

To: Stephanie Mullen, Executive Director

From: Hayley Williamson

Date: December 22, 2015

RE: NARUC Gas Subcommittee semi-annual report

The NARUC gas subcommittee continues to meet on a monthly basis. The meetings are conducted via telephone conference, and usually consist of market updates and state-specific issues.

The NARUC gas subcommittee has focused on the implications for natural gas from the Clean Power Plan (CPP). The NARUC subcommittee met during the annual NARUC meeting this year in Austin, Texas and focused on combined cycle natural gas plants and the CPP. The NARUC subcommittee believes the CPP creates opportunities for states to use combined cycle natural gas plants to meet the CPP's emissions reductions goals. The CPP requires that, by 2022, the first year of the compliance period, natural gas combined cycle (NGCC) generation is limited to a maximum of a 22 percent increase from 2012 levels in each region. The percentage of NGCC generation is equivalent to the single largest annual increase in power sector gas-fired generation since 1990, which occurred between 2011 and 2012. In each subsequent year, regional NGCC generation is limited to a maximum of a 5 percent increase from the previous year, based on the historical average annual growth in gas-fired generation in the power sector between 1990 and 2012.

At the NARUC annual meeting there was discussion about the final CPP and how, unlike the draft CPP, it may limit a rush to build new NGCC plants. The final CPP limits a rush to build new NGCC plants with the following measures: 1) the final CPP increases the role of renewable energy in setting state emission reduction goals and encourages more renewable energy in the early years of CPP implementation; 2) the final CPP allows renewable energy to displace coal and NGCC generation; 3) the final CPP gradually phases in the coal to NGCC switch; 4) the final CPP minimizes unanticipated incentives to build new NGCC plants. The draft CPP contained a provision wherein states could shut down existing fossil-fuel plants and open new NGCC plants, which are subject to less stringent emissions requirements than the old fossil-fuel plants. The final CPP amended this provision to no longer allow new NGCC plants to replace generation for covered fossil fuel plants.

Finally, the NARUC gas subcommittee continues to receive news briefs regarding the gas industry. According to the latest subcommittee newsletter update issued October 2, 2015, there has been an increased demand for vehicles fueled by natural gas in New York, Florida, and Texas. Cars and cruise ships in these states are being powered by liquid natural gas. In international news, Russia entered into several agreements regarding liquid natural gas despite Ukraine-related sanctions. In Tokyo, the average spot price for liquid natural gas in August 2015 rose by \$0.20/MMbtu to \$8.10/MMbtu. In the middle east, a discovery of a large natural gas deposit near Egypt will allow Europe to continue to diversify its energy portfolio with natural gas.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: January 12, 2016

TO: Stephanie Mullen, Executive Director

FROM: Donald Lomoljo, Utilities Hearing Officer

RE: National, State or Regional Associations and Organizations Representation Update

NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Water:

NARUC Summer Meetings

I attended the NARUC Summer Meetings in New York, New York from July 12 – July 15, 2015. At the Summer Meetings, I attended the pipeline safety subcommittee meeting on July 12 and the water committee meetings July 13-14. Prior to the Summer Meetings, in my capacity as the Chair of the Staff Subcommittee on Water, I assisted in organizing the agenda of the Water Committee.

NARUC Utility Rate School

I attended the NARUC Utility Rate School in Clearwater Beach Florida from October 19 – 22, 2015. I was a faculty member and assisted attendees with their completion of the mock rate case.



NARUC Annual Meeting

I attended the NARUC Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas from November 8 – November 11, 2015. At the Annual Meeting, I attended various meetings concerning water, electricity, and pipeline safety. Prior to the Annual Meeting, in my capacity as the Chair of the Staff Subcommittee on Water, I assisted in organizing the agenda of the Water Committee.

