

# **National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition Conference**

## **Criteria for Conference Site Selection**

(Adopted by Joint Site Selection Committee on November 1, 2011)

(Updated as of August 22, 2022)

### **Robust support from the local energy-assistance and utility community**

To be successful, the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition Conference (NEAUC) should be held in a location where the local energy-assistance community welcomes and supports the conference. Thus, NEUAC should choose a host city where the local community wants the conference and is willing to provide financial and in-kind support for the event, assistance in promoting and recruiting attendees from the locale and region, and volunteers for staffing and logistical/program planning advice and support. The mission of NEUAC is to expand energy assistance initiatives in locations that do not have strong programs requires that NEUAC also periodically consider locations that may not currently have sufficient support. NEUAC may wish to entertain formal proposals from local energy-assistance communities to host conferences.

### **Engagement of the local community in developing the educational program**

NEUAC brings together the intellectual capital of the energy-assistance community nationally with that of the community of the host city and region of the conference. A core of participants from across the United States will attend the conference from year to year, regardless of site. In any given year, however, our goal is to attract more local and regional leaders who would travel a shorter to distance to attend the conference than would be able to travel to a conference out of the region. NEUAC wants to bring the conference to a city where the potential for melding national themes and issues with those from the region is strong. Meaningful engagement is accomplished through advance promotion from more than a year out, strong local participation in the yearly planning meeting, and active follow-through from the planning meeting through the conference.

### **Geographical rotation**

The conference moves from site to site each year. In any given year, relatively more participants from near a host city will attend the conference than they will the next year at a different site. NEUAC wants to hold the annual conference in rotating areas of the country to maximize the “rolling participation” and to ensure that the core attendees

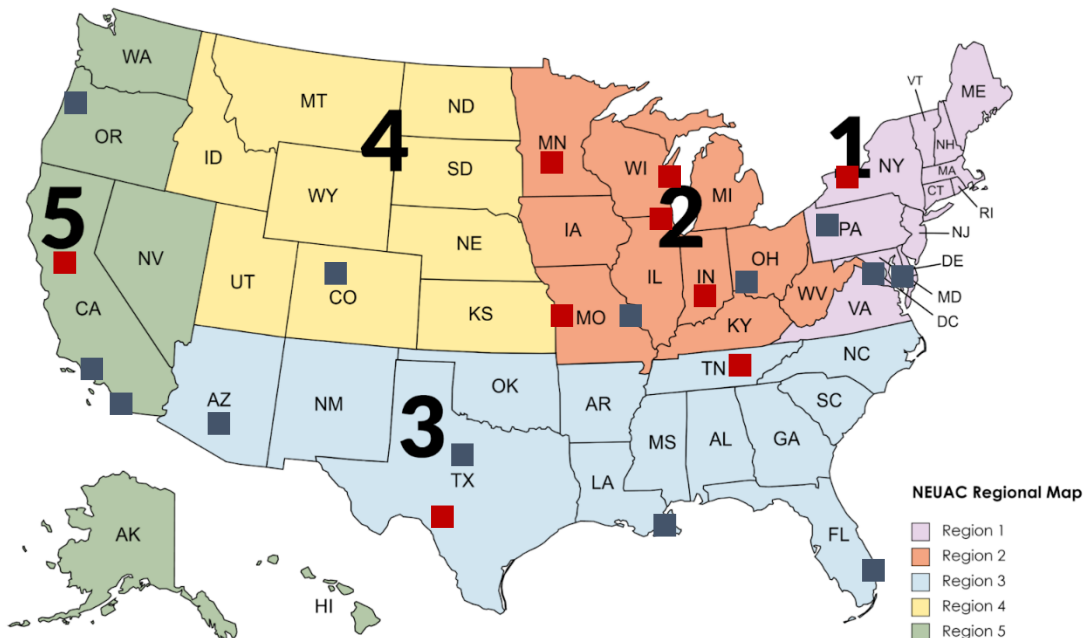
benefit from the exposure to regional issues. Regions should generally rotate as East, Central, South, North and West.

### City/site drawing power

The conference partners want to attract as many attendees as possible to the conference. Diverse cultural, educational, and sight-seeing opportunities in or near the host city will aide that objective, as will the ease of air travel to a given location. Thus, a site selection criterion based on “drawing power” is appropriate. The overall expense of a locale, including hotel costs and travel, might mitigate the “drawing power” attractions.

### Facility appropriateness

NEUAC wants the conference facility to foster the conferees’ safety, comfort and learning experiences. NEUAC requires a facility that provides reasonable room rates, has enough and appropriate meeting rooms, is in a safe neighborhood and is easily accessible to city attractions and airport(s). Meal costs and conference services from the hotel must be reasonable for the NEUAC budget, and the hotel’s offer generally must conform to the rooming, space, meals, and concessions offered by other venues.



## APPENDIX A

<b>I. Conference Sites 1987-2024</b>	<b>REGION</b>
1987 Baltimore, Maryland	1
1988 Milwaukee, Wisconsin	2
1989 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2
1990 Cincinnati, Ohio	2
1991 Costa Mesa, California	5
1992 Dallas, Texas	3
1993 Buffalo, New York	1
1994 Indianapolis, Indiana	2
1995 Portland, Oregon	5
1996 Baltimore, Maryland	1
1997 Minneapolis, Minnesota	2
1998 New Orleans, Louisiana	3
1999 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2
2000 Los Angeles, California	5
2001 Cincinnati, Ohio	2
2002 Fort Lauderdale, Florida	3
2003 Sacramento, California	5
2004 St. Louis, Missouri	2
2005 Phoenix, Arizona	3
2006 Washington, DC	1
2007 Nashville, Tennessee	3
2008 Denver, Colorado	4
2009 Portland, Oregon	5

2010 San Antonio, Texas	3
2011 Fort Lauderdale, Florida	3
2012 New Orleans, Louisiana	3
2013 San Diego, California	5
2014 Kansas City, Missouri	2
2015 Baltimore, MD	1
2016 Denver, CO	4
2017 Fort Lauderdale, FL	3
2018 Phoenix, AZ	3
2019 Fort Worth, TX	3
2020 Washington, DC (virtual)	N/A
2021 Virtual	N/A
2022 New Orleans, LA	3
2023 San Diego, CA	5 (PLANNED)
2024 Chicago, IL	2 (PLANNED)

## **II. Distribution of conference sites 1987-2024 by region**

**Region One (6):** Buffalo, Washington DC (2), Baltimore (2)

**Region Two (10):** Milwaukee, Pittsburgh (2), Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Cincinnati (2), Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago

**Region Three (12):** New Orleans (3), Fort Lauderdale (3); Dallas/Fort Worth (2); Phoenix (3), San Antonio

**Region Four (2):** Denver (2)

**Region Five (7):** Costa Mesa/Los Angeles (2), Portland (2), Sacramento, and San Diego (2)