *The Hon. Jeanne Fox of New Jersey*

Confirmed Participants: *The Hon. Rick Morgan of District of Columbia*

Bruce Braine, AEP

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

Christopher Sherry, Department of Environmental Protection, State of New Jersey

Commitment to Ethics

The public trust is served when all persons involved in an administrative proceeding engage in ethical behavior. Adherence to the laws of ethics validates the public's expectations that the decision-making body will be fair and impartial; the agency's staff and administrative law judges will be independent; and, the legal representative for each interested party will present honest evidence and arguments.

This session presents an interesting study of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent opinion in *Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Company, Inc.*, 129 S. Ct. 2252 (2009), a case that considered whether the risk of improper influences on a elected judge, as the result of substantial campaign contributions by a party to the pending case, required the judge's recusal in the matter. Commission staff members will dramatize the unique facts of this case, and stage a number of different scenarios suggesting improper influences on the adjudicatory authority. The Hon. Mark Christie of the Virginia State Corporation Comm., who also teaches law at the University of Virginia Law School, will moderate.

Moderator: *The Hon. Mark Christie of Virginia*

10:15 – 10:30
Networking Break

10:30 -11:45
Closing Session & Prize Drawings

Commissioner Grille

Facilitator: *James Kerr, Partner, McGuireWoods, Former NARUC President and Commissioner, North Carolina*

Participants: *The Hon. Mark Christie of Virginia, MACRUC President*

The Hon. Philip Moeller, FERC

The Hon. David Armstrong of Kentucky

The Hon. Betty Ann Kane of the District of Columbia

The Hon. Jeanne Fox of New Jersey

The Hon. Larry Brenner of Maryland

The Hon. Garry Brown of New York

The Hon. Jon McKinney of West Virginia

The Hon. Joseph Kelliher, Commissioner Emeritus FERC, currently EVP, NextEra Energy, Inc.