



WIRES Summer Meeting 2020

JULY 30TH 2020, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

VIRTUAL

AGENDA

9:00 - 9:30 AM	OPENING SPEAKER James B. Robb , President and Chief Executive Officer, North American Electric Reliability Corporation
9:30 - 10:00 AM	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Hon. Neil Chatterjee , Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
10:00 - 11:00 AM	EXPERT PANEL 1 – COVID-19 IMPACT ON THE TRANSMISSION SECTOR MODERATOR Arianna Skibell , Reporter E&E News PANELISTS Hon. Tony Clark , Senior Advisor, Wilkinson Barker & Knauer Joseph McClelland , Director, Office of Energy Infrastructure Security, FERC Zachary Smith , Vice President, System and Resource Planning, New York Independent System Operator
11:00 - 12:00 PM	EXPERT PANEL 2 – TRANSMISSION INCENTIVES ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION MODERATOR Nina Plaushin , Vice President, Regulatory and Federal Affairs, ITC Holdings Corp. PANELISTS Julien Dumoulin-Smith , Managing Director, Americas Equity Research, Bank of America Julia Frayer , Managing Director, London Economics International LLC Hon. Greg White , Executive Director, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

PRESENTERS



OPENING SPEAKER

James B. Robb

**President and Chief Executive Officer
North American Electric Reliability Corporation**

James B. Robb assumed the role of president and chief executive officer of NERC in April 2018.

Mr. Robb oversees NERC's mission of assuring the reliability and security of the North American bulk power system. As president and CEO, Mr. Robb directs key programs affecting more than 1,400 bulk power system owners, operators, and users, including mandatory NERC Reliability Standards, compliance monitoring, enforcement, situational awareness, event and risk analysis, reliability assessments and forecasting, cyber and physical security, and government relations. Mr. Robb also oversees the operations of the Regional Entities who support the reliability mission across North America.

From 2014 to 2018, Mr. Robb served as president and CEO of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) where he was responsible for the strategic direction and leadership of all of WECC's activities.

Mr. Robb has more than 30 years of experience in the energy sector as an engineer, a consultant, and a senior executive. Prior to becoming WECC's CEO in 2014, he held three major leadership roles in the industry at Northeast Utilities (now Eversource Energy) as senior vice president of Enterprise Planning and Development; at Reliant Energy (now part of NRG Energy) where he served as senior vice president of Retail Marketing for the competitive retail business in Texas and the Northeast; and at McKinsey & Company where he was a partner and the leader of the West Coast's Energy and Natural Resource Practice. During his 15-year career at McKinsey, he worked closely with prominent electric power companies in California, western Canada, the

Pacific Northwest, and the Rocky Mountain states, as well as with some of the region's largest energy consumers.

Mr. Robb earned a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University in Indiana and a master's degree in Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Hon. Neil Chatterjee

Chairman

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Chairman Neil Chatterjee was nominated to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by President Donald J. Trump in May 2017 and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in August 2017. He served as Chairman from August 2017 to December 2017 and was again named Chairman on October 24, 2018.

Since joining the Commission, Chatterjee has championed several strategic initiatives reflecting his firm commitment to ensuring that FERC regulations and actions reflect changes in today's energy landscape.

These include:

- Streamlining and improving FERC's liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal application review and approval process;
- Ensuring new technologies such as electric storage can compete freely in energy markets;
- Reforming the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA);
- Securing the nation's energy infrastructure from physical and cyber threats; and
- Bolstering grid reliability and resilience.

Under Chatterjee's leadership, the Commission was named the No. 1 Best Place to Work among midsized federal agencies by the Partnership for Public Service.

Additionally, Chatterjee has made energy infrastructure a top priority. As Chairman, he led the Commission to reach a critical agreement on a framework to clear the way for the approval of several LNG export facilities, following two years in which there was no Commission action. Building on the Commission's efforts under the One Federal Decision Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2018 with federal partners, Chatterjee took action to cut through unnecessary red tape, reduce inter-agency friction and increase the number of engineers working on reviews. In July 2019, Chatterjee announced creation of the Division of LNG Facility Review & Inspection, including the establishment of a Houston Regional Office, to accommodate the growing number and complexity of applications to site, build and operate LNG export terminals. Each of these actions has further advanced the Chairman's priority of expediting and improving LNG export terminal application reviews.

Chatterjee strongly believes that FERC must proactively address shifts in the energy industries it regulates to ensure that emerging technologies play an integral role in wholesale electric markets. First as Commissioner and again as Chairman, he voted to support FERC's landmark Order No. 841, requiring competitive wholesale market operators to facilitate the participation of energy storage in their markets. Chatterjee views energy storage as a potential game-changer for the nation's electric system and has advanced reforms to break down market barriers.

Achieving one of his top priorities, Chatterjee also pushed forward a proposed rule to modernize the Commission's implementation of PURPA, which was enacted by Congress in 1978. The proposed reforms balance today's tremendous technological advancements in renewables and increased sophistication in competitive markets, with Chatterjee's objective that FERC continue to meet its statutory obligations.

