

MACRUC 29th Annual Education Conference

June 23 - 26, 2024

Louisville, Kentucky

The Brown Hotel

This agenda is subject to change and updating.

4/15/2024 7:28:01 AM

SUNDAY

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Registration Open	Bluegrass Room – 2 nd Floor
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Run for the Roses Reception	Sky Terrace – 16 th Floor

MONDAY

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration Open	Bluegrass Room – 2 nd Floor
7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Commissioner Only Business Meeting	Broadway A
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Race Day Rise and Dine Continental Breakfast	Bluegrass Room – 2 nd Floor
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	General Session This two part General Session will cover the following topics: The Views on Resource Adequacy from the Capitals: A Legislator Panel <i>And</i> FERC & MACRUC: Transmission Policies Now more than ever, relations between federal and state regulators are critical. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is embarking on some of the most important policies in a generation regarding transmission, wholesale energy markets, and the energy transition. Each policy impacts state electricity regulation and, most importantly, retail customers. Therefore, a solid understanding between the state and federal regulators is essential as these	Crystal Ballroom – 3 rd Floor

new policies take shape. This session is a timely dialogue between key officials at the state and federal level about the best ways for both regulators to engage with each other. How can we as regulators work together effectively for the common interest of the customer? In this session, regulators will discuss the best ways for states to engage with FERC and how states and the federal government can ensure this critical relationship works best for the public at large.

Moderator: Hon. Kent Chandler, Kentucky

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Derby Brew Coffee Break** **Bluegrass Room**

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions A**

A1 Artificial Intelligence

Moderator: Hon. Rory Christian, New York

A2 Charge Up: Increasing Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Moderator: Hon. Angie Hatton, Kentucky

A3 Checking in on Customer Choice

Most MACRUC States allow customers to choose their own energy supplier. As a result, more than half the electricity in the region is supplied to customers by competitive retailers, not utilities. These retailers are regulated by States in their exclusive role as the regulators of retail sales, and not FERC, which regulates the other side of the competitive market: wholesale generators and RTOs. This panel checks in on what’s going right and wrong in the State-regulated retail markets, by asking industry and regulatory participants their views and concerns. This group will discuss the benefits and drawbacks of current offerings and regulatory schemes, including whether customers are having their needs met, what technological and risk-management innovations are in the works, and whether additional regulatory reforms and protections are needed.

Moderator: Hon. John Williams, Ohio

Participants:

Hon. Fred Hoover, Maryland

12:00 – 1:45 p.m. **Lunch then Learn: Waltzing and ...Wholesale Markets?** **Crystal Ballroom**

Dancing with the Stars meets PJM issues.

Contestants have four minutes to showcase their perspectives on PJM's toughest wholesale market issues. Our discerning panel of judges will base scores on:

How the contestants backed up their fancy footwork with facts,

did their musicality match practicality, overall impact on the performance.
Attendees will learn valuable information to take back to their own dance floor.
Audience judging will be included.

Host: *Hon. Charlotte Mitchell, North Carolina*

Judges:

- ❖ *Neil Chatterjee*
- ❖ *Asim Haque, Sr. Vice President, Governmental & Members, PJM*
- ❖ *Glen Thomas, President, GT Power Group*

The Tango: *Who will build the MW's that PJM says it needs to meet future demand?*

- ✚ *Phil Moeller, Executive Vice President, EEI*
- ✚ *Todd Snitchler, President and CEO, Electric Power Supply Association*

The Cha-Cha: *Should states whose policies force the closure of large power plants be required to pay for the transmission costs associated with those closures?*

- ✚ *Hon. Dan Conway, Ohio*
- ✚ *Hon. Kumar Barve, Maryland*

The Rumba: *Is the PJM market monitor too powerful?*

- ✚ *Marji Phillips, Sr. VP, Wholesale Market Policy, LS Power*
- ✚ *Greg Poulos, Executive Director, Consumer Advocates of the PJM states (CAPS)*

The Foxtrot: *Given the variety of state policies, should the PJM state hold together in a single RTO or should the states breakup?*

- ✚ *Hon. Charlotte Lane, West Virginia*
- ✚ *TBD*

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions B

Grand Foyer

B1

You've Been Hacked. Now What?

Cyber security breaches have become increasingly prevalent, posing significant threats to utilities across all sectors. One such alarming incident occurred in January 2024 when a ransomware incident affected software applications and

systems in a portion of Veolia North America's Municipal Water division.

This session will begin with an overview of how this ransomware attack comprised Veolia, how they quickly mobilized their IT and Security Incident Response Teams and cooperated with law enforcement and other third parties. Attendees will learn valuable lessons from actions taken by Veolia. The conversation will emphasize the urgency for proactive cybersecurity strategies and the critical role regulatory commissioners play.

Moderator: Hon. Dennis Deters, Ohio

Participants:

Veolia Water Company Representative

B2 Natural Gas Potpourri

In today's rapidly changing energy landscape, discussions surrounding gas issues have never been more pertinent. Through concise, dynamic presentations, our experts will offer valuable insights, challenges, and opportunities on the following topics:

- Hydrogen Injection
- Price Volatility
- Natural Gas role as a bridge fuel
- Infrastructure improvements to reduce greenhouse gas
- Economic Development Programs
- Perspectives on Community Development

The audience is encouraged to come with questions, suggestions, and thoughts.

