

For Immediate Release

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NARUC
National Association of
Regulatory Utility Commissioners

NARUC Continues the Call for Low-Income Funding and Awareness on the 10th Anniversary of “Imagine a Day Without Water”

WASHINGTON (October 17, 2024) — The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and state utility regulators recognize the need for greater awareness and funding to ensure access to water as part of Imagine a Day Without Water — a nationwide observance focused on the value of water.

Now in its tenth year, **Imagine a Day Without Water** is supported by elected officials, water utilities, regulators, community leaders, educators and businesses from across the country to promote education and advocacy on this vital issue.

NARUC remains committed to raising awareness about the role of water infrastructure in all communities and the importance of access and affordability. Underscoring this commitment, in recent years NARUC has sent [letters](#) to Congress urging members to ensure continued funding for the Low-Income Water Program, and passed resolutions in 2020 and 2022 strongly endorsing the need to maintain a low-income water program similar to the Low-Income Heating Energy Assistance Program that helps customers pay their energy bills.

Imagine a Day Without Water encourages Americans to think about the implications of a day without water and invites them to learn more about the infrastructure and funding that keep water running in our communities. Low-income communities are the most likely to experience a lack of access to clean drinking water or sanitation in their homes. When this occurs, people cannot bathe children, prepare meals, wash clothes or even fill a glass with cold, clean drinking water from the tap.

“Water is essential to human life and should be available to everyone,” said North Dakota Commissioner and NARUC President Julie Fedorchak. “On this tenth anniversary of **Imagine a Day Without Water**, NARUC supports efforts to educate and advocate for safe, affordable access to water in all communities across the nation.”

“In the wake of natural disasters, such as wildfires and the recent hurricanes, it’s unfortunate that many people do not have to imagine not having water — it’s a sobering reality,” said North Carolina Commissioner and NARUC Committee on Water Chair Jeff Hughes. “Those circumstances remind us of how precious water is to all of us. Yet, for many people, water insecurity is a daily, ongoing issue they live with year in and year out. A water infrastructure that ensures uninterrupted, affordable service to homes as well as businesses helps the economy and our public health.”

As **Imagine a Day Without Water** grows, now is the time to emphasize the importance of water infrastructure and the workforce that supports it, highlighting the need for partnerships at all levels to promote water infrastructure funding. Learn more at imagineadaywithoutwater.org and

follow the conversation on social media using #ImagineADayWithoutWater and #MyDropInTheBucket.

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About NARUC

NARUC is a non-profit organization founded in 1889 whose members include the governmental agencies that are engaged in the regulation of utilities and carriers in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. NARUC's member agencies regulate telecommunications, energy, and water utilities. NARUC represents the interests of state public utility commissions before the three branches of the Federal government.

[The Value of Water Campaign](#) educates and inspires the nation about how water is essential, invaluable, and in need of investment. Spearheaded by top leaders in the water industry, the Value of Water Campaign is building public and political will for investment in America's water infrastructure. Follow The Value of Water Campaign on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) and [LinkedIn](#).