In 2019, Chatterjee launched the EnVision Forum to bring together thought leaders and new voices in the energy world. This groundbreaking venture started a conversation focused on new lines of communication and collaboration to address issues facing the nation's changing energy landscape. Chatterjee has been an outspoken voice on the need to secure the nation's critical energy infrastructure against physical and cyber threats. He's advocated for leaders to continually evaluate security rules and postures to address shifts in the energy industries so that companies can both harness the benefits of new and emerging technologies and mitigate associated risks.

Prior to his tenure at the Commission, Chatterjee served as an advisor to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), where he played an integral role in the passage of major energy, highway and agriculture legislation. Chatterjee previously worked as a principal in government relations for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and as an aide to House Republican Conference Chairwoman Deborah Pryce (R-OH). He began his career in Washington, D.C., as a staff member on the House Committee on Ways and Means.

A native of Lexington, Kentucky, Chatterjee is a graduate of St. Lawrence University and the University of Cincinnati, College of Law. Chatterjee resides with his wife and three children in Virginia.

**MODERATOR****Arianna Skibell****Reporter****E&E News**

Arianna Skibell covers the power sector's transition in a warming world, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the electric grid and state energy battles. Following a year of independent research and reporting in Israel through the Dorot Fellowship, she was a freelance reporter, covering all the topics you avoid at the dinner table: the

politics of identity, land, and religion, Congress, climate change, and reproductive health. She previously worked at E&E News from 2016 to 2018 covering the Trump transition, federal regulations, and Puerto Rico's recovery from Hurricane Maria. She holds a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University.

**PANELIST****Hon. Tony Clark****Senior Advisor****Wilkinson, Barker & Knauer**

Tony Clark is a Senior Advisor at Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP. He

provides clients with analysis, strategic advice and expert witness services on a variety of regulatory and public policy matters affecting their businesses. He specializes in working with clients in the energy and telecommunications industries. Mr. Clark served from 2012 to 2016 as a Commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. From 2001 to 2012 he was a Commissioner of the North Dakota Public Service Commission, including over 5 years as its Chairman. He is a former President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. From 1999 to 2000, Mr. Clark was Labor Commissioner of the State of North Dakota, serving in the Cabinet of Gov. Ed Schafer. He is a former state legislator, representing a portion of the City of Fargo for two terms in the State House of Representatives. He holds bachelors' degrees from North Dakota State University and an MPA from the University of North Dakota. In addition to his work at Wilkinson Barker Knauer, Mr. Clark serves as a member of the Board of Directors of NorthWestern Energy Corporation.

**PANELIST****Joseph McClelland****Director****Office of Energy Infrastructure Security**

Joseph H. McClelland was appointed the first Director of the Office of Energy Infrastructure

Security (OEIS) by Chairman Jon Wellinghoff in September 2012. OEIS is the new FERC office that will provide leadership, expertise and assistance to identify, communicate and seek comprehensive solutions to potential risks to FERC-jurisdictional facilities from cyber attacks and such physical threats as electromagnetic pulses.

Prior to directing OEIS, Mr. McClelland served as the first Director of the Office of Electric Reliability, which was created in 2007. He joined the Commission in 2004 as Director of the Division of Reliability within the Office of Energy Markets and Reliability.

Mr. McClelland came to the Commission with more than 20 years of experience in the electric utility industry. He began his career with Allegheny Energy Inc., holding a variety of positions in engineering, marketing, regulation and rates, and project development. Immediately prior to joining the Commission, Mr. McClelland was the General Manager of the Custer Public Power District in Broken Bow, Nebraska. Joe holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

Mr. McClelland lives in Chambersburg, PA with his wife and sons and commutes to Washington, D.C., every day.



PANELIST

Zachary Smith

**Vice President, System and Resource Planning
New York Independent System Operator**

Zach Smith is responsible for the oversight and implementation of

system planning and strategic initiatives for the New York State transmission system. These include ensuring a reliable electric grid for the future, identifying economic opportunities for transmission investment beneficial to ratepayers, and implementation of system upgrades to enable public policies. Mr. Smith also oversees the interconnection process through which renewable resources and other new generation technologies reliably connect to the New York State electric grid.

Since joining the NYISO in 2004, Mr. Smith has spearheaded numerous renewable integration and transmission planning initiatives through key positions of increasing responsibility, and he actively represents the NYISO on interregional coordination committees.

He earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Technological University.



MODERATOR

Nina Plaushin

**Vice President,
Regulatory and
Federal Affairs
ITC Holdings Corp.**

Nina Plaushin is Vice President, Regulatory

and Federal Affairs for ITC Holdings Corp. Ms. Plaushin has more than 25 years' experience managing government and regulatory policy at the federal and state levels. She is responsible for the company's federal and regional regulatory functions.

