

National Council on Electricity Policy
2024 Annual Meeting
October 29 – 30
Embassy Suites Phoenix Tempe
Phoenix Ballroom
4400 South Rural Rd, Tempe, AZ 85282



Engaging with Communities to Support their Energy Future
October 29-30, 2024

Tuesday, October 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MT

Wednesday, October 30 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. MT

Community engagement is an essential part of the energy system transition. Meaningful engagement can help build support for electricity system projects, unlock energy and community benefits, and mitigate foreseeable or unexpected harms. To develop community partnerships on energy-related projects, state agencies, utilities, developers, and other electricity policy stakeholders collaborate with local individuals and groups as partners on the changes happening in their communities.

At this year’s annual meeting, NCEP will focus on pressing issues that benefit from community engagement, share promising approaches to develop trust and partnerships with communities, and identify potential areas for collaboration among state policy-makers for more effective community engagement. Join colleagues across the country to learn and contribute your own experiences!

Agenda		
Time	Session Title	Moderator
Tuesday, October 29, 2024		
<i>Setting the Stage for Meaningful Design of Community Engagement</i>		
8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast provided through hotel	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:10	Workshop Welcome and Overview	NCEP Vice Chair Mike Dowd, <i>Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</i>
9:10 – 9:40	A Broader Look at Community Engagement Stories from the front line about community-led solar installations. Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Douglas Bessette, <i>Michigan State University</i> 	TBD

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Time	Session Title	Moderator
9:40 – 10:00	<p>Community Engagement from an Expert’s Perspective What we need to understand about community engagement as we design our processes. Principles of and broadly relevant approaches to community engagement.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jennifer Yoshimura, <i>Pacific Northwest National Laboratory</i> 	TBD
10:00 – 10:20	Break	
Case Studies Series from Member Perspectives – NGA, NCSL		
10:20 – 11:00	<p>NGA Hosted Session: Engaging Communities in Resource Siting Decisions Case studies incorporating community engagement into high-level energy resource siting decisions under high load growth and resource constraints. (<i>Featured states: Arizona, Ohio</i>)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anna Perry, <i>Ohio Office of the Governor (invited)</i> 	Dan Lauf, <i>National Governor’s Association</i>
11:00 – 11:40	<p>NCSL Hosted Session: Making Laws with the Community Case studies of community engagement in bottom-up and top-down lawmaking. (<i>Featured states: Colorado, New Mexico</i>)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Senator Hansen, <i>Colorado</i> ● Senator Neville, <i>New Mexico</i> 	Sen. Eric Koch, <i>Indiana (invited)</i>
11:40 – 12:30	<p>Group Discussion of NGA and NCSL Examples Small-group facilitated discussion of examples, leading to development of framework for engaging communities.</p>	Executive Committee with all participants
12:30 – 1:50	Lunch (provided)	
Case Studies Series from Member Perspectives – NASUCA, NARUC		

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Time	Session Title	Moderator
1:50 – 2:30	<p>NASUCA Hosted Session: Consumer Advocates Engaging with Communities Examples of how consumer advocate governance structure influences community engagement approaches. <i>(Featured States: Massachusetts)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jessica Freedman, <i>Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General</i> ● Mark Toney, <i>The Utility Reform Network</i> 	Joseph Pereira, <i>Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel (invited)</i>
2:30 – 3:10	<p>NARUC Hosted Session: Deepening State Utility Commission Engagement with Customers This panel will share concrete examples of engaging communities in electricity-related decision making that informs utility commission decisions. Featured speakers will describe processes to incorporate energy equity, compensate intervenors, and understand customer preferences for distribution grid investments that support their priorities. <i>(Featured States: Washington, Puerto Rico)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hon. Dave Danner, <i>Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission</i> ● Hon. Lillian Mateo-Santos, <i>Puerto Rico Energy Bureau (invited)</i> 	Hon. Sarah Freeman, <i>Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission</i>
3:10 – 3:30	Break	
3:30 – 4:20	<p>Group Discussion of NASUCA and NARUC Examples Small-group facilitated discussion of examples, leading to development of framework for engaging communities.</p>	Executive Committee with all participants
4:20 – 5:00	<p>Develop Framework Interactive, group activity to develop framework for community engagement: identifying consistent and unique strategies, common principles, and potential areas for collaboration.</p>	Executive Committee with all participants
6:00	Optional No-host Dinner	
Wednesday, October 30, 2024		
7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast provided through hotel	
8:00 – 8:20	<p>Welcome, Reflections</p> <p>Jan Brinch Award</p>	NCEP Vice Chair Jennifer Easler, <i>Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate (invited)</i>

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Time	Session Title	Moderator
<i>Case Studies Series from Member Perspectives – NACAA, NASEO</i>		
8:20 – 9:00	<p>NACAA Hosted Session: Clean Air Agencies and Communities Addressing Impacts of State Policy Decisions Case studies of collaborating with communities to address externalities of state policy decisions. <i>(Featured States: California, Minnesota)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chanell Fletcher, <i>California Air Resources Board</i> ● Brandy Toft, <i>Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (invited)</i> 	Mike Dowd, <i>Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</i>
9:00 – 9:40	<p>NASEO Hosted Session: State Energy Offices as Connectors between Communities and Clean Energy Developers A sound relationship between clean energy developers and the communities they propose developments in is fundamental for the success of clean energy deployment. This session will outline case studies and examples from State Energy Offices serving as connectors between communities and clean energy developers and discuss some of the lessons learned in the states. <i>(Featured States: Hawaii, Indiana)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ryan Hadley, <i>Indiana Office of Energy Development (invited)</i> ● Mark Glick, <i>Hawaii State Energy Office (invited)</i> 	Kristofor Anderson, <i>Georgia Environmental Finance Authority</i>
9:40 – 10:00	Break	
10:00 – 10:40	<p>Group Discussion of NACAA and NASEO Examples Small-group facilitated discussion of examples, leading to development of framework for engaging communities.</p>	Executive Committee with all participants
10:40 – 11:20	<p>Revise and Finalize Framework Interactive, group activity to finalize framework for community engagement: identifying consistent and unique strategies, common principles, and potential areas for collaboration.</p>	Executive Committee with all participants
11:20 – 11:30	Wrap up and adjourn	