



NASEO's 40th Anniversary Annual Meeting Accelerate Innovation

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 – Pre-Conference Sessions for States, Territories, and Affiliate Partners

1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

An Islanded System: Energy Security in the U.S. Territories

This session will feature a facilitated discussion on the unique energy security challenges facing U.S. territories and islanded communities and explore potential policy and programmatic solutions for each territory's resources and policy appetite.

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Geothermal Power: Technological Advancements and Policy Options

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

NASEO Regional Meetings

4:30 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.

NASEO Annual Business Meeting

4:40 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

NASEO Board of Directors Meeting

State and Affiliate Partner Networking in Boulder

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 – Open to All Registered Attendees

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

40 Years Strong: Celebrating State and Territory Energy Leadership

Join NASEO leadership in marking four decades of support for the 56 State and Territory Energy Offices.

Presenters:

David Terry, President, National Association of State Energy Officials
Molly Cripps, Director, Office of Energy Programs, Tennessee Department of
Environment and Conservation

8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Colorado in Focus: Pioneering Energy Policy Innovations

Learn about Colorado Energy Office programs, policies, and investments that work to reduce emissions through zero-emission transportation, electrification, renewable energy, and energy efficiency for residents, businesses, community organizations, and public institutions.

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Artificial Intelligence at Work: Faster and Cheaper Energy Siting, Permitting, and Utility Operations

From automating environmental reviews to speeding transmission and generation permitting, artificial intelligence tools are helping state agencies, RTO/ISOs, and utilities cut through paperwork bottlenecks and accelerate timelines. This session will showcase real-world AI applications transforming state permitting, RTO/ISO interconnection queues, and utility operations, and explore what states need to consider as they adopt these tools or support utilities in deploying them.

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Keynote Address: U.S. Department of Energy Leadership – Stabilize, Optimize, and Grow

The critical work of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity mitigates reliability risks, improve system performance, reduce exposure to external supply dependencies, and enable cost-effective investment. This session will highlight key federal actions to scale for new load, deliver affordability, and enhance energy security and reliability.

Presenter:

The Honorable Catherine Jereza, Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity, U.S.
Department of Energy

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Pending

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 p.m. – **Break**

10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Delivering the Promise of Advanced Nuclear: NRC Advances in Safety and Permitting

As advanced reactor technologies move from design to deployment, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is modernizing its safety and licensing framework—including the newly finalized risk-informed, technology-inclusive regulatory pathway—to

keep pace with innovation while upholding rigorous safety standards. This session will explore how these permitting advances are streamlining the path to construction and operation for advanced nuclear projects, and how State Energy Offices can work with the NRC to support deployment in their states.

Presenter:

The Honorable Matthew Marzano, Commissioner, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Advanced Nuclear Progress: Leveraging First Mover State and Industry Actions

A growing cohort of first mover states is pairing legislation, incentives, and workforce investment with industry partnerships to position themselves at the front of the advanced nuclear deployment pipeline. This session will highlight the strategies, lessons learned, and early wins from these leading states and their industry partners, offering a roadmap other states can adapt as they build their own advanced nuclear strategies.

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. – **Networking Lunch**

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (**Concurrent Sessions**)

Breakout 1

Geopolitics of Energy and Materials: Supply Constraints and Cascading Impacts

Global commodity shocks and geopolitical instability are no longer background noise for state energy planners—they're critical data points to monitor. This session explores how disruptions to oil markets, restrictions on foreign-sourced grid technology, and international policy responses are reshaping long-term energy planning. Drawing on strategies deployed abroad in response to comparable disruptions, panelists will discuss practical approaches states can take now to strengthen long-term energy security.

Breakout 2

Untapped Capacity: Using Surplus Interconnection Service to Accelerate Speed to Power

As demand from data centers and other large loads strains interconnection queues, existing capacity at already-interconnected points offers a faster, lower-cost pathway to bring new generation and load online. This session will explore how states and utilities can support expanding the use of Surplus Interconnection Services without compromising grid reliability.

Breakout 3

Powering Safety in the Lithium-Ion Era

As lithium-ion batteries expand across EVs, grid-scale storage, and consumer devices, safety education is more critical than ever – particularly for emergency responders, who are first on the scene when something goes wrong. This session covers key risks—thermal

runaway, off-gassing, and fire behavior—across diverse settings like roadways, BESS sites, and aircraft – and highlights State Energy Office-led coordination efforts around first responder training.

2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. **(Concurrent Sessions)**

Breakout 1

Cruel Summers: Grid Planning for Extreme Heat, Wildfires, and Drought

Extended and increasingly hot summers leading to drought and wildfires are placing a growing strain on electric grid reliability, our built environment, and community health and safety. Hear from experts on extreme heat and wildfire planning lessons, strategic grid investments and operational strategies to mitigate these hazards, and cross agency coordination working to keep communities safe and the lights on.

Breakout 2

Integrated Financing Strategies for Energy Infrastructure

Large energy infrastructure projects can require coordinated state and federal funding support to make it from conception to completion. This session will discuss how states and the federal government are coordinating on the investments needed to expand and modernize America's energy infrastructure and ensure energy is affordable, reliable, and secure.

Breakout 3

Rethinking Transmission Across Regions

Interregional transmission has the potential to strengthen grid reliability, lower costs, and create a more flexible and resilient energy system—but realizing those benefits requires planning that looks beyond traditional regional boundaries. This session will examine the growing need for stronger coordination across regions, highlight progress and emerging approaches underway today, and explore opportunities for State Energy Offices to improve interregional transmission planning for the future.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **(Concurrent Sessions)**

Breakout 1

Maximizing Flexible Distributed Energy Resources and Grid Storage

As demand for affordable, reliable power grows, flexible distributed energy resources and grid storage offer a path forward. This session explores how State Energy Offices, utilities, and private sector partners can scale these resources to maximize grid efficiency while lowering costs for businesses and consumers alike.