NARUC Winter Meetings

In my capacity as the Chair of the Staff Subcommittee on Water, I have been assisting in organizing the agenda of the Water Committee in anticipation of the NARUC Winter Meetings to be held in Washington, D.C. from February 14 – 17, 2016.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: January 5, 2016
TO: Commission
Via: Craig McDonnell, Manager, Policy Analysis 
FROM: Paul Anderson, Policy Advisor 
Subject: Agenda A01-16: Item No. __; Report on NARUC's Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance Activities for the Period July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015

Summary of Activities:

The Staff Subcommittee on Accounting & Finance provides a forum for its members and other attendees to its meetings to discuss and be educated about current accounting, finance and utility regulatory matters.

During the reporting period July 1st through December 31st, the Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance held its fall conference at St. Louis, which I did not attend.

I responded to six survey requests for information concerning the following topics:

- 1) Inclusion of stock compensation in utility revenue requirement meters
- 2) Gas utility infrastructure surcharge:
 - a. Mechanism;
 - b. If surcharge mechanism exists, is there a cost benchmarking analysis performed; and
 - c. How costs are tracked.
- 3) Recovery of other post-retirement benefits (e.g., retiree medical costs) and any funding requirements.
- 4) Survey of electric rate surcharges
- 5) Treatment of net operating tax loss carry forward in water and/or wastewater utility general rate case revenue requirements.
- 6) Property tax mitigation on gas utility plant additions necessitated by the replacement of leak prone pipe.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY
2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

DATE: January 7, 2016
TO: The Commission
FROM: Anne-Marie Cuneo, Director of Regulatory Operations *AMC*
SUBJECT: Agenda No.: A01-16; Item No. _____; Report on: National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Electricity; NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design; Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS); and Western Interstate Energy Board, Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC) from June 30, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Electricity

I am a member of the Staff Subcommittee on Electricity for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). For the reporting period, I have not attended any NARUC events in person, and I am not planning to attend the winter NARUC meetings.

The Staff Subcommittee on Electricity holds a telephone conference on most Thursdays, which is coordinated by various members of the Staff Subcommittee on Electricity or by the Chair of the Subcommittee, Kim Jones. There are often other 'brown bag' broadcasts or topical discussions other days of the week. These telephone conferences typically last one hour and center on a variety of issues, including: recent or upcoming decisions from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); upcoming NARUC meetings; and/or hot topic issues such as:

- EPA Clean Power Plan discussions and webinars
- Proposed resolutions regarding transmission modernization
- Nuclear waste issues
- Pricing solar discussions
- Transmission structure design

The Subcommittee list also is a resource for state regulators who are investigating an issue to put out a request for information from other states that may have already addressed the issue.

NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

NARUC has recently created a new Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design to address the numerous issues regarding the policies and principles behind designing rates for utility services. I was appointed to this Subcommittee on November 30, 2015 (see Exhibit A). The first meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2016.

WREGIS

I am one of the elected State/Provincial Representatives on the WREGIS Committee. WREGIS is a Member Committee in the Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC). WREGIS has been grappling with two major issues lately. The first involves the discussion of the use of WREGIS as a means of compliance with any potential Clean Power Plan regulations. WREGIS has created a working group to deal with these issues and I am a member of the working group. Some of the issues that this working group is addressing is the disaggregation of REC certificates and state coordination issues.

The second issue that WREGIS is currently discussing is a request from the Oregon Department of Energy to track small-scale generation (PV) from its state-subsidized program, which is similar to Nevada's SolarGenerations program. Oregon is requesting that WREGIS allow a new fuel type which would be "Oregon estimated PV." This matter has been discussed at the WREGIS Committee meeting, but no vote has yet been taken on the issue. We are extremely interested in this idea as the concept could possibly be used for Nevada to transition from the use of our outdated (and insufficiently funded and maintained) NVTREC system to the WREGIS system.

CREPC

I have not attended any Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC) meetings during the past year.