She also heads the Washington, D.C., office and is responsible for federal affairs activities. Prior to joining ITC, Ms. Plaushin served as Vice President of External Affairs at WPPI Energy, a regional power company serving 50 customer-owned electric utilities in Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Iowa. In this capacity, she was responsible for federal and state government relations activities for the company as well as corporate communications. She was Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs at Wisconsin-based American Transmission Company, which included regulatory oversight of the company's environmental and permitting functions. Ms. Plaushin also served as Manager of Federal Regulatory Affairs at PPL, an investor-owned utility headquartered in Allentown, Pa., in its Washington, D.C., office.

Ms. Plaushin assisted a variety of energy and environmental clients as Vice President at Hill & Knowlton, one of the largest communications consulting firms in the world, and Van Ness, Feldman & Curtis, a DC-based law firm. Before entering the private sector, she worked for several members of Congress including Senator Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R-CT), Senator Spark Matsunaga (D-HI), and C. Thomas McMillen (D-MD).

Ms. Plaushin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. She serves as President of the Americans for Clean Energy Board Grid Board. She is a member of the Keystone Energy Board and serves as a board member for the WIRES Coalition. Nina also served as Chair of the EEI Energy Delivery Executive Advisory Committee 2016-2018

**PANELIST****Julien Dumoulin-Smith****Managing Director,
Americas Equity
Research
Bank of America**

Julien Dumoulin-Smith is a Managing Director in Americas Equity Research

covering US Power, Utilities, and Alternative Energy, based in New York. Previously, he was an executive director at UBS in a similar role.

Dumoulin-Smith is a double-ranked Analyst and was awarded #1 position in the Utility Institutional Investor All-America Research Poll for 2019 as well as #1 in Alternative Energy in the Institutional Investor All-America Research Poll for 2019. He was previously named Up and Comer on the same lists and received the top designation for 2012-15 among hedge fund managers on II's Alpha list, a recut version of the II poll for Utilities. Dumoulin-Smith has a BS in applied math and an MBA, both from Columbia University. He is a CAIA Charterholder.

**PANELIST****Julia Frayer****Managing Director
London Economics
International LLC**

Julia Frayer is a Managing Director at London Economics International LLC ("LEI") with more

than 20 years of experience providing expert insights and consulting services in the power and infrastructure industries. She has worked extensively in the US, Canada, Europe, and Asia on a range of issues in the electricity sector, including wholesale market analysis (to support policy analysis, investment and commercial strategy, resource planning, M&A due diligence, and wholesale market design). Julia also has experience with regulatory matters in the electricity sector, including expertise on tariff design, performance-based ratemaking, and market power regulation.

Julia is currently advising clients on various wholesale market design issues in several US markets. This includes crafting solutions to address New England's fuel security challenges, providing recommendations on New York's carbon pricing plan, and analyzing PJM's capacity market reforms. Concurrently, Julia is leading the modeling group at LEI in assessing the "Grid of the Future" that constructively addresses various state and local policy initiatives with respect to decarbonization and clean energy regulation of the electricity sector. This work involves a multi-disciplinary approach and in-depth understanding of wholesale market dynamics, system operations, transmission investment needs, transformation of the generation fleet due to new technologies, electricity demand forecasting (to account for changing consumer behavior and electrification trends in other sectors of the economy), and regulatory economics (including views on rate mechanisms that can align with consumers' willingness to pay for electricity and consideration of the reliability attributes).

In the transmission space, Julia has worked with numerous actors, including transmission system operators, regulators, vertically integrated utilities, transmission customers, and developers. Julia has headed engagements involving transmission project evaluation, both from the perspective of investors and customers. Julia has also advised on regulator matters, such as rate design and pricing. She has testified before state and Federal regulators. Finally, Julia and her team at LEI have served in the role of independent evaluators, supporting open season and open solicitation processes for the competitive sale of transmission capacity, pricing, and appraisal of benefits to consumers.

Outside North America, Julia has worked extensively on wholesale market design issues (including the question of capacity markets), incentive rate design, renewable investment strategies, decarbonization policies, and privatization initiatives.



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PANELIST

Hon. Greg White
Executive Director
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

Greg R. White joined the National Association of Regulatory Utility

Commissioners in December 2015 as the Executive Director. He is responsible for the overall management of the Association and directs the implementation of programs and policies of the Association, while promoting the Association's interests in Washington. He also serves as Executive Director of the National Regulatory Research Institute.

Greg served as a Commissioner on the Michigan Public Service Commission (2009 – 2015) and previously held a variety of positions in and out of government in energy and utility regulation and as a policy advisor, legislative liaison, and manager of federal relations.

On behalf of NARUC, he chaired the Washington Action Committee, served on the Committee on Electricity, chaired the Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues—Waste Disposal and served on the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, as well as the Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access. Greg has provided expert testimony before the U.S. Congress, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Nuclear Regulatory Commission on matters such as energy markets, and nuclear waste management.

White holds a Master of Public Administration from Grand Valley State University and a Bachelor of Science from Michigan State University. His professional achievements include serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the National Regulatory Research Institute, Chairman of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition's Executive Committee, President of the Board of Directors of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. and he is a lifetime member of the Pi Alpha Alpha, National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration.