



FPSC  
Commissioner  
Ronald A. Brisé  
Embraces New  
NARUC  
and SEARUC  
Appointments

In June, Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC) Commissioner Ronald A. Brisé was appointed to lead the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) new "Telecommunications Act Modernization Taskforce." The taskforce will develop recommendations on how the Telecommunications Act of 1996 should address and incorporate rapidly advancing technologies.

Because of Commissioner Brisé's broad legislative and telecommunications background, NARUC President and fellow FPSC Commissioner Lisa Edgar appointed him to lead the taskforce focusing on several current issues, including security, resiliency, and affordability.

"Today's communication methods look different than they did in 1996," said Commissioner Brisé. "There are technological, security, and economic issues that literally did not exist two decades ago. This taskforce will provide an avenue for all stakeholders to work together and ensure that our regulatory framework is still relevant."

Commissioner Brisé was also elected President of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC), during its Annual Meeting, June 7-10. SEARUC represents utility regulators in 11 southeastern states and Puerto Rico.

"I am honored to represent Florida in SEARUC's leadership and look forward to working with my fellow State Commissioners on policies that benefit the public interest we serve," said Commissioner Brisé. "The work we do at SEARUC demonstrates our commitment to collaborate and explore innovative solutions in an ever-changing regulatory landscape."

Commissioner Brisé, who has served as FPSC Chairman, was appointed to the Commission by Governor Charlie Crist in July 2010 and was reappointed by Governor Rick Scott for a term through January 2018. As a member of NARUC, representing utility regulators across the country, he serves on several boards and committees, including previously serving on the NARUC Task Force on Federalism and Telecommunications. In addition, he is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Utilities Diversity Council.

Before being appointed to the FPSC, he represented District 108 in the Florida House of Representatives for four years. During his tenure, Commissioner Brisé was named Democratic Whip and served as Vice Chairman of the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators. He gained membership on several committees which produced significant legislation that tackled many of Florida's most relevant issues including energy, telecommunications, redistricting, appropriations and Medicaid reform. Commissioner Brisé also sponsored successful legislation expanding broadband deployment in Florida to address digital divide as well as legislation improving consumer protection for Floridian families.



FPSC  
Commissioner  
Julie Brown  
Elected to Nuclear  
Waste Strategy  
Coalition Executive  
Committee

In August, the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition (NWSC or Coalition) elected Florida Public Service Commissioner (FPSC) Julie Brown as a member of its Executive Committee to lead the group's efforts to expand membership. The NWSC is an ad hoc organization, whose primary focus is to protect ratepayer payments into the Nuclear Waste Fund and to support the removal and ultimate disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste currently stranded at sites across the country. Commissioner Brown has engaged in NWSC activities since 2011 and has worked to mitigate the impacts of the federal government's inaction on Florida electric consumers and taxpayers.

"As a charter member of the NWSC, the Florida PSC has long been actively involved in highlighting the federal government's acceptance of billions from electric consumers across the US for the purpose of moving nuclear waste from utility plant sites to permanent disposal, something that was supposed to begin in 1998," said Commissioner Brown. "The Department of Energy still hasn't picked up its first shipment and refuses to follow Nuclear Waste Policy Act provisions concerning Yucca Mountain. I am honored to serve on the NWSC Executive Committee and work with our members to urge timely resolution."

Commissioner Brown was first appointed to the Florida PSC in 2011 by Governor Charlie Crist and was reappointed by Governor Rick Scott. Prior to her appointment, she was Associate Legal Counsel of First American Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, where she handled a variety of legal issues in the Eastern, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic Regions, including corporate compliance with regulatory authorities.

A member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), Commissioner Brown serves on NARUC's Committee on Gas, Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues—Waste Disposal, and on the Gas Technology Institute's Public Interest Advisory Committee; she previously served on NARUC's Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment. She chaired the Florida Legislature's Study Committee on Investor-Owned Water and Wastewater Utility Systems and serves on the New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities Advisory Council.



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