N A R U C
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

November 30, 2015

Ms. Jamie Barber, Georgia PSC
Dr. Rajnish Barua, NRRI
Mr. Todd Bianco, Rhode Island PUC
Mr. Daniel Blair, Michigan PSC
Mr. Tom Broderick, Arizona CC
Mr. Daniel Cleverdon, DC PSC
Mr. Ken Costello, NRRI
Ms. Anne-Marie Cuneo, Nevada PUC
Ms. Sue Daly, Ohio PUC
Mr. Brian O. Edwards, DC PSC

Ms. Mary Beth E. Purvis, Kentucky PSC
Mr. John Farber, Delaware PSC
Mr. James P. Griffin, Hawaii PUC
Mr. Alan Nault, Rhode Island PUC
Mr. Jeffrey Orcutt, Illinois CC
Ms. Barb Oswald, Iowa UB
Mr. Nicholas Revere, Michigan PSC
Mr. Tom Stanton, NRRI
Ms. Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Rhode Island PUC
Mr. Stephen St. Marie, California PUC

Dear Members:

It is my great pleasure to appoint you as a member of the Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design.

Your active service on this Staff Subcommittee is important to the cause of strengthening effective regulation. I look forward to the Staff Subcommittee playing an important role, not merely as a convening forum for discussion of important rate design issues, but as a workmanlike body with a clear goal of producing useful manuals and tools for the thousands of utility commission staff who are looking for guidance on important questions such as the pricing of customer-supplied generation.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Kavulla".

Travis Kavulla
NARUC President

cc: Hon. Susan K. Ackerman, Chair, Committee on Electricity
Hon. James W. Gardner, Chair, Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment
Hon. Stan Wise, Chair, Committee on Gas
Hon. Alaina Burtenshaw, Chair, Committee on Water
Hon. Brandon Presley, Chair, Committee on Consumer Affairs
Mr. Chris Villarreal, Chair, Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

RECEIVED-PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY
2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

DATE: January 15, 2016

TO: The Commission

Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*
Yasuji Otsuka, Manager, Resource & Market Analysis Division

FROM: Karen Olesky, Economist, Resource and Market Analysis Division *KO/ma*

SUBJECT: Administrative Agenda: A01-16; Item No. _____;
Report on: Chair Duties for the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Energy
Resources and the Environment; and activities related to the NARUC Task Force
on Environmental Regulation and Generation; from July 1, 2015, through
December 31, 2015.

NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Energy Resources and the Environment:

The Energy Resources and the Environment (“ERE”) Committee and Staff Subcommittee serve as a venue for State regulators to discuss ways to provide utility customers with environmentally sustainable and affordable energy services. Particularly, ERE focuses on energy efficiency, environmental protection, renewable and distributed resources, consumer protection, low-income weatherization and assistance, and public interest research and development. As Chair of the ERE Staff Subcommittee, I am responsible for developing the Subcommittee’s annual mission statement, and for supporting the ERE Committee in advancing their topics of priority, which currently include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for new and existing electric generating units, continuing the dialogue among various stakeholders on different rate design mechanisms and cost/benefit evaluation methodologies that can be used to value distributed generation for the purpose of creating advanced net metered policies, and making ERE more relatable to other National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) committees/subcommittees and their issues. To further both the Subcommittee mission statement and Committee priority topics, I identify topics and relevant speakers for the purpose of building multiple in-person panels which are held during NARUC’s three yearly meetings.

Specifically for the NARUC Winter Meeting to be held in February 2016, I have been developing the following panel sessions, all of which are relevant to the work done here at the PUCN:

- Exploring ways to properly include Distributed Generation (“DG”) in Rate Design;
- Discussing ‘best practices’ for developing a community/shared solar program;
- Exploring energy storage technologies;
- Learning how to utilize ‘data optimization’ to more accurately measure energy efficiency savings and integrate renewable energy in real-time;

- Listening to participants from the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference discuss its potential implications for future utility regulation;
- Discussing the evolution of the distribution system and how regulators can proactively undertake prudent planning and investment for increased DG adoption; and
- Discussing methods for the efficient siting of gas pipelines in the wake of increased demand due to the EPA's 111(d) plan.

