

Monday – July 20, 2026

7:30 am – 8:15 am Registration and Breakfast (Conrad A)
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 **Evaluating whether Natural Gas Utility Investments Are Prudent in the Era of
Affordability Concerns and Public Policy Challenges**

Natural gas utilities invest billions of dollars annually maintaining aging systems and in new construction. In an era where all policy makers are focused on the affordability of utility bills, how do we make sure all utility spending is prudent? This panel will be a conversation about what prudent investment means to utilities, commissioners, and consumer advocates? And does the analysis change if public policy directs investment to focus on resilience, gas to electricity transition policies, and affordability?

Moderator:

Clark Kaml Financial Analyst, Consumer Advocate Division,
Office of the Tennessee Attorney General

Speakers:

David Dittmore, CPA Regulatory Consultant
Jaimie Van Nostrand Policy Director, Future of Heat Initiative
Bradley Dixon Utility Regulatory Consultant, Harlan Sage LLC

9:35 am – 10:30 am **Connected for All**

This panel will examine how state telecommunications and utility regulation are evolving in a broadband-first era, as policymakers confront the growing recognition of broadband as essential infrastructure. How are states rethinking legacy regulatory frameworks in light of changing technologies and major federal broadband investments. Competitive neutrality will be considered including whether existing legal and regulatory structures adequately address today's broadband-dominant communications regulation, broadband policy, utility oversight, and consumer protection? Topics include broadband affordability, state authority after the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, digital inclusion, essential/emergency communications service obligations, integrated infrastructure planning, and emerging state regulatory models aimed at ensuring universal, affordable, and equitable access.

Moderator:

Katherine M. Kennedy Assistant Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Office of
Consumer Advocate

Speakers:

Sherry Lichtenberg Senior Manager, Policy and Professional Development,
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
Burt Cohen Broadband Policy Coordinator & Staff Attorney, State of
Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel
Brent Christensen President/CEO of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance

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- 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Commissioner Judy Chang
- 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. Update - Electricity Customer Alliance
-Jeff Dennis, Executive Director - ECA
 2. Smart Electric Power Alliance
 - 3.

5:30pm – 7:30pm ***NASUCA Reception***
Open to All Meeting Registrants and speakers

Location: Hell’s Kitchen
80 S 9th St
Minneapolis MN 55402

Awards to Be Presented
Manifold Awards (Lifetime of Public Service)
Popowsky Awards (Exceptional Service to NASUCA)
Service Award (Service to NASUCA)

Dinner on your own

Tuesday – July 21, 2026

7:15 am – 8:00 am Registration and Breakfast (Conrad A)
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
Speed to Power: Solutions for Accelerating Large Load Connection

Rapid growth in demand from data centers and other large loads is creating a range of new challenges for electricity planners, investors, system operators, and regulators, leading to bottlenecks that slow the connection of large loads to the electric grid. In response, innovative solutions for accelerating large load connections are beginning to emerge across the U.S. During this session, LBNL will provide an overview of their new report which identifies actions states and utilities can take to accelerate load connection through five areas (load forecasting, interconnection, utility procurement, markets and operations and cost allocation and ratemaking). The remainder of the presentation will focus on the cost allocation and ratemaking solutions.

Natalie Mims Frick, Department Leader, Energy Markets and Planning Department,
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

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Session 2: 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Rates, Returns, and Regulation: What's the buzz?

Utility rate increase requests have increased in recent years, hitting a multi-decadal record in 2025, last surpassed in the early 1980s. Regulatory approval for those requests have also risen recently. Additionally, requested and authorized ROEs have increased over the last 5 years, as have approved WACCs; however, both remain low by historical standards. During this session, LBNL will provide an overview of cost-of-service regulation to illustrate potential incentive misalignment that could help contextualize recent rate and return increases.

Peter Cappers, Strategic Advisor: Energy Markets and Planning Department,
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Break-Coffee and Tea

11:00 am – 12:00 am

Water - White Night? Snake oil Salesman? Or Something In between?

Are acquisitions the magic elixir for addressing troubled or distressed systems? This panel will discuss their experiences with the sale/transfer of troubled systems, including observations on the quality and pace of infrastructure investments after a sale/transfer is approved. The panelists will discuss how their experience with such sale/transfers have impacted their analyses for determining if an acquisition/transfer provides benefits to the customers and whether it is in the public interest.

Moderator:

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

Speakers:

Shaun Sparks Legal Counsel and Chief of Staff to Pennsylvania Public
Utility Commissioner Ralph V. Yanora
Lucy Edmondson Chief Counsel, Public Staff, North Carolina Utility
Commission
Aaron Silas Assistant Vice President, Regulatory Operations and
Customer Experience, Central States Water Resources

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch on your own.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Consumer Advocate of the PJM States (CAPS) – Closed Board Meeting (Conrad A)
- Contact Greg Poulos for details.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Panel 6 - TBD

Moderator:

Speakers

- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Federal/National Speakers
- 2:30 pm - TBD
- 3:00 pm - Federal Communication Commission
 - Barbara Esbin, the Deputy Bureau Chief of the Consumer and Govern-
 mental Affairs Bureau
- 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. FERC Update - 30 Minutes
 - Jason Gray, Managing Partner, Duncan & Allen
 - 2.
 - 3.

End of Open Sessions - Dinner on your own

Wednesday – July 22, 2026

- 8:30 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast – (Conrad A)
 Breakfast open to NASUCA meeting registrants and speakers
- 9:00 am – 11:00 am Closed Session for Members of NASUCA (Conrad A)
 -Informal NASUCA Member Roundtable Discussion

Meeting End

Save The Dates:

NASUCA Annual Meeting - November 15-18, 2026, New Orleans, LA

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