Breakout 2

Plugged In: State-Fleet Partnerships for Freight Electrification

As zero-emission freight scales beyond pilot projects, states and stakeholders face practical challenges around cost, charging infrastructure, and market readiness—

compounded by regulatory uncertainty around ACT/ACF rules and NOx standards. This session examines how State Energy Offices are building stronger public-private partnerships through state-specific Electric Fleet Networks.

Breakout 3

Pending

5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

NASEO's 40th Anniversary Welcome Reception

Thursday, October 29, 2026 – Open to All Registered Attendees

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Turning Points in Federal Energy Policy: NASEO's 40 Years of Bipartisan Success

This session traces four decades of pivotal moments in federal energy policy, highlighting how NASEO and State Energy Offices have consistently built bipartisan approaches to shape lasting, effective solutions.

Presenter:

David Terry, President, National Association of State Energy Officials

8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

From Idea to Impact: How State Energy Offices Accelerate Technology Research and Innovation

This session will explore how states are supporting emerging energy technologies from concept to deployment, featuring examples of successful programs and the policy, program, and partnership strategies driving energy innovation forward.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

National Laboratory of the Rockies – Energy Innovation and State Coordination

Our national laboratories are key partners helping states to advance their policy goals, including technical assistance and commercialization support to both new and existing businesses to strengthen their economies. Hear from the National Laboratory of the Rockies on how it partners with states and stakeholders to enhance national and state wellbeing and stimulate economic growth.

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – **Break**

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Salt of the Earth: The Sodium-Ion Battery Breakthrough

Sodium-ion batteries are moving from lab curiosity to commercial reality, offering a lower-cost, more abundant alternative to lithium-ion for grid storage and beyond. This keynote

explores where the technology stands today, what's driving early market adoption, and what states should consider as they plan for a more diverse battery future.

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Emissions Reporting and Differentiated Natural Gas – An “Every Region” Energy, Environmental and Economic Opportunity

TBD Description

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Data Center Design, Operation, and Load Management Inside the Fence Line: Leveraging Lessons Learned

This session draws on real-world lessons to explore strategies that enable demand flexibility, load management approaches that support reliability, and the policy frameworks states are using to build effective partnerships with utilities and data centers.

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – **Networking Lunch**

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. (**Concurrent Sessions**)

Breakout 1

Pending

Breakout 2

Geothermal Heating and Cooling: In the Loop on Affordability and Resilience

Geothermal heating and cooling systems are some of the most efficient and reliable heating and cooling technologies available, with underground systems that can last for decades. With State Energy Offices steering demonstration projects, financing solutions, and education campaigns, it is time to dig in on geothermal.

Breakout 3

Mine Your Own Business: Developing a Domestic Critical Materials Economy

The next American industrial revolution is coalescing from piles of rocks, dead batteries, innovative processing techniques, abundant and deliberate federal funds, and a workforce that largely does not yet exist. The economic benefits are profound, and the national security implications of building resilient domestic supply chains cannot be overstated. This session will highlight ongoing state, federal, and academic efforts, and explore how they can be organized into a unified strategy.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (**Concurrent Sessions**)

Breakout 1

Measuring What Matters: Evaluating Grid and Community Resilience Outcomes

As states implement projects funded through the Grid Resilience Formula Grant program, tracking the right metrics is essential to demonstrating impact and guiding future

investment. This session will examine how states are measuring both grid performance and community-level resilience outcomes, sharing practical approaches for data collection, reporting, and communicating results to stakeholders and policymakers.

Breakout 2

The Nexus of Transportation, Housing, and Land Use: How States Are Pursuing Wins for Affordability and Sustainability

Breakout 3

State Energy Convening Power: Forging Shared Interests among Energy Stakeholders

State Energy Offices often serve as natural conveners, bringing together utilities, local governments, community organizations, and other stakeholders to shape energy priorities, inform policy and planning, and guide program design. This session explores how State Energy Offices are designing stakeholder engagement models that build trust and consensus across diverse interests and drive coordinated action.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. (**Concurrent Sessions**)

Breakout 1

Super Affordable and Efficient Modular Homes

The 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act sets the stage for a modular housing boom and State Energy Offices have an opportunity to shape the energy use of these units. Experts will provide insight into the changing policy landscape and an introduction to modular construction.

Breakout 2

Emissions Reporting and Natural Gas Workshop

Breakout 3

Building Up the Codes Workforce

Join this interactive discussion on strategies states are using to support the building energy codes workforce in delivering high-quality installation outcomes and construction practices, translating to greater energy and utility bill savings.

Friday, October 30, 2026 – Open to All Registered Attendees

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Washington Update: 2026 Congressional End Game and NASEO's 2027 Policy Priorities

Moderator:

David Terry, President, NASEO

Presenter:

Jeffrey Genzer, General Counsel, NASEO

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

Sustaining Energy Progress – 40 Years of State Leadership through the U.S. State Energy Program

State Energy Offices have leveraged U.S. State Energy Program funds to develop innovative solutions to address the nation's energy needs over the past 40 years. This session highlights breakthrough ideas State Energy Offices have created and identifies best practices for states looking to implement new and innovative energy programs.

8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Pending

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Pending

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. – **Break**

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Pending

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Home Energy Rebates at Scale: How States Are Bringing Down Energy Bills

Across the country, State Energy Offices are creating real, lasting energy savings for residents with the Home Energy Rebate programs. This session will highlight lessons learned and celebrate successes across the country.

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wrap-up and Adjourn

Presenters:

David Terry, President, National Association of State Energy Officials

Molly Cripps, Director, Office of Energy Programs, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation