

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UTILITY CONSUMER ADVOCATES

## 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

LA QUINTA, CA  
NOVEMBER 13-16, 2016

Registration and all sessions will be in the Frank Capra ABC Ballroom, unless otherwise noted in the agenda.

### Sunday, November 13, 2016

Noon - 5:30 pm      Registration

Noon -1:20 pm      Executive Committee Meeting (Lunch Provided)  
*Grgrich Room – Morgan's Restaurant*

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm      ***Energy N-Group Dialog:***  
*In conjunction with the U.S. Department of Energy, several national associations are working on projects in the energy space and developing useful resources and tools to support their member's state level activities. This dialog is an opportunity to learn about those projects and resources and to discuss how our state level members might benefit through greater interaction.*

#### Moderator:

Robert Nelson,      Consumer Counsel, Montana, NASUCA President

#### Panelists:

Caitlin Callaghan      Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability,  
U.S. Department of Energy

Miles Keogh      Research Lab Director, National Association of  
Utility Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC)

Sue Gander      Director, Energy, Environment & Transportation  
Division, National Governors Association (NGA)

Fred Hoover      Senior Director, National Association of State  
Energy Officials (NASEO)

Glen Andersen      Energy Program Director, National Conference  
of State Legislatures (NCSL) (*invited*)

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm Break-Light Refreshments

3:15 pm - 5:00 pm *Closed Session-NASUCA Members only*

-Introduction of Resolutions, Constitution and By-Laws, 2017 Budget,  
Minutes from past meetings  
-Roundtable of States

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm *NARUC Opening Reception*

*Dinner on our own*

**Monday, November 14, 2016**

7:30 am – 9:00 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 am -10:45 am *Closed Session for Members of NASUCA*

Association Business:

-Welcome: Robert Nelson-NASUCA President

-Officer Reports

-Secretary's Report (vote on Minutes, New Member)

-Treasurer's Report (vote on 2017 Budget)

-President's Report

-Nominating Committee Report

-Election of 2017 Officers

-Executive Director Report

-Committee Reports

-Work Resolutions

10:45 am -11:00 am Break

Open Session Begins

11:00 am – 11:05 am Welcome: Robert Nelson, NASUCA President

11:05 am -12:00 pm ***Gas Hedging – Do Low Natural Gas Prices Support Scaling Back Hedging Programs at Local Distribution Companies?***

*Programs that hedge the price of natural gas at local distribution companies have had varying levels of success. With the price of natural gas projected to remain low into the future, and with low price volatility in the market, should these hedging programs continue? This panel takes a critical look at market fundamentals and hedging strategies to provide a framework for advocates to determine whether hedging continues to make sense.*

Moderator:

Joseph W. Rogers Assistant Attorney General, Massachusetts  
Office of Ratepayer Advocacy

Panelists:

L. Craig Dowdy Senior Vice President, External Affairs, Spire

Melisa Whitten Senior Consultant, Daymark Energy Advisors

Kara Brighton Commissioner, Wyoming Public Service  
Commission

12:00 pm -1:30 pm Heads of Office Lunch (All others- lunch on your own)  
*Morgan's Restaurant*

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm ***NASUCA Markets Paper: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory –  
Future Electric Utility Regulation Series.***

Moderator:

Robert G. Mork Deputy Consumer Counselor for Federal  
Affairs, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer  
Counselor

Panelists:

Lisa Schwartz Electricity Markets and Policy Group, Lawrence  
Berkeley National Laboratory

Paul Peterson Principal Associate, Synapse Energy Economics

2:05 pm - 2:30pm Alison Kutler Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau,  
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

2:30 pm - 2:40 pm Steve Mitnick Editor-in-Chief, Public Utilities Fortnightly

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm

***Broadband: A Necessary Element of Converging Utility Services.***

*This panel will explore the importance of broadband as crucial infrastructure for consumers and for the provision of essential energy and water services, conservation, economic development and emergency response. These industries are evolving and becoming more interdependent. Advanced telecom data and broadband are playing an increasingly pivotal role in energy and water industries and are vitally important to public safety.*

Moderator:

Regina Costa

Telecommunications Policy Director, The Utility Reform Network

Panelists:

Elin Swanson Katz

Consumer Counsel, State of Connecticut

Robert Tse

Broadband Coordinator for California,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Jeff Shields:

Former General Manager: South San Joaquin  
Irrigation District

3:45 pm - 4:00 pm

Break

4:00 pm – 4:40 pm

***Energy Storage, a Primer.***

*What should advocates know about the technological feasibility and use cases of new energy storage technology*

Jason Burwen

Policy and Advocacy Director, Energy Storage Association (ESA)

