NASEO News
March 20, 2020

U.S. House "Dear Colleague" Letter Results

NASEO Provides Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources and Support for State Energy Offices
NASEO staff and the NASEO Energy Security Committee are working with State Energy Offices; the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy security, and Emergency Response (CESER); and private sector partners to share information and best practices related to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

NASEO Offers Energy Sector Pandemic Analysis and News Round-Up
NASEO is now offering a list of articles relevant to the energy sector response to the coronavirus. New resources will be added on a daily basis, so please check back regularly for further updates.

NASEO Advances Policy Support for SEP, WAP, and
other Key Programs
Over the past month, NASEO has worked with the states, members of Congress, and other key partners to build policy support for programs essential to the State Energy Offices. NASEO is currently supporting two "Dear Colleague" letters in the House and Senate urging increased funding for the U.S. State Energy Program and Weatherization Assistance Program, with signatures due by March 24, 2020.

National Emergency Declared; Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Waived
On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared an emergency and pursuant to 49 CFR 390.23(a)(i), an emergency exists that warrants an exemption from Parts 390 through 399 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), except as otherwise restricted by the Emergency Declaration.

NASEO Welcomes New Board Members to the Southeast
NASEO welcomes two new Board members from the Southeast - Mitchell Simpson (AR) and Sumesh Arora (MS). Both will serve as regional representatives on the NASEO Board of Directors.

California Approves Community Solar under 2019 Residential PV Mandate
The California Energy Commission (CEC)
recently approved a community solar project under the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which require the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on new single-family and low-rise residential homes.

Alaska Energy Authority Funds School Bus Replacement Program

Last month, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) announced $4.4 million in funding to replace 33 school buses in eight school districts around the state. The funds will remove older diesel buses from the road and cover the costs of newer, more efficient, and cleaner burning buses.


Earth Advantage, a residential energy and labeling nonprofit, and NASEO, recently documented best practices State Energy Offices and other state-wide organizations can take to support local residential energy labeling policies.

FERC Announces Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Electric Transmission Incentives

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FERC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NOPR) to revise its electric transmission incentive policy.

EPA Announces 2019 ENERGY STAR Certified Plants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that 95 plants in 34 states received ENERGY STAR certification in 2019. The certified plants include more than a dozen manufacturing sectors. EPA reports that certified plants saved $520 million on energy bills compared to average facilities and saved more than 100 trillion British thermal unit (Btu) of energy.

EEI Member Companies Suspend Electricity Disconnects

The Edison Electric Institute's (EEI) member companies are suspending electricity disconnects for non-payment nationwide during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reliable electricity is essential to all Americans, especially so during times of crisis, and EEI's members hope to reduce hardships as much as possible during this difficult time.
Affiliate Member, the National Hydropower Association
NASEO is pleased to announce its newest Affiliate member, the National Hydropower Association (NHA), a nonprofit association dedicated exclusively to promoting the growth of clean, renewable hydropower and marine energy. Learn more and read up on NASEO's below conversation with NHA President and CEO, Malcolm Woolf.

Decarbonization, Clean Energy Standards, and Yoga: Get to Know the National Hydropower Association
The National Hydropower Association (NHA) is dedicated to promoting the growth of clean, affordable U.S. hydropower, uniting over 200 companies in the North American hydropower industry from Fortune 500 corporations to family-owned small businesses. In this conversation, NHA President and CEO Malcolm Woolf highlights the key obstacles and opportunities that will unlock the reliability, cost, load flexibility, and environmental benefits that hydro systems have to offer.

MORE NEWS AND UPDATES

Upcoming NASEO Meetings

NASEO State Energy Director Training: July 13-17, 2020 - Washington, DC  (participation in training is by invitation only)

NASEO Summer Board of Directors Meeting: July 22-23, 2020 - Arlington, VA

NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning Workshop 3: September 14-16, 2020 - location, pending  (participation in workshop is by invitation only)

2020 NASEO Annual Meeting: October 5-8, 2020 - Portland, ME

NASEO Annual Meeting Board of Directors Meeting: October 5, 2020 - Portland, ME


Upcoming NASEO Conference Calls and Webinars
NASEO Financing Committee Webinar on Energy-as-a-Service as a Financing Mechanism: March 25, 2020, 3:00pm-4:00pm ET

NASEO Government Affairs Committee Call: March 26, 2:00pm-3:00pm ET

NASEO’s Rural Energy Task Force - 2020 Webinar Series: April 15-September 17, 2020

NASEO’s Transportation Committee - 2020 Webinar Series: March 31-November 17, 2020

NASEO Transportation Committee Webinar - Intra-State Collaboration for Energy-Efficient Transportation Planning: March 31, 2020, 1:00pm-2:00pm ET

NASEO Conference Call on State, Local, Federal, and Energy Industry Coronavirus Actions: April 2, 2020, 1:00pm-2:00pm ET

NASEO-NARUC Webinar: Valuing Demand Flexibility for Electric Utility Systems April 6, 2020, 2:00pm-3:00pm ET

NASEO Rural Energy Task Force - Workforce Initiatives for Energy Development: April 15, 2020, 2:00pm-3:00pm ET