Resolutions

Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors

Proposed For Consideration

By the

NARUC Committee of the Whole

At The

NOVEMBER 2007 CONVENTION

of the

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

(November 13, 2007)
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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

CA-1 Resolution Supporting the Gathering of Data for Electric and Natural Gas Distribution Companies by Individual State Utility Commissions or Energy Offices

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) recognizes the importance of gathering comparable aggregate residential billing and arrearage data to quantify the extent of customer indebtedness to utilities and the financial impact of customer indebtedness on utilities; to evaluate the impact on customer affordability of essential electric and natural gas service; and, to support the funding of State and federal low-income assistance programs, such as Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); and

WHEREAS, The lack of nationwide billing and arrearage data has made it more difficult for many consumer groups, legislative offices, and commissions to quantify the magnitude of the problem of non-payment for consumers; and

WHEREAS, The nationwide data compiled would be of great assistance to formulate State and national policies to assure affordable electric and natural gas service for residential customers, and to support programs which are necessary to the health, safety and welfare of American households; and

WHEREAS, The data compiled would provide State and federal policymakers with the tools needed to evaluate and ensure that federal energy assistance funds, such as LIHEAP, are adequate to meet utility-related emergencies due to increases in energy prices and/or weather-related emergencies; and

WHEREAS, The compilation of comparable, periodic billing and arrearage data for residential customers over time would be very beneficial to State and federal policymakers to evaluate the impact of market conditions, higher energy prices, and weather conditions; evaluate the need for additional targeted financial assistance and energy management programs, as well as the need for review of State commission policies and practices to protect seniors and low-income customers; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the above, and in acknowledgment of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and National Regulatory Research Institute’s (NRRI) experience in collecting and reporting data from many States in 2002 and 2004, it is necessary to increase participation by States in order to have more comparable and inclusive data for the entire nation; and

WHEREAS, NARUC passed a resolution at its 2006 Winter Meetings directing that a survey be conducted and a collaborative workgroup of interested stakeholders be established, including the American Gas Association (AGA), the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), and the National Low Income Energy Consortium (NLIEC), to design a survey template, create a dictionary of terms, and review the final report publications; and

WHEREAS, NARUC recognizes that NASUCA, the National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA), NCLC, NLIEC, and AARP (formerly the American Association of Retired Persons) support this resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention, urges each individual State to gather relevant utility billing and arrearage data from all electric and gas utilities within its State commission jurisdiction and encourages
other providers of electric and gas services to work cooperatively with their State commission to provide necessary aggregate data; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That NARUC directs the Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs to continue its collaboration with all interested stakeholders in the same manner as 2006 and conduct a survey annually, beginning in 2008, to collect comparable billing and arrearage data; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That NARUC urges each State commission or energy office to generate a list of commission or energy office contacts for this project; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That NARUC urges each State commission or energy office to direct utility companies to forward all questions about the project to its commission contact, who, in turn, will then forward the questions to the Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs or its designee in order to ensure the consistency of data collection; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That NARUC urges each State commission or energy office to aggregate the company level data into appropriate industry summary level data and submit it to the Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs or its designee for analysis; and urges each State commission or energy office contact to document all variations and exceptions in the data and submit it for analysis; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That affected stakeholders be allowed an opportunity to review the data analysis and derived conclusions prior to publication in order to provide clarification and ensure consistency; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and interested stakeholders develop a strategy for how to use the data effectively to support State and federal low-income energy assistance programs and document the impact affordability of essential natural gas and electric service has on customers; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Staff Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and interested stakeholders evaluate the survey instrument on how to improve data collection.

