

Next Generation Connectivity and the Nimble Grid **A Power Sector Transformation Stakeholder Event**

You are invited to attend the Next Generation Connectivity and the Nimble Grid Policy Panel with the RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the Office of Innovation.

Event Overview:

With the advent of new technology, Rhode Island is poised to transform the way we connect residents to each other, information, and energy. How we move forward in these areas will play a critical role in the economic vitality and well-being of our state and those who live here.

On November 30th 2016, Governor Gina Raimondo announced a Request for Information (RFI) to better understand how the state can create the best climate for the development of next generation broadband networks, including 5G (Fifth Generation Wireless) networks. This effort, led by the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the Rhode Island Office of Innovation aims to position Rhode Island as the first state to pilot large-scale deployment of next-gen networks, support real-world experimentation, and signal continued efforts towards attracting new high-tech businesses to grow in the State.

In addition, on March 2nd 2017, Governor Raimondo charged the Division of Public Utilities, Office of Energy Resources, and the Public Utilities Commission to develop a plan to create a more connected nimble electric grid that can strategically integrate clean energy resources and enable Rhode Islanders to take advantage of new clean energy technologies. The broader goal is to advance a cleaner, more affordable, and reliable energy system for the 21st century, using broadband connectivity and other technologies.

As the next stage in this process, the Rhode Island Department of Public Utilities and the Office of Innovation are inviting subject matter experts and thought leaders to discuss some of the key policy issues surrounding 5G and next generation network deployment in Rhode Island, including ownership and access, state and municipal oversight, time-lining and future-proofing for consumers and the grid, & common connectivity for consumers and electricity ratepayers.

Please join us to discuss and imagine the future of connectivity and energy in Rhode Island.

Event Logistics:

Date: May 9th, 2017

Time: 8:45 – 2:30 pm

Location:

Tech Collective,
166 Valley Street,
Providence RI, 02909

RSVP:

To RSVP please email William.Watterson@innovate.ri.gov or visit our eventbrite page here: <http://bit.ly/2qwFSlu>

Event Agenda

Check-in

8:45AM - 9:00AM

Opening Remarks

9:00AM – 9:10AM

Macky McCleary, *Administrator of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers*

Panel 1: Ownership and Access Models

9:10AM – 10:10AM

This panel will tackle the most pressing issues facing broadband regulators, providers, and consumers – how best to leverage existing connectivity infrastructure, properly incentivize new construction and network build outs, and nurture public and private sector partnerships to push RI towards ubiquitous internet and telecom access.

Panelists

- **Moderator: Blair Levin, *Brookings Institute Senior Fellow***
- Cox – Ross Nelson, *Vice President Northeast*
- OSHEAN - Dave Marble, *President*
- Macquarie Capital - Geoff Segal, *Senior Vice President of Government Relations*
- Entry Point - Jeff Christensen, *President*

Panel 2: State and Municipal Oversight

10:15AM – 11:15AM

This panel will examine the vital role State and municipal regulators have to play in moving towards a more robust connectivity future and balancing the vital goal of consumer protection with the goal of streamlining and expediting zoning and deployment of key infrastructure projects that support network densification.

Panelists

- **Moderator: Macky McCleary, *Administrator of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers***
- Verizon - Peter Bowman, *Vice President of Government Relations*
- Crown and Castle – Kost Jovanovic, *New England Manager of Government Relations*
- City of Providence – Peter Asen, *Director of Partnership and Intergovernmental Affairs*

- Black and Veatch – Paul Pishal, *Business Development Director*
- WIA – Van Bloys, *Senior Government Affairs Counsel*

Lunch

11:15AM – 12:15PM

Panel 3: Time-lining and Future-proofing for Consumers and the Grid

12:15PM – 1:15PM

In order to effectively plan for the rapidly approaching future of connectivity and avoid short-sighted investment, this panel will seek to examine existing broadband technologies, planned pilots and investment timelines for new small cell networks and promising alternative communication technologies coming down the pipeline.

Panelists

- **Moderator: Larry Larson, Brown University**
- AT&T – Jason Whittet, *Smart Cities Business Development*
- National Grid – Chris Kelly, *Senior Vice President Electric Process and Engineering*
- Cox – Andrew Goldberg, *Vice President Strategic Planning & Analysis*
- Pell Center – Paul McGreevy, *Pell Center Fellow*
- General Electric– Christopher Trabold, *CTO Industrial Communications*
- Entry Point - Jeff Christensen, *President*

Panel 4: Common Connectivity for Consumers and Electricity Ratepayers

1:20PM – 2:20PM

This panel will focus on strategies for leveraging the connectivity needs of the public sector and utility providers to compound the value of broadband investments without compromising the safety and security of sensitive data and how to efficiently and cost effectively reach rural and sparsely populated areas.

Panelists

- **Moderator: Josh Brumberger**
- Silver Spring Networks Inc. - Matt Davey, *Senior Regulatory Manager*
- National Grid - Chris Kelly, *Senior Vice President Electric Process and Engineering*
- Black & Veatch - Dean Siegrist, *AVP of Adjacent Markets*
- Schneider Electric – John Tuccillo, *Senior Vice President Industry and Government Affairs*

Closing Remarks

2:20PM – 2:30PM

Blair Levin, *Brookings Institute Senior Fellow*