Lon Huber

Director, Strategen Consulting, LLC

4:45 pm – 5:30 pm

***“The FCC’s New Broadband Lifeline Program”***

*A Dialog with USAC on possible implementation issues.*

Regina Costa

Telecommunications Policy Director, The Utility Reform Network

Michelle Garber

Universal Service Administrative Company

Jessica Zufolo

Universal Service Administrative Company

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Wine and Cheese Reception  
*Dunes Clubhouse*

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm NASUCA Dinner Event  
*Dunes Clubhouse*

**Tuesday, November 15, 2016**

7:30 am - 8:30 am Executive Committee Meeting  
*Grgrich Room – Morgan’s Restaurant*

8:00 am - 9:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 am -10:30 am *Closed Session for Members of NASUCA*

Association Business:

- Constitution and By-Laws
- Strategic Planning
- State Roundtable

10:30 am -10:45 am Break-Coffee and Tea

Open Session Begins

10:45am -12:00 pm ***Are Time-of-Use Rates the Answer?***  
*Rate design for electric utilities is contentious. Faced with proposals to raise residential customer charges or proposals to implement demand rates, commissions appear to be looking for middle ground through time-of-use rates. This panel will examine successes and failures in using time-of-use rates, and provide a guidance for advocates faced with time-of-use rate proposals.*

Moderator:

Robert G. Mork Deputy Consumer Counselor for Federal Affairs,  
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Panelists:

Kristin Munsch Director of Policy and Senior Attorney, Illinois  
Citizens’ Utility Board

Jane S. Park Vice-President, Regulatory Policy & Strategy,  
Commonwealth Edison Company

Jim Lazar Regulatory Assistance Project

12:00 pm -1:30 pm Lunch on your own.

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm **Optional Event: *Test drive\* electric vehicles from BMW, Nissan, Tesla, and more.***

This in-depth, hands-on educational experience gives you an opportunity to ask EV ambassadors about what it is truly like to own and operate an electric vehicle.

**Registration:** This event is first-come, first-served. Registration is available onsite. On the day of the event, drop by the Plug In America booth located directly outside the Fiesta Ballroom next to the main hotel lobby.

\*Valid driver's license required.

1:30 pm - 2:20 pm ***Integrating Electric Vehicles into the Grid, a Ratepayer Perspective***  
*Various jurisdictions are moving forward with EV integration plans as part of their grid modernization efforts. This panel will explore the cost of Integrating EV's into the grid, examine reliability concerns and discuss the equity of allowing EV's infrastructure cost into consumer rates.*

Moderator:

Nicole Sitaraman Assistant People's Counsel, Office of People's Counsel, District of Columbia

Panelists:

Bob Jenks Executive Director, Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

Katherine Stainken Policy Director, Plug In America

2:25 pm – 3:15 pm ***Lead in the Water, a Critical Look***  
*The challenges facing Flint, Michigan, and its problems with lead contaminated water supply, have raised the issue of lead piping to a national level. This panel explores what advocates need to know about the causes and severity of the lead problem, what practices can prevent similar problems elsewhere and what possible regulatory responses may result from increased public scrutiny of the lead problem.*

Moderator:

Edward Kaufman Chief Technical Advisor, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Speaker:

Gary A. Naumick Vice President - American Water Engineering & Asset Management

Randy Randall Commissioner, Third District, Public Service Commission of South Carolina

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm Break

3:30 pm - 4:20 pm ***Understanding Utility Pre-Paid Pension Assets: Why it Matters in the Rate Setting Process***

*Explore why accounting for pre-paid pension assets in the correct manner can create a potential long term benefit to utility customers. Learn why every consumer advocate should look at pre-paid pension assets in the next utility rate case.*

Moderator:

Margaret Stull Senior Utility Analyst, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Speaker:

David G. Pitts Independent Actuarial Services

Jamie McGovern Senior Economist, Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

4:25 pm - 5:30 pm

***"Vignettes"***

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

1. Wind update: On-shore and off-shore  
Tom Darin, Senior Director of Western State Policy, American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)
2. An Introduction to the U.S. Department of Energy's Proposed Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Furnaces.  
L. Craig Dowdy Senior Vice President, External Affairs, Spire
3. Meet and greet with US DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Introduction to the State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network  
Johanna Zetterberg, Coordinator, State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network, US Department of Energy

*Dinner on your own*

**Wednesday, November 16, 2016**

8:30 am - 10:00 am Continental Breakfast

8:30 am - 10:00 am *Closed Session:* Informal NASUCA Member Roundtable Discussion

10:00 am - 11:00 am Joint Closing Session with NARUC (*Fiesta Ballroom*)

*Meeting closed*

**Save the date: NASUCA Mid-Year Meeting - June 3-7, 2017 - Denver, Colorado**