



Mid-America Regulatory Conference 2019

Annual Conference
August 11 – 14, 2019

Hilton Des Moines

435 Park Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

| Sunday, August 11, 2019 | | |
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| 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Welcome Reception | Cloud Ballrooms A, B, and C |
| Monday, August 12, 2019 | | |
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| 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. | Welcome | Cloud Ballroom B/C |
| 8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | <p style="text-align: center;">Lightning Round: General Session</p> <p>Panelists from across the industry will answer “rapid-fire” questions about hard-hitting industry topics to spur conversation throughout the conference.</p> | Cloud Ballroom B/C |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Break | |
| Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2 | | |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | <p style="text-align: center;">Electrification</p> <p>This panel will discuss the potential benefits, drawbacks, and concerns with the increasing draw of electricity due to electrification of vehicles, and other fast-growing technology. The panel will provide an update on the developmental status of electric vehicles, heating and cooling, and other emerging technologies, as well comment on the infrastructure needed to support them.</p> | Cloud Ballroom A |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | <p style="text-align: center;">Regional Transmission Organizations (RTO)</p> <p>This panel will discuss transmission planning with a focus on seams and how to plan for tomorrow’s grid. The panel will present ideas that can be implemented to better coordinate between RTO seams and provide an understanding of how changing the generation mix impacts transmission planning.</p> | Matrix |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | Michigan PSC Lunch | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| Concurrent Sessions 3 & 4 | | |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | <p style="text-align: center;">Robocalls – Shaken/Stir</p> <p>The ability to identify a spoofed caller identification is essential to re-establishing trust in the call network. In response to spoofing, the telecom industry has developed a program called SHAKEN/STIR that allows customers to verify the legitimacy of callers. This panel will provide an update on SHAKEN/STIR and projection on the ongoing battle with spoofing.</p> | Cloud Ballroom A |

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| 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | Regulatory Issues Concerning Water Utilities In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave the U.S. a “D” in drinking water infrastructure and found that the U.S. will need to spend \$4.5 trillion by 2025 to fix our aging and ailing infrastructure. This is a big investment that has the potential to impact rates and the affordability of water service. There are many alternative ratemaking mechanisms, such as trackers and infrastructure charges that are designed to help solve the problem of our nation’s aging water infrastructure. But what is the impact on customers? The panelists will discuss the alternative ratemaking mechanisms used to encourage investment in infrastructure and the role that affordability plays in this equation. | Matrix |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. | Break | |
| Concurrent Sessions 5 & 6 | | |
| 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Cybersecurity This panel will discuss cyber threats to the utility infrastructure and how to mitigate risk. | Cloud Ballroom A |
| 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Gas Innovation While the electricity sector takes all the headlines on innovation, the natural gas sector has been busy with its own innovation. This panel will explore innovation when it comes to delivery, new policies, renewable natural gas, and rural extension. | Matrix |
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. | <i>Board Meeting (Invitation Only)</i> | Elements Room |
| 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Botanical Gardens Reception | Des Moines Botanical Gardens |

Tuesday, August 13, 2019

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| 8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | From the Consumer Perspective This panel will discuss what customers want from their utilities, whether it is low-income subsidies facilitating affordability, or demands of 100% renewable energy. The panel will discuss how to best meet customer demands, while balancing reasonable prices, value, and service to all customers. | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Break | |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Energy Infrastructure Fueled by social media, advertising and special interest groups, landowners and communities are increasingly pushing back on energy infrastructure projects, from wind development, to transmission lines, to solar arrays. This panel will dissect how utilities engage with landowners and third-party groups and address the role of the regulators during these discussions. The panel will also discuss how commissions deal with large infrastructure projects. | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Dr. Kevin Elko Author, Life Coach and Educator Dr. Elko will provide a motivating talk that will help jump-start attendees, enabling a more pro-active approach in this competitive world and industry. | Cloud Ballroom B/C |
| 2:45 p.m. – 10:45 p.m. | Iowa State Fair visit and activities (evening reception included) | State Fairgrounds |

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

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| 8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | <p align="center">FERC, NARUC and the Future: What’s in Store</p> <p>The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) have created a number of collaborative efforts. This panel will discuss the outcome of these efforts and where other collaborative opportunities lie.</p> | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Break | |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | <p align="center">Closing Session: Future of the Utility Industry</p> <p>How will utilities and industry partners adapt to the technological advances and what does the future hold?</p> | Cloud Ballrooms B/C |
| | Lunch to Go | |
| Conference Adjourns | | |