As the Chair of the Subcommittee I am also the liaison between the ERE Commissioners and outside agencies, including think tanks, national laboratories, utilities and other governmental regulators, for the purpose of disseminating timely information and facilitating Commission dialogue on innovative ways to provide utility customers with environmentally sustainable energy services. To do so, I coordinate educational presentations to be held during the Committee's monthly teleconference meetings and the Subcommittee's bi-monthly teleconference meetings. Specifically, since the NARUC Summer meeting in July 2015, I have coordinated featured presentations from the following agencies:

- The Climate Group on the benefits of LED street lighting, and reasons for resistance to its accelerated adoption;
- A panel of speakers discussing the Standardization Roadmap, which outlines more than 100 standard-based recommendations to advance energy and water efficiency;
- Enviro Ambient detailing their energy recovery and emissions control technology for removing SO_x, NO_x, Hg, PM and CO₂ emissions from coal-fired power plants; and
- The manufacturer Big Ass Solutions on its ability to increase airflow from overhead fans to create significant energy savings while increasing room occupants' comfort.

NARUC Task Force on Environmental Regulation and Generation:

The Task Force on Environmental Regulation and Generation ("TFERG") is to assist NARUC's efforts in responding to, and educating members about, the EPA's proposed regulations.

I did not participate in TFERG meetings during the second half of 2015.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED-PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY
2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

DATE: January 12, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*
Tammy Cordova, Staff Counsel *TC/mc2*

FROM: Samuel S. Crano, Assistant Staff Counsel *SC*

SUBJECT: Administrative Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____;
Report on: National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, Staff
Subcommittee on Telecommunications from July 1, 2015 through December 31,
2015.

I am a member of the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). I have not attended any full NARUC events in person, but did attend the National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys in Utah last year (which is sponsored by NARUC).

Additionally, as part of the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications, I frequently take part in monthly telephone conferences, which are coordinated by various members of the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications, or Brad Ramsay, General Counsel at NARUC who focuses on telecommunications matters. These telephone conferences typically last one hour and center on a variety of issues, including: recent or upcoming decisions from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); upcoming NARUC meetings; hot topic issues; important telecommunications related matters in the courts or in Congress; and state issues or concerns related to telecommunications. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts with pending dockets and hearings, I have missed the last couple conference calls.

Recently, the Chair of the Staff Telecom Subcommittee has changed. Lynn Notarriani, of the Colorado Staff, has taken over the Subcommittee from Gene Hand, of the Nebraska Staff, after Mr. Hand decided to step down. The Staff Telecom Subcommittee has been focusing on the recent trend towards Lifeline designation for broadband, and the federal push to expand broadband deployment. Additionally, the Subcommittee has been discussing the influence of technology and how the telecommunications industry is transforming due to the rapidly changing technology.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

RECEIVED PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY

DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*

FROM: Paul Maguire, Engineering Manager *PM*
Ken Jones, Senior Pipeline Safety Engineer *KJ*

SUBJECT: Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____; Report on National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives, Report on Nevada Regional Common Ground Alliance, and Report on National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety, from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives

The National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) is a non-profit organization comprised of state pipeline safety personnel who serve to promote pipeline safety in the United States. NAPSR supports the safe delivery of pipeline products and fosters the federal-state partnership through state agencies, whose mission is to strengthen state pipeline safety programs by promoting improved pipeline safety standards, education, training, and technology. NAPSR is comprised of five regions; Nevada belongs to the Western Region. Senior Gas Pipeline Engineer, Ken Jones, and Engineering Manager Paul Maguire are Nevada's current representatives.

NAPSR holds annual meetings in each region, as well as a national meeting once all of the regional meetings have concluded. Mr. Maguire attended the national meeting which was held in Phoenix, AZ, during the week of August 31 to September 4, 2015. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has now made it mandatory that a pipeline safety representative from each state attend both the regional meeting as well as the national meeting.

Main topics discussed at the national meeting:

- The National Transportation Safety Board's findings on the March 2014 Harlem, New York Incident that killed 8 people;
- PHMSA discussed the numerous pipeline incidents that were caused by flooding and ice build-up on pipeline river crossings. PHMSA has sent out several advisories telling operators that they should shutdown pipelines installed at the bottom of rivers if there is a concern of damage from river flooding and/or ice dams.

