

PROGRAM FOR 70TH ANNUAL NECPUC SYMPOSIUM

Sunday, June 4, 2017

4:00 p.m. ISO-NE Budget Discussion

ISO-NE will present administrative and capital budget information to the state public utility commissions, public advocates, Attorneys General and any other members of the public who wish to attend.

Robert Ludlow, VP, Chief Financial and Compliance Officer, ISO-NE

6:00 p.m. Pre-dinner Reception
Sponsored by Pierce Atwood LLP and Brown Rudnick LLP

7:00 p.m. Dinner *The Dining Room*

8:30 p.m. Dessert reception
Sponsored by the Nuclear Energy Institute and the National Association of Water Companies

Monday, June 5, 2017

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast Buffet begins *The Dining Room*

8:45 a.m. Plenary Session

Welcome: *Hon. Martin Honigberg*, NECPUC President and Chair of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Jeanne Shaheen, United States Senator, State of New Hampshire (invited)

Hon. Cheryl LaFleur, Acting Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Plenary Session
Will New England Find Harmony? State Laws & Regional Electric Markets

Can New England's wholesale electricity markets and state laws be harmonized? The challenges to doing so are many, and they are fundamental. They include: addressing complex jurisdictional questions, ensuring that the consumers of each state bear only the costs of their own state's laws, and achieving state law compliance at the lowest possible cost to consumers. Can the region resolve those questions in the short- and long-term in a way that preserves the most-often cited goals of competitive wholesale markets: placing risks of business decisions on investors rather than consumers, as well as meeting consumers' needs and preferences with lowest costs, while not diminishing environmental quality, compromising energy efficiency, or jeopardizing reliability?

Moderator: TBD

Participants: TBD

Noon

Luncheon

The Dining Room

Hon. Martin Honigberg, NECPUC President and Chair of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Chris Sununu, Governor, State of New Hampshire (invited)

1:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

A. Natural Gas: Models for Local Distribution Company Expansion

Over the past decade economic, environmental and political concerns have resulted in an increase in demand for natural gas. Existing natural gas consumers are considering enhancing their services, while new customers are looking to take advantage of the benefits natural gas provides in terms of economics, efficiency and reliability. While this is taking place in the background, many New England utilities are faced with the cost of expansion and constrained interstate pipeline capacity. The panel will discuss the tools available to Local Distribution Companies as they seek opportunities to expand their systems to better serve current and new customers. The panelists will consider various issues, including regulatory models for expansion, alternatives to increased pipeline capacity, rate-making treatment of associated costs, economic development, environmental concerns and consumer protection.

Moderator: TBD

Panelists:

Thomas Kiley, President and CEO, Northeast Gas Association

Todd Black, Senior Vice President, External Affairs & Customer Relations, Unifit

Jim Roche, President, New Hampshire Business & Industry Association

B. Water at the Nexus between Economic Regulation and Health

The City of Flint, Michigan made national news in 2015 when lead was found in the public water supply following a change in water source. Residents continue to use bottled or filtered water there, while criminal charges have been filed against some of those involved. Meanwhile, closer to home, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) associated with a manufacturing facility was found in water supplies in Merrimack and Litchfield, New Hampshire. Discovery of widespread contamination or an emerging contaminant can cause a public health crisis – and require immediate investment for public water systems. This panel will discuss several recent case studies – and what regulators need to know about the confluence of environmental and economic regulation.

Moderator: *Hon. Jack Betkoski*, Vice Chairman, Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Participants:

Janice Beecher, Director, Institute of Public Utilities Policy Research & Education, Michigan State University

Brandon Kernan, Hydrology and Water Conservation and Water Use Program Manager, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Donald Ware, Chief Operating Officer, Pennichuck Corporation

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

A. Nuclear Waste Redux: Could this be a new movie?

Pursuant to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, the Department of Energy entered into contracts with the owners of nuclear generating facilities that obligated the federal government to take the spent nuclear fuel from nuclear plants across the country and send it to a disposal facility beginning no later than January 1998. Money was collected from ratepayers to pay for this disposal and thus far about \$40 billion is in the Nuclear Waste Fund. DOE has failed to meet its obligation, so the waste sits in the states while the federal government holds our ratepayers' money. Meanwhile, plants around the country have sued the DOE for breach of contract and collect costs related to the storage of spent nuclear fuel on site. Those costs come out of the Federal Judgment Fund which is funded by the taxpayers from every state. So first the ratepayers paid for a service they did not receive and now the taxpayers are paying again because of this lack of service. Will this hemorrhage of money ever end? Is Yucca Mountain really and truly dead? Is interim storage at a private site possible? Come hear the latest on what is being proposed in Congress and by private initiatives to move the nations spent nuclear fuel.

