

Resolution Promoting Year 2000 Readiness

WHEREAS, Since the adoption of a resolution at the 1998 NARUC Summer Meetings in Seattle, Congress has passed and the President has signed the Year 2000 Readiness and Information Disclosure Act (Year 2000 Act), which has greatly improved the opportunity for increased voluntary information exchange and customer education, and will assist the federal government in its own efforts to broadly educate small business and the public concerning the Year 2000 issue; *and*

WHEREAS, The Year 2000 Act specifically promotes and protects voluntary year 2000 assessment and contingency planning activities such as the ongoing assessment of the year 2000 readiness of the United States' electric utility industry currently being conducted by the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC), acting at the request of the United States Department of Energy; *and*

WHEREAS, The previously adopted NARUC resolution supports the preparation of contingency plans, systems testing, and comprehensive information exchange and testing efforts in other regulated industries such as telecommunications, water, and natural gas, for the successful Year 2000 transition of the Nation's critical infrastructures; and that such contingency planning will necessarily require the involvement of and coordination with State regulatory and emergency planning agencies; *and*

WHEREAS, Significant expenditures have been and will be incurred by regulated utilities in conducting Year 2000 readiness assessments, including contingency planning, in order to maintain the integrity and reliability of critical infrastructures; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 110th Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida, encourages State Commissions to promote full reporting through and other participation in the NERC assessment process, and to themselves use the year 2000 assessment tools developed by industry-wide associations and federal agencies in order to limit duplicative reporting requests; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That State commissions are encouraged to advocate for information-exchange and heightened public education activities of regulated utilities, in order to increase the Year 2000 awareness of customers.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Recommended by the Board of Directors

Adopted in Convention November 11, 1998