- PHMSA discussed the new minimum staffing formula that will be implemented starting in 2017 regarding the minimum number of pipeline safety personnel each state is required to employ. The formula will be based on the number of operators in each state as well as inspection intervals set by the state.
- PHMSA provided some preliminary discussions on the new federal One-Call law, 49 CFR 198, that became effective on January 1, 2016. PHMSA discussed how it will be reviewing each state's One-Call law and will determine if the law and its enforcement provisions are adequate. The new law allows PHMSA to take action against entities for One-Call violations if the state will not and/or cannot act under its current One-Call law.
- NAPS discussed some of its legislative goals which include:
 - o Increasing One-Call grant funding from \$1 million per year to \$5 million per year; and
 - o Potential changes to the maintenance of effort funding requirement imposed on states.

The 2016 Western Region meeting will be held in St. George, Utah, and is scheduled for the week of May 9, 2016. The national meeting will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, and is tentatively scheduled for the 3rd week of September 2016. Pipeline Safety Program evaluation points and federal funding are dependent on PUCN representatives attending both of these meetings.

Nevada Regional Common Ground Alliance

The Nevada Regional Common Ground Alliance (NRCGA) partnership is a non-profit organization comprised of excavation damage prevention/One-Call program stakeholders in the state of Nevada. The NRCGA supports the efforts of the national Common Ground Alliance ("CGA"), which is heavily supported by the United States Department of Transportation. The NRCGA was formed in 2003 and has rapidly evolved over the past twelve years. Ken Jones and Craig Rogers of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada's ("PUCN") Pipeline Safety Program ("PSP") rotate in the primary and secondary regulator voting positions, and the other PSP engineers are also active participants in NRCGA functions. Additionally, the PUCN's Consumer Outreach Coordinator (Dawn Rivard) routinely attends the NRCGA meetings and is part of the Public Awareness and Website Subcommittees.

The main topic of interest that occurred during this reporting period is that the NRCGA received a Department of Transportation grant and plans to use the funds to perform more educational outreach as well as line locator training.

The annual CGA conference is being held in Las Vegas in March 2016; the NRCGA is an active participant in organizing the conference and setting up certain break-out sessions. Mr. Rogers is currently registered to attend this conference. The CGA conference typically sponsors one tuition-free day; other PUCN Staff members will be attending the conference on this day to observe the new technology exhibits and other presentations.

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”) Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety

Mr. Maguire was named to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety in November 2012. However, due to workload and other issues, he was not able to attend the annual NARUC meeting held in Texas in November 2015. However, Hearing Officer Don Lomoljo attended the meeting and the topics discussed were:

- PHMSA is in the process of hiring 100 new inspectors, and PHMSA is stopping the process of granting Inter-State Agent status to oversee Inter-State gas transmission pipelines;
- Rulemaking updates; and
- Potential issues for reauthorization.



The NARUC winter meeting is currently scheduled for early February 2016, however Mr. Maguire will be unable to attend due to a conflict with prescheduled PHMSA training around the same time. He will be requesting that Hearing Officer Don Lomoljo and/or Commissioner Noble attend the Pipeline Safety Subcommittee meeting and take notes on the topics discussed.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

RECEIVED-PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY

DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO 
Paul Maguire, Engineering Manager 

FROM: Mark Harris, Electrical Engineer, Engineering Division *MPH*

SUBJECT: Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____;
Report on: the Nevada Emergency Operations Center for Energy; the Solar Generations Collaborative; the Renewable Energy Technician Advisory Committee; and the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability; from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Nevada Emergency Operations Center for Energy

Should a disaster occur and local capabilities are overwhelmed, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management ("NDEM") will activate the State Emergency Operation Center ("EOC"). The PUCN has agreed to provide personnel to help NDEM staff ESF-12, which is the station within the EOC that deals with energy-related matters.

During the reporting period, no activity involved PUCN Staff.

Solar Generations Collaborative

The Solar Generations Collaborative was created in August 2011, for the purpose of refining the solar incentive program administered by NV Energy among the stakeholders participating in the program. The stakeholder meetings also include educational discussion of the application process, net metering issues, and use of the PowerClerk application software.

The Solar Generations Collaborative held no meetings or activities during this period.

Renewable Energy Technician Advisory Committee

In 2007, Truckee Meadows Community College ("TMCC"), in response to the interest in renewable energy training in the region, formed a TMCC Renewable Energy Technician Advisory Committee. Staff was invited to act as a representative of the renewable energy business and government community to assist in this effort.

Meetings are held to review the needs assessment results that have been compiled by TMCC, review the current course offerings available, and review of any other potential additions that would enhance the development of any of the Renewable Energy Technician programs.

During this period, the TMCC Renewable Energy Technician Advisory Committee held no meetings.

NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability

Since February 2015, joined the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Electric Reliability, and serve as a state representative on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) Standards Committee. The purpose of the Subcommittee is to coordinate with and provide state regulatory commission technical support to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) Standards Committee. The NARUC Subcommittee holds both conference call meetings and in-person meetings when the NERC Standards Committee gatherings occur. During this reporting period, conference call meetings were held on July 15, 2015, August 19, 2015, October 21, 2015, and November 18, 2015. Regular joint meetings of the NARUC Subcommittee on Electric Reliability and NERC Standards Committee were held on September 23, 2015, and December 9, 2015.

The topics discussed at these meetings dealt with electric reliability standard development, facility security, real-time monitoring and analysis capabilities, interconnection reliability operations and coordination, and geomagnetic disturbance mitigation. At the NARUC Annual Meeting held November 8 to 11, 2015, the Subcommittee made presentations regarding: maintaining grid reliability during changes; NERC’s Essential Reliability Task Force; the new Ancillary Services Market; one utility interconnection’s response to the evolving grid; and the reliability impacts states are considering when crafting Clean Power Plan development.

When I was elected to serve both committees as the PUCN representative, funding to all conferences and meetings was to be funded 100 percent by NARUC. However, after the first meeting, NARUC discussed the possibility that available funding may only cover 50 percent of costs. Currently, there is a large surplus of travel funds and as such, meetings for state representatives will be funded at 100 percent for the remainder of fiscal year 2015/2016. The increased amount of funding NARUC provides for Subcommittee travel will allow additional participation by PUCN staff with the NARUC Subcommittee and the NERC Standards Committee.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

RECEIVED-PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA--CARSON CITY
2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*
Paul Maguire, Manager, Engineering *PM*

FROM: Percy Lucban, Electrical Engineer *PL*

SUBJECT: Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____; Report on Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (“RTC”) is the transit authority and transportation-planning agency for Southern Nevada. The Regional Project Coordination Committee (now “RPCC” and previously named the Utility Coordination Committee, or “UCC”) is an informal committee formed by the RTC to coordinate the construction of infrastructure improvements to reduce inconveniences and delays for the public. The RPCC has twenty-one (21) voting positions representing local, state, and federal governmental entities (such as the City of Henderson, Clark County, the Nevada Department of Transportation, and the Bureau of Land Management) and the various utilities located in Southern Nevada (such as NV Energy, Southwest Gas, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority).

Adam Danise and Percy Lucban of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada’s (PUCN) Engineering Division rotate in the primary and alternate voting positions. The RPCC holds its agendas every third Wednesday of each month. During each agenda, the member entities report on their upcoming construction activities to alert each entity of any possible disruptions to traffic, utility service, or impacts to rights-of-way or easements. Also, each month a member gives a presentation regarding a specific project to increase knowledge and awareness of activities that the member is currently conducting.

Since September 2015, the RPCC has approved the creation of a cone management working group to address temporary traffic control and other matters associated with active work zones on construction projects within the public rights-of-way. The goal of the working group would be to examine current issues and manage conflicts as they arise. The working group will be comprised of local agencies, utilities, contractors, and private builders that are familiar with individual projects and working in the field. This generally excludes the need for direct input from the PUCN and, as such, Staff has indicated to the RPCC that there would be no impact of having the PUCN absent from this new committee since the PUCN does not design or initiate construction within the valley. However, Staff will continue to receive regular, public updates during the RPCC monthly meetings.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

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OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY
2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via: Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*
Paul Maguire, Engineering Manager *PM*

FROM: Cindy Turiczek, Water Engineer *CT/MD*

SUBJECT: Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____; Report on Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission and the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development Focus Group to Discuss Infrastructure Improvement Needs in Rural Nevada, from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

Chapter 531, Statutes of Nevada created a new regional water entity in Washoe County named the Western Regional Water Commission ("WRWC"). The new law, effective April 1, 2008, also created the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission ("NNWPC"). The NNWPC is a technical advisory group that reports to the WRWC. The NNWPC is responsible for developing a Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan and recommending it to the WRWC for adoption. I serve as a non-voting board member representing the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN).

