

Resolution Regarding Procurement of Federal Funding for a NARUC Domestic Regulatory Project Designed to Assist in the Development and Deployment of Commercially Viable Advanced Clean Coal Technologies

WHEREAS, Coal is a vital natural resource whose efficient and environmentally sound use is vital in mitigating the growing strain on America's electricity supplies; and

WHEREAS, Coal supplies over half the electricity used in the United States, which is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future; being primarily carbon, coal has the highest carbon dioxide emission factor of any fossil fuel; and

WHEREAS, Clean coal technology shows promise in reducing NOX, SOX and GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is committed to addressing air quality problems; and

WHEREAS, NARUC wants to enhance utility productivity while minimizing adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, NARUC endorses the appropriation of substantial federal dollars toward the development of commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies; and

WHEREAS, Commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies represent an area that is certain to be part of a comprehensive national energy policy to help us meet the energy demands and needs of the country well into the future; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Energy called on the energy industry to participate in a nationwide competition for new power plant technologies that could help relieve the growing strain on America's electricity supplies in the coming years. The new effort, termed the "Power Plant Improvement Initiative," is targeted at advanced clean coal technologies; and

WHEREAS, Congress, with bipartisan support, added additional funding for the "Power Plant Improvement Initiative," to DOE's fiscal year 2001 budget when electric reliability problems began to surface; and

WHEREAS, The "Power Plant Improvement Initiative," sets into motion a fast-track effort to test technologies that can be installed on current plants or designed into new plants to increase power generating efficiencies – in effect, generating more megawatts of electricity from the same amount of fuel. Currently, coal-fired power plants convert only a third of the energy value of the fuel into electricity; and

WHEREAS, The successful development and deployment of commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies must be done in concert with State and federal energy regulators; and

WHEREAS, NARUC is the only entity to officially serve and represent the interests of public utility regulation via educational, research, and advocacy programs directed and coordinated by its membership; and

WHEREAS, NARUC is uniquely qualified to research, coordinate, and disseminate clean coal technology information

within the regulatory community; and

WHEREAS, NARUC is well positioned through informal and formal networks to coordinate and disseminate clean coal technology information to legislators and utility practitioners; and

WHEREAS, NARUC has extensive experience in developing and managing U.S. DOE projects; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its 2001 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington D.C., reiterates its support for the appropriation of substantial federal dollars toward the development of commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports increased Federal funding for the DOE's "Power Plant Improvement Initiative," targeting advanced clean coal technologies; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports the development of a domestic regulatory project designed to assist in the development and deployment of commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies to bring increased efficiency and new technologies to coal-burning plants; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports the procurement of Federal funding for a NARUC domestic regulatory project designed to assist in the development and deployment of commercially viable advanced clean coal technologies to bring

increased efficiency and new technologies to coal-burning plants; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC authorizes the Finance and Technology Committee to pursue such funding and to utilize such funding to contribute to the advancement of these purposes.

Sponsored by the Committee on Finance and Technology

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, February 28, 2001.