_Sponsored by the Consumer Affairs Committee_  
_Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007_  
_Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November 14, 2007_
ELECTRICITY

EL-1 Resolution on Federal Climate Legislation and Cap-and-Trade Design Principles

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) formed a Task Force on Climate Policy in March 2007 in order to educate NARUC members concerning climate policy issues and to develop policy proposals for consideration by the NARUC membership; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Board of Directors adopted a resolution sponsored by the Task Force on Climate Policy at the 2007 NARUC Summer Meetings held in New York, New York, on July 18, 2007, that enunciated ten policy principles that NARUC believes should inform federal climate policy; and

WHEREAS, The relative merits of a market mechanism proposed for inclusion in any federal climate change legislation, including, but not limited to, a cap-and-trade mechanism, a carbon tax, and a load-side cap, should be carefully evaluated in determining how to achieve the desired emissions reductions consistent with the ten principles previously adopted by NARUC; and

WHEREAS, Congress has continued to debate various policy proposals for addressing the environmental and economic consequences of alternative climate change policies since the 2007 NARUC Summer Meetings; and

WHEREAS, Since the 2007 NARUC Summer Meetings, the Task Force on Climate Policy has also continued to examine various policy proposals relating to climate change issues; and

WHEREAS, The momentum for enactment of federal legislation regulating the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) appears to have further increased, making the enactment of such legislation within the foreseeable future likely; and

WHEREAS, The existence of uncertainty about the nature and extent to which GHG emissions will be subject to future federal regulation makes it difficult for State regulators, regulated utilities, and others to appropriately plan for needed investments in electric transmission and generation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Despite a diversity of opinion within NARUC’s membership regarding the need for national limitations on the emission of GHGs for the purpose of addressing concerns over warming of the Earth’s climate, NARUC’s members are in general agreement that the enactment of federal legislation limiting such emissions in would be appropriate in order to remove existing uncertainties that are hampering the making of transmission and generation investment decisions; and

WHEREAS, NARUC’s members are also in general agreement that appropriate federal climate change legislation should be enacted in order to enhance the likelihood that appropriate technologies will be developed and other solutions implemented so as to achieve desired reductions in GHG emissions in the most economical manner possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, supports the enactment of federal legislation intended to reduce GHG emissions so long as such legislation relies, to the extent practicable, on an appropriate market mechanism or mechanisms as part of an economy-wide approach to GHG regulation; provides for an appropriate transition period prior to the implementation of full
regulation of GHG emissions; creates sufficient certainty to ensure the financing of needed energy infrastructure consistent with the achievement of the environmental objectives intended to be accomplished by such legislation; and is otherwise consistent with the policy principles developed by the Task Force on Climate Policy and approved by the NARUC Board of Directors at the 2007 NARUC Summer Meetings held in New York, New York, on July 18, 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force on Climate Policy should consider and develop, as appropriate, proposed resolutions for NARUC’s consideration addressing additional market mechanisms including, but not limited to, a carbon tax and a load-side cap; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, in the event that Congress chooses to implement a cap and trade mechanism for the purpose of limiting electric sector GHG emissions, any such federal climate change legislation should rest upon the following cap-and-trade design principles in order to appropriately balance competing criteria, including, but not limited to, equity, economic efficiency, and ease of administration:

1. Auctioning of all allowances is ultimately the most economically efficient mechanism for achieving emission reduction goals from electric generation. However, the allocation of emission allowances within the electricity sector at no cost is an appropriate transitional measure in order to ensure continued reliability, minimize economic dislocation resulting from the carbon intensity of the existing electricity generation infrastructure, and allow for the development of appropriate new technology.

2. Any emissions allowance allocation program, consistent with an economy-wide approach, should involve a reduction in the number of allowances allocated within the electricity sector over time to ensure that needed reductions in GHG emissions are encouraged through a gradual increase in the cost of carbon-intensive generation sources as compared to the cost of other generation sources.

3. The primary purpose of any transitional emissions allowance allocation process applicable to the electricity sector should be to minimize the initial economic impact of GHG-emissions regulation to end-user customers by phasing in the impact of such regulation over a reasonable period of time.

4. Any emissions allowance allocation program should produce reasonable outcomes, consistent with these cap-and-trade design principles, regardless of applicable electricity market or regulatory structures.

