

## NEM readies for 19<sup>th</sup> annual conference in DC this week

The National Energy Marketers Assn (NEM) will convene its 19th Annual National Energy Restructuring Conference this Thursday and Friday at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, DC. The group announced yesterday that its conference is called “Bulletproof Infrastructure and Explosive Economic Growth.”

The event will feature a wide range of federal and state energy policy officials and industry thought leaders from the energy and technology sectors.

“Renewable energy, distributed energy resources and demand response are driving unprecedented technological innovation with great potential benefits for energy consumers as well as local, state and national economies,” NEM President Craig Goodman said in prepared remarks. “This can be a win/win for everyone if energy stakeholders concentrate on what they do best to serve customers.”

FERC Commissioners Tony Clark and Cheryl LaFleur will deliver keynote addresses. PJM CEO Andrew Ott and House Energy & Commerce Committee Vice Chairman Marsha

Blackburn, R-Tenn, will also address the conference.

State regulators speaking include Delaware PSC Chairman Dallas Winslow, District of Columbia PSC Chairman Betty Anne Kane, Georgia PSC Commissioner Tim Echols, Michigan PSC Chairman John Quackenbush, Ohio PUC Chairman Andre Porter, Pennsylvania PUC Vice Chairman Andrew Pierce and Commissioner Robert Powelson.

“It is not in the public interest to permit competition among utilities or others in laying pipes and wires,” Goodman said. “Likewise, utilities should not be permitted to compete as monopolies in otherwise hyper-competitive energy products, services and technology markets.

“The states who got this right have seen enormous savings and product innovation. However, when monopolies are permitted to compete in otherwise competitive energy services and technology markets, consumers bear all the risks and both private capital and innovation is stifled.”