Moderator: Hon. Lawrence Friedeman, Ohio

Participants:

Hon. Jenifer French, Ohio

Juan Alvarado, Managing Director, Energy Analysis, AGA

Dan LeFevers, Director of State and Consumer Programs, GTI

B3 Moving to Calmer Seas: Regional Planning for Offshore Wind Amidst Industry Headwinds

Mid-Atlantic states have committed to procuring 41.7 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind on or by 2040. Despite these policy initiatives to push the industry forward, the industry is facing increasing interest rates, supply chain issues, and permitting delays. With 52.6 GW of wind energy in the

development and operational pipeline nationwide as of May 2023, how can developers and regulators continue moving forward? This session will review ways MACRUC states work together and work with the federal government to move existing and future projects forward. The format of this session will allow developers, thought-leaders, and commissioners to ask each other questions and have an open and dynamic discussion to better understand what has been happening in the offshore wind industry and how the industry can move forward to meet state and federal goals.

Moderator: Hon. Zenon Christodoulou, New Jersey

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.	Derby Brew Coffee Break	Bluegrass Room
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	<p>General Session: Shark Tank <i>Host: Hon. Jehmal Hudson, VA</i> <i>Sharks will be announced live during the conference!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let's Keep the Lights On • Emission Impossible? A Clean Energy Contender • End of the Transmission Bottleneck • Reimagining what is possible for grid modernization 	Crystal Ballroom

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Race Day Rise and Dine Continental Breakfast**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. **General Session**

CEO Panel: Resource Adequacy and the Fight for Reliability

Moderator: Hon. Emile Thompson, District of Columbia

Participants:

- *Christine Martin, President, PPL Electric Utilities*
- *Alex Glenn, Executive VP and CEO, Florida and Midwest, Duke Energy*
- *Ben Fowke, Interim CEO and President, AEP*

Electric grid reliability has become a top concern in recent years. A 2023 NERC report identified five key risks that

threaten reliability: 1) Energy policy; 2) Grid transformation; 3) Resilience to extreme weather events; 4) Security risks; and 5) Critical infrastructure interdependencies.

Resource adequacy underscores each of these risks – the ability to ensure that there is enough capacity and reserves to maintain a balanced supply and demand across the electric grid. This panel of experts will explore how state commissioners can collaborate with generator owners to maintain resource adequacy in the face of these risks.

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Derby Brew Coffee Break**

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions C**

C1 Get the Lead Out!

Moderator: Hon. Michael Bange, New Jersey

Participants:

Hon. Jeff Hughes, North Carolina

Sandy Kutzing, Senior Vice President, Lead and Copper Strategy, CDM Smith

C2 Independence, Transparency and Accountability in our RTO: Ensuring the Public Interest

RTOs are entrusted to plan and operate the transmission grid and run the markets that ensure customer demand is reliably met at low costs and consistent with Federal and State Environmental requirements. It's a balancing act of facilitating robust competition while taking a hands-on approach to planning for the energy transition. When done well, everything is optimized -- asset owners and buyers and sellers' profit and customers enjoy the benefits of this dynamic. The public interest is met. But things rarely go this smoothly. Market and planning rules are getting more and more complex, and an RTO Board is expected to be both removed from the stakeholders and all-around experts. They naturally rely on the expertise of their staff, but also on the very stakeholders they must be independent from. Can RTO Boards make even handed decisions by relying on direct incumbent stakeholder input? Should this direct input be provided in an open forum or behind closed doors? Are RTO Boards properly held accountable in meeting expectations, and to whom?

Moderator: Hon. Michael Richard, Maryland

C3 Novel, New and NextGen: Generation and Energy Storage of the Future – Today!

The demand for storage is growing and expected to increase in

the next two decades. Pumped Storage is the dominant grid-scale storage solution, representing over 90% of worldwide operational storage. The last PSH facility commissioned in the U.S. was more than 30 years ago. The panel will address what new and innovative ways there are to meet resource adequacy. It will also include discussion about the value to utilities and ratepayers while offering perspectives on the value it provides for a changing grid.

Moderator: Hon. Kent Chandler, Kentucky

11:30 – 12:00 p.m. **Derby Brew Coffee Break**

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions D**

D1 A Nuclear Resurgence: From Retirements to Restarts

Moderator: Hon. Steve DeFrank, Pennsylvania

D2 USF Reform

Moderator: Hon. Mary Pat Regan, Kentucky

D3 BioGas

On this panel we'll explore the current state of biogas in the MACRUC region. Expert panelists will discuss current projects within specific MACRUC States and regulatory policies that are enabling projects to successfully provide utility system benefits. Benefits include storage flexibility, high temperature heat, redundancy, and sustainable supply while simultaneously lowering carbon emissions. Panelists will also discuss how biogas can be employed as a dispatchable source of low emissions electricity.

Co-Moderators:

Hon. Jehmal Hudson, Virginia

Hon. Katie Zerfuss, Pennsylvania

1:00 – 2:45

Lunch Then Learn: Hot Topics

**We are cooking up some HOT TOPICS.
Stay Tuned...**

Crystal Ballroom

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

A Night at the Races Dinner

Attire: Casual

Transportation will be provided. Information on timing will be communicated closer to the event.

**Churchill Downs
Starting Gate Terrace**

WEDNESDAY

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Closing General Session and Breakfast**

Data Centers – Driving the Conversation and The Load Growth Part 1 and Part 2

Part 1- Where is the horsepower going?

The first part of this session will explore the use cases, business models and end use of electricity related to data centers. From problem solving, to running our phones, this group will discuss the specific uses of electricity data centers represent.

Part 2- All things demand

Part two of the session will explore the demands of data centers, from energy and transmission to broadband and personnel. The panelists will discuss what different data center business models look at when siting, what their respective energy demands are going forward, and how certain business models look at site selection.

Crystal Ballroom

Co- Moderators:

Hon. Kent Chandler, Kentucky

Hon. Kim Drexler, Delaware

Participants:

- *Brian George, US Federal Lead
Global Energy Market Development
and Policy, Google*
- *Data Center Coalition Representative*