5. Any emissions allowance allocation program should assign all allocated allowances available to the electricity sector to local distribution companies providing a regulated local distribution function for end-user customers (including vertically-integrated utilities, distribution utilities, rural-electric cooperatives, municipal distribution systems, and all other entities providing distribution service directly to end-user customers subject to State regulation or its equivalent). This approach will allow State PUCs or other authorities to ensure that the value of these no-cost allowances will inure to the benefit of end-use consumers. Alternatively, States should be able to adopt other methods for distributing benefits to end-use consumers.
6. The assignment of no-cost allocated allowances to local distribution companies as defined above should be based primarily on the level of GHG-emissions from the resources used to provide service to the local distribution company’s load during an appropriate baseline period.

7. Any emissions allowance allocation program should not inappropriately advantage or disadvantage particular regions, local distribution companies (as defined above), or generators, and should ensure that end-user customers receive the benefit of allocated emissions allowances for the purpose of offsetting the increased costs resulting from the institution of GHG-emissions regulation.

8. Any assignment of allocated emissions allowances should seek to accommodate any efforts made in particular regions or States to reduce GHG-emissions in anticipation of the enactment of federal legislation regulating GHG-emissions.

9. In defining the baseline period, proper precautions should be taken to ensure that counterproductive behavior by any allowance market participants is discouraged and that gaming does not occur.

10 Cost-containment measures should be included in any cap-and-trade mechanism in order to minimize abrupt changes in the cost of compliance, including during the initial phases of implementation, which could adversely affect electricity consumers or allowance markets. Such measures should be designed to achieve effective and appropriate environmental benefits while ensuring price stability and predictability, promoting investment in appropriate technologies, and minimizing adverse consumer impacts, including price volatility; and be it further

RESOLVED, That any federal climate change legislation should be consistent with existing NARUC policies regarding non-discriminatory wholesale competition; demand response; energy efficiency; renewable generation; generation resource adequacy; fuel diversity; the development of clean coal and improved nuclear technologies; and the development of a comprehensive solution for the existing nuclear waste disposal problem.

Sponsored by the Committees on Electricity, Energy Resources and the Environment, and Gas
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November 14, 2007
EL-2 Resolution Adopting Revised Document Entitled, “NARUC Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities”

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities was last revised in May of 1985; and

WHEREAS, The current document is obsolete and should be removed or updated; and

WHEREAS, Many States have adopted this document through their administrative rules or otherwise rely on this document and therefore the document should be updated; and

WHEREAS, The Staff Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance has prepared a revised document entitled “NARUC Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities, Revised October 2007;” and

WHEREAS, This document may be useful to regulators in assisting with the determination of the appropriate period to preserve utility records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, adopts the revised document entitled, “NARUC Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities, Revised October 2007,” and that the document will be placed in the NARUC bookstore for anyone who wishes to acquire it.

Sponsored by the Subcommittee on Accounting and Finance
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 12, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November ___, 2007
ENERGY RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

ERE-1 Resolution on State Regulatory Policies Toward Climate Change

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Resolution on Implications of Climate Policy for Ratepayers and Public Utilities (approved July 18, 2007) acknowledged the ongoing national debate over the desirability of limiting the emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHG) and adopted certain policy principles that NARUC believes should be included in any federal legislation that attempts to regulate and reduce the level of such emissions; and

WHEREAS, Electric power generation is responsible for approximately 40 percent of U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide, the most common GHG; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded in its Fourth Assessment Report that “most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations;” and

WHEREAS, There is growing support for State, regional, and federal actions to limit emissions of carbon dioxide and other GHGs; and

WHEREAS, The advocates of reducing the emission of carbon dioxide and other GHGs believe that the enactment of such legislation would provide substantial long-term environmental benefits and that a failure to address the impact of GHG emissions could, among other things, adversely affect the availability of water resources for hydroelectric generating facilities and cooling water for use in thermal generating facilities; and

WHEREAS, The advocates of reducing the emission of carbon dioxide and other GHGs believe that postponing action to reduce such emissions will increase the urgency of reducing emissions at a later time and increase the ultimate economic cost of actions taken to reduce such emissions; and

WHEREAS, Many U.S. financial and corporate interests, including many regulated utilities, have acknowledged that the enactment of federal legislation limiting the emission of carbon dioxide and other GHGs appears inevitable; and

WHEREAS, A broad coalition of multinational corporate and environmental leaders has formed the U.S. Climate Action Partnership in order to work collaboratively to address climate change issues; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with the States’ traditional role as "laboratories of democracy," in which new and innovative approaches for meeting societal needs are developed at the State level, at least 18 States have taken action intended to limit carbon dioxide and other GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, There is a substantial likelihood that federal legislation intended to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other GHGs (carbon regulation) will be enacted in the near future; and

WHEREAS, Assuming that such federal legislation will be enacted, State commissions should consider taking action to reduce the economic impact of compliance with such legislation; and
WHEREAS, The cost of compliance with carbon regulation may affect consumers differently depending upon a State’s regulatory structure and the nature of the decisions made by State regulators; and

WHEREAS, The ultimate cost per ton of reducing carbon dioxide and other GHG emissions may vary dramatically depending on the State regulatory policy path chosen; and

WHEREAS, State utility regulators are well-positioned to evaluate carbon-related risks related to alternative resource options and to deliver economic benefits to their States through adoption of policies that appropriately account for and mitigate the risks arising from the likelihood that federal carbon regulation legislation will be enacted in the near future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, advocates that during the nation’s likely transition to greater reliance upon lower-carbon resources for the generation of electric power, State regulators should consider adopting policy approaches and regulatory tools that ensure continued electric system reliability and minimize economic dislocation and costs to consumers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That State regulators should consider seeking to appropriately mitigate any risk of stranded utility investment, future cost increases, and reliability challenges resulting from the nation’s likely transition to carbon regulation by requiring utilities to assess and incorporate carbon-related risks in their planning and decision making processes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That State regulators should consider addressing the nation’s likely transition to carbon regulation through consideration of policy and regulatory options, such as:

• Facilitating greater reliance upon low- or no-carbon resources and technologies such as energy efficiency, high-efficiency combined heat and power, demand response, renewable generation, advanced nuclear, and emerging technologies (such as carbon capture and storage);
• Ensuring timely recovery of reasonable and prudently incurred costs associated with this transition;
• Requiring utilities to preserve system reliability while procuring resources in a manner that seeks to appropriately minimize the future cost of avoided carbon dioxide and other GHG emissions;
• Recognizing the costs and revenue streams associated with possible future emissions cap-and-trade mechanisms;
• Supporting broad-based funding for research to enable the use of thermal and other electric generating resources that result in environmentally acceptable electric generation;
• Supporting broad-based funding for research to enable the use of demand-side resources; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges State regulators to work collaboratively with State and local government entities, researchers and industries in considering the adoption of policies that appropriately promote cost-effective energy efficiency efforts and that give proper consideration to the benefits resulting from the use of cost-effective, low-or no-carbon technologies.

Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007
 Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November___, 2007
WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) has consistently supported Local Number Portability as a means of encouraging competition, enabling consumer choice and achieving an efficient number system; and

WHEREAS, Telephone number porting occurs in two stages: Confirmation and Activation. The Confirmation Interval begins with a Local Service Request (LSR) from the new carrier and ends with a Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) from the existing carrier. For ports involving wireline carriers, the allowed Confirmation Interval is 24 hours. The Activation Interval involves system updates and the physical work required to complete a simple port. For ports involving wireline carriers, the allowed Activation Interval is three business days; and

WHEREAS, “Simple ports” are ports that involve an account for a single line and:
   • may include CLASS features such as Caller ID;
   • do not involve multi-line accounts;
   • do not involve unbundled network elements;
   • do not involve complex switch translations such as Centrex or Plexar, ISDN, AIN services, remote call forwarding or multiple services on the loop;
   • do not include a reseller; and