I was able to attend the NNWPC meetings on August 5, 2015, and December 2, 2015, held in Reno, NV. I listened to the September 2, 2015, meeting via the internet. I was unable to attend the October 7, 2015, and November 4, 2015, meetings due to scheduling conflicts. The meeting that was supposed to be held on July 1, 2015, was canceled.

At the August 5, 2015, meeting the main topics of discussion included funding the Desert Research Institute Cloud Seeding Operations for the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe Basin, and the proposed changes to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's Water Control Plan. None of the topics discussed throughout the meeting impact any of the utilities regulated by the PUCN.

The September 2, 2015, meeting main topic of discussion was the comments and revisions to the 2016 Regional Water Management Plan. None of the topics discussed throughout the meeting impact any of the companies regulated by the PUCN.

At the December 2, 2015, meeting the main topics of discussion included the investigation of alternative membrane treatment concentrate disposal and management options for the Truckee Meadows Reclamation Facility, the report from the Nevada Landscape Association on the Certified Landscape Technician program, and the adoption of the 2016 Regional Water Management Plan. None of the topics discussed throughout the meeting impact any of the companies regulated by the PUCN.

The Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development Focus Group to Discuss Infrastructure Improvement Needs in Rural Nevada

The Governor's Office has confirmed that I have replaced Eddy Quaglieri, the former Water Engineer, on the Focus Group. However, the Governor's Office has not contacted me as of yet as to when the next meeting is scheduled.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA
MEMORANDUM**

2016 JAN 15 PM 12:00

RECEIVED PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY

DATE: January 11, 2016

TO: The Commission
Via Anne-Marie Cuneo, DRO *AMC*

FROM: Vic Crumley, Supervisor, Rail Safety *VC/MC2*

SUBJECT: Administrative Agenda No. A01-16; Item No. _____;
Report on the: Association of State Rail Safety Managers; and Nevada State Rail
Plan Committee from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

The Association of State Rail Safety Managers

The Association of State Rail Safety Managers' purpose is to share any common or individual issues or concerns that they have with the railroads and/or the Federal Railroad Association ("FRA"). Managers gather to obtain ideas from other states and share any information with other participating states. Discussions with FRA Specialists and Administrators from Washington, D.C. regarding concerns pertaining to FRA/State working relationships within each Region are also conducted. The group provides recommendations as to improving inspection methods as well as discussions about areas of high concern with the railroads. The managers obtain updates on new FRA regulations that have effects on state agencies.

Topics that were covered included PTC (Positive Train Control) which was mandated by Congress in 2008 with an implementation deadline of December, 31, 2015. Congress extended this deadline to 2019 to give railroads time to install a complete system. Also discussed was the FRA's pending plan of issuing grant money to the states to cover federally-required travel in lieu of the current process of submitting travel requests and reimbursement claims to the FRA. Most of the required federal training for State Inspectors will take place at the FRA testing facility located in Pueblo, Colorado.

The next annual conference is schedule for sometime in the fourth quarter of 2016 in Washington, D.C.

The Nevada State Rail Plan Committee

The Nevada State Rail Plan Committee is part of the Nevada Department of Transportation. The group's mission is to work with passenger and freight rail transportation stakeholders to develop and provide enhanced rail transportation infrastructure and services that address the transportation needs of the state, and to improve the overall quality of life, safety, and environmental/economic sustainability for the citizens of Nevada.

The committee did not hold any meetings during the last half of 2015, thus there was no involvement between the PUCN and Nevada State Rail Plan Committee for this reporting period.