Moderator: *Hon. Sarah Hofmann*, Member, Vermont Public Service Board

Panelists:

Robert Capstick, Director of Government, Public & Regulatory Affairs, Yankee Atomic Electric Company, Maine Yankee, and Connecticut Yankee

Betsy Madru, Vice President of Government Relations, Waste Control Specialists

Katrina McMurrian, Executive Director, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition

B. Water Planning Roundtable

Kirk Westphal of CDM Smith will present an overview of the development and Implementation of a statewide water plan for the State of Connecticut, which will be considered by the Connecticut State Legislature in Spring 2018

Moderators: *Hon. Jack Betkoski*, Vice Chairman of Connecticut PURA and *Dave LeVasseur*, Acting Undersecretary, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management

- C. Ethics CLE for lawyers
Michael Sheehan, Senior Counsel, Liberty Utilities
Maureen Smith, Shareholder, Orr & Reno
- 6:15 p.m. Pre-dinner Reception
Sponsored by the Retail Energy Supply Association, Itron, and Robinson & Cole
- 7:15 p.m. Dinner
- 8:30 p.m. Dessert Reception
Sponsored by the Northeast Gas Association

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast Buffet begins *The Dining Room*
- 7:30 a.m. Telecom Break Out *The Sun Dining Room*

Come discuss various telecommunications issues, including whether there are continuing issues related to pole access

- 9:00 a.m. Plenary Session

Fireside Chat: From Ukraine to New England

In December 2015, the utility world was rocked by news of a widespread electricity outage in Ukraine. The result of illegal entry into a utility's computer and SCADA systems, the outage caused 225,000 customers to lose power for three hours, and the system to be switched to manual mode. According to NERC, the Ukrainian attack was the first cyber incident to result in power outages. Our speakers will outline how the attack occurred, the lessons to be learned and mitigation strategies that should be considered for New England.

Speakers:

Hon. Robert Scott, Commissioner, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
Arthur House, Chief Cyber Security Risk Officer, State of Connecticut
Joseph H. McClelland, Director, Office of Energy Infrastructure Security, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

- 9:45 a.m. Plenary Session

Fireside Chat: Postcards from the Future – Stories from the Hawaiian Grid

Speakers:

Hon. Martin Honigberg, Chairman, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Lorraine Akiba, Commissioner, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Plenary Panel
Regulation in the Age of Competition and Innovation

The telecommunications and electricity industries have advanced substantially since the days of vertically integrated utilities. Innovation and technology have led to an evolution in telecommunications with a variety of new products and services, such as cell phones and apps, competitive local service providers, and broadband and the Internet, reducing reliance on incumbent telecommunications providers while maintaining safety net service. Meanwhile, in a post-restructured electric industry, as reliance on distributed energy resources and energy efficiency grows, a chorus of commentators question what the future will hold, and what the role of the regulated utility – and the regulator – should be. Developments in both industries raise a multitude of questions – Are there lessons that can be learned from one industry and applied in the other? What can markets best accomplish? What obligations, if any, must remain under the auspices of regulators? Can we provide incentives for innovation and investment and assure fairness across customers and customer classes? How do we judge success? This august panel will address these questions and more.

Moderator: *Hon. Kathryn Bailey*, Commissioner, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Participants:

Kathleen Abernathy, Board Member, ISO New England and former Executive Vice President, Frontier Communications

Hon. Lorraine Akiba, Commissioner, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Janet Besser, Executive Vice President, Northeast Clean Energy Council

Louise McCarren, Independent Consultant

Barbara Tyran, Executive Director, Government & External Relations, Electric Power Research Institute

12:15 p.m. Luncheon

The Dining Room

Invitation to 2018 NECPUC Symposium, *Hon. Mark Vannoy*, Chair, Maine Public Utilities Commission

Presentation of George Dunn Award to Staff by *Hon. Martin Honigberg*, NECPUC President and Chair of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Hon. Robert Powelson, NARUC President and Commissioner, Pennsylvania
Public Utilities Commission

1:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

A. Whiz Bang New Stuff – Telecom Edition

Come learn about new and exciting technologies in the telecommunications world, and have a chance to ask questions from the best and the brightest about what the future has to offer.

Moderator: *Hon. Karen Charles Peterson*, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable

Panelists:

Harry Lightsey, Executive Director, Global Connected Customer, Public Policy, General Motors

TBD, ViaScience

Kyle Mallinger, Director of Marketing, Zco Corp.

B. International Session: Lessons for New England

What can we learn from other parts of the world? What global issues warrant special attention from a New England perspective? Find out what other countries are focused on, including their successes and failures, and bring that knowledge back to your state.

Moderator: TBD

Panelists:

Rick Weston, Principal and China Programs Director, Regulatory Assistance Project

Richard Cowart, Principal and European Programs Director, Regulatory Assistance Project

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Batteries Not Included: The Risk and Reward of Storage.

Is storage the silver bullet of electric industry? Increased reliance on intermittent resources with rapidly increasing distributed energy resources results in impacts across the electric system, from wholesale to distribution system operations. Many states are being asked to make big bets on batteries, but who will benefit from this rapidly evolving technology? What are the challenges for making policy decisions around technology that is moving and changing rapidly? As tests and studies pour in, from large-scale projects developed in the wake of the Aliso

Canyon natural gas leak in California to distribution scale projects here in New England -- the question is whether storage is ready for prime time.

This panel will consider:

- What “peak” will storage actually chase?
- How will various technologies and programs be improved and/or hurt by storage?
- Will the market invest in storage without state support?
- How do state policy makers maximize benefits from investment in storage while avoiding detrimental impacts and diminishing returns?
- What policies can support the best outcomes for all customers?

Moderator: *Hon. Ned Bartlett*, Undersecretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Panelists:

Richard Fioravanti, Principal, Engineering Management Consulting Practice Energy and Utilities, Exponent, Inc.

Jesse Jenkins, PhD Candidate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Tom Kaslow, Director, Market Design & Policy, FirstLight Power Resources Inc.

John O’Brien, President, AltaGas Services

Christopher Parent, Director of Market Development, ISO New England

5:15 p.m. Pre-dinner Reception Sponsored by ISO-NE

6:30 p.m. Non-public dinner for state officials and NESCOE.

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Non-public session for state officials and their staff, NESCOE and invited guests.