WHEREAS, The current wireline-to-wireline porting interval of four days has been in place for almost 10 years, and although processes in the industry have benefited from great technological advances, in particular the speed of service provisioning and delivery, the wireline-to-wireline porting interval remains at 4 days; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of electronic interfaces has made it technically feasible to complete simple ports between wireline-service providers on a next-day basis; and

WHEREAS, Porting between wireless service providers is accomplished within two-and-one-half hours using the same industry database that is used for wireline porting; and

WHEREAS, The North American Numbering Council has established a Local Number Portability Working Group (LNPA WG), and the LNPA WG has before it a Problem Identification Management (PIM) to reduce the porting interval to a next-day basis for simple ports accomplished through an electronic interface; and

WHEREAS, The FCC has before it a petition to minimize the criteria used to validate a Local Service Request (LSR), thereby enabling a reduction in the Confirmation Interval, and thus the overall porting interval; and

WHEREAS, A large number of service providers refuse to consistently comply with the FOC and activation periods for the existing wireline porting interval; and

WHEREAS, Service providers are competitively disadvantaged and consumers are inconvenienced when not permitted to promptly transfer existing numbers to competing service providers; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, directs the General Counsel of NARUC to pursue, by the best means available, changes in the FCC rules and orders: (1) to establish a one business-day interval for simple ports that are requested by electronic interface, or a longer period if wireline carriers individually demonstrate that they cannot accomplish reliable ports within that limit, after they have made all reasonable cost-effective efforts to upgrade electronic systems; and (2) that any such rules and orders require fair and equitable enforcement of all requirements on all of the porting service providers.

Sponsored by the Committees on Telecommunications and Consumer Affairs
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November 14, 2007
TC-2 Resolution Concerning Availability of Numbers to Voice over Internet Protocol Providers and IP-Enabled Services

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) has long recognized the importance of efficient telephone number utilization, the need to avoid unnecessary area code changes, and prompt and efficient porting of consumers’ telephone numbers; and

WHEREAS, A large and increasing number of American consumers are obtaining voice services from Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and other Internet Protocol (IP) based service providers, either instead of or in addition to their service from traditional telecommunications carriers; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, including by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, rulemaking responsibility for the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) in the U.S. rests with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); and

WHEREAS, The FCC has delegated day-to-day responsibilities for administering numbering resources to the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) and the national thousands-block Pooling Administrator (PA), and local number portability is administered by the Local Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC); and

WHEREAS, The FCC recently acted to address local number portability and certain other numbering requirements related to VoIP and IP-enabled service providers, but did not address such providers reporting and utilization requirements; and

WHEREAS, Under current interpretations of FCC rules, only carriers with State certifications, FCC licenses, or waivers may receive telephone numbers directly from the NANPA or the PA, and requirements for service-provider access to the NPAC mirror these requirements and, as NARUC noted in its July 18, 2007, Resolution Concerning Adherence to Numbering Rules by Voice Over Internet Protocol and IP-enabled Services Providers (July Numbering Resolution), many VoIP and IP-enabled service providers therefore often obtain numbering resources from eligible FCC-licensed or State-certificated carriers; and

WHEREAS, As NARUC further noted in the July 2007 Numbering Resolution, because of this indirect allocation of numbers to VoIP and IP-enabled service providers, such providers are not directly subject to the reporting and utilization requirements in the FCC’s existing Part 52 numbering rules that help ensure the efficient assignment and usage of numbers; and

WHEREAS, Because VoIP and IP-enabled service providers are often neither State-certificated nor FCC-licensed, they may lack service-provider access to the NPAC to promptly and efficiently port telephone numbers upon customer requests; and

WHEREAS, NARUC remains concerned about the potential impacts upon consumers of inefficient number assignment and use, accelerated area code exhaust, and delayed or incorrect number ports between service providers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, recognizes that there is a need for a national policy permitting the direct assignment of numbering resources to VoIP and IP-enabled
service providers to ensure that these providers comply with FCC numbering rules, as well as reporting
and utilization requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to modify or reinterpret its Part 52 numbering rules to
allow interconnected VoIP providers to obtain numbering resources directly from the NANPA and the
PA and to obtain service-provider access to the NPAC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the FCC to impose equally on all entities obtaining numbering
resources directly from the NANPA or the PA the applicable numbering obligations to comply with
the Commissions Part 52 rules and requirements. These obligations include, but are not limited to
requirements such as periodic reporting on the usage of numbering resources, and utilization and
months-to-exhaust standards for obtaining new numbering resources; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC directs its General Counsel to communicate this resolution to all relevant
policymakers, including federal and State agencies and Congress, and to file whatever comments or
petitions may be necessary and proper to advance the goals of this resolution.

Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November 14, 2007
HONORARY RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Honoring Donald L. Mason, Commissioner, The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

WHEREAS, Donald L. Mason has served two terms as a member of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, having been appointed by Governor George Voinovich in 1998 and reappointed by Governor Bob Taft in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has served NARUC with distinction as Chair of the Gas Committee, displaying both leadership and technical knowledge as he guided NARUC’s natural gas efforts through a time of significant industry change; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has also served NARUC as a member of the Board of Directors, and as a member of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure and the ad hoc Committee on Electric Restructuring; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has been an active participant and supporter of the U.S. Department of Energy – NARUC Liquefied Natural Gas Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has served as a member of NARUC’s Clean-Coal Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason was a member of NARUC’s Natural Gas Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has represented the State of Ohio on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission including serving as Vice Chair and on the Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason was appointed to the National Petroleum Council by then-Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, and was subsequently reappointed by Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has taken and continues to take an active interest in pipeline safety matters, including serving as a government representative and Chairman of the United States Department of Transportation’s Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason serves as Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s Public Interest Advisory Commission; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason is a member of the American Public Gas Association Security and Integrity Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has led Ohio’s energy partnership exchange with the Government of Ghana, most recently including his first trip abroad to Accra, Ghana; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason has served the State of Ohio in a wide variety of roles, including as Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and as Chief of its Oil and Gas Division and as a member of the Hazardous Waste Facilities Board; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason’s long and distinguished record of public service includes terms on the Zanesville City Council and as Mayor of Zanesville, Ohio for 8 years; and
WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason received a political science degree from Muskingum College and a law degree from Capital University, Cum Laude; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason was an NCAA All-American collegiate wrestler and remains active in community athletic activities as a volunteer coach and referee, including 27 years of outstanding service as a wrestling referee that resulted in his being recognized as the 2006 top official in eastern Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason is a resident of Zanesville, Ohio, where he lives with his wife Danielle and three children; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason’s dedication to his community is exemplified by his service on many county, city, and other community boards and organizations, including a Rotarian with 25 years of perfect attendance and is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason is often recognized by his peers for his sense of style and fashion and is clearly a leading candidate for "Commissioner on the Cover of GQ Magazine"; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Mason is a passionate supporter of the Ohio State Buckeyes football team; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, hereby expresses its sincere thanks to Commissioner Mason for his past, present, and continuing service to the Association, the citizens of Ohio and the United States, his colleagues, and to the public interest; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC and all of its members convey their best wishes to Commissioner Mason in all of his future endeavors and service.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole, November ___, 2007
Resolution Honoring Commissioner Sandra Hochstetter

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Hochstetter received her undergraduate degree in social work from the University of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter received her law degree from Washington University in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter served as Assistant General Counsel for CenterPoint Energy, a multi-jurisdictional natural gas utility, for twelve years; and

WHEREAS, During her employment by CenterPoint, Commissioner Hochstetter practiced before the Arkansas Public Service Commission, the Kansas Corporation Commission, the Louisiana Public Service Commission, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, and the Texas Public Utility Commission; and

WHEREAS, After her employment by CenterPoint, Commissioner Hochstetter served as Executive Director of the General Staff of the Arkansas Public Service Commission and as Regulatory Policy Advisor to Governor Mike Huckabee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter was appointed Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission by Governor Huckabee effective July 1, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter served as Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service Commission for the next six and a half years; and

WHEREAS, After the end of her tenure as Chairman, Commissioner Hochstetter continued to serve as a member of the Arkansas Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, During her service as a member of the Arkansas Public Service Commissioner, Commissioner Hochstetter was active in efforts to protect the interests of Arkansas citizens in federal policy debates, to improve the operation of the wholesale electric markets that serve Arkansas citizens, to reform the federal regulation of rail service, and to ensure that an appropriate level of fuel supply diversification and energy efficiency activities were undertaken in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter developed a well-deserved national reputation for informed and innovative thinking concerning national, regional, and State regulatory issues, including her advocacy of regional State committees, regional resource planning, the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, and alternatives to the single-price auction approach used in certain organized wholesale electric markets; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter was an officer and founding member of the Southwest Power Pool Regional State Committee, which constituted one of the first efforts by State regulators to act cooperatively with respect to matters relating to a regional transmission organization; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter has been active in both the Mid-American Regulatory Conference and the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, having served as President of MARC in 2004-2005 and as an intellectual leader within SEARUC throughout her career as a State regulator; and
WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter has been extraordinarily active in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners throughout her tenure as a member of the Arkansas Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter was an active member of the Committee on Electricity, having served as co-leader of the Infrastructure Investment working group and authored or sponsored numerous important policy resolutions; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter was an active member of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, having served as Chairman from 2006 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter also served as a member of the NARUC Board of Directors, the NARUC Washington Action Committee, the NARUC Task Force on Climate Policy, the Steering Committee of the National Council on Electricity Policy, the Electric Power Research Institute Advisory Council, and Chairman of the Advisory Council for the New Mexico State University Center for Public Utilities; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter is a person of boundless energy and a passionate, persuasive, and persistent advocate for the best interests of the citizens of Arkansas and the causes in which she believes; and

WHEREAS, Disagreeing with Commissioner Hochstetter is not an activity which should be undertaken by the faint of heart; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter is a devoted mother to her son, Christopher, and a consistently warm and caring friend; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hochstetter resigned from her position as a member of the Arkansas Public Service Commission effective August 7, 2007, to become Vice President, Strategic Affairs, for the Arkansas Electric Cooperative Organization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, expresses its gratitude to Commissioner Hochstetter for her distinguished career of service as a member of the Arkansas Public Service Commission and offers her its best wishes for success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Recommended by the Board of Directors November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole November 14, 2007
Resolution Honoring Commissioner Steve Gaw of the Missouri Public Service Commission

WHEREAS, Steve Gaw served with distinction as Chairman and Commissioner of the Missouri Public Service Commission for over six years; and

WHEREAS, He was instrumental in developing the concept of regional State committees and was a key member of the founders of the Organization of Midwest ISO States (OMS); and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Gaw earned the respect and confidence of his colleagues from the Midwest ISO region, such that he was asked to serve as the OMS Secretary for 2003, Vice President in 2004, Treasurer in 2005, President in 2006 and a member of the Nominating Committee, thus becoming the first and only Commissioner to have served in every office within the OMS; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Steve Gaw’s leadership helped the OMS and the regional State committee concept earn the growing attention and respect of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Midwest ISO and market participants of all types; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Gaw was doing the same important work with the Southwest Power Pool Regional State Committee (SPP-RSC); and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Gaw’s vision has helped his colleagues from both regions see beyond immediate issues and identify trends important for the future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its November 2007 Annual Convention in Anaheim, California, commends Commissioner Gaw for his service to the Missouri Commission, the OMS, the SPP-RSC, and NARUC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Commissioner Gaw’s friends and colleagues wish him well in his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 13, 2007
Adopted by the Committee of the Whole November 14, 2007