

Resolution on National Policies Regarding Global Climate Change

WHEREAS, Atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases are rising and are projected to continue to increase; *and*

WHEREAS, There is continuing scientific debate as to whether global climate change has yet begun as a result of anthropogenic contributions of greenhouse gases and as to what pace such change would take; *and*

WHEREAS, The period of uncertainty about the effects of anthropogenic greenhouse gases could be as short as ten years; *and*

WHEREAS, The failure to take appropriate actions to address global climate change risk economic, environmental and human damage; *and*

WHEREAS, The costs of mitigating rising greenhouse gas emissions could be substantial and will necessarily be borne in large part by each State; *and*

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State is participating in international negotiations on treaties and protocols for the mitigation of greenhouse gases; *and*

WHEREAS, Voluntary federal programs for electric utilities and other emitters are already in place; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1995 Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., urges that the Congress, the U.S. Department of State, and other federal agencies include the interests and expertise of the States, ensuring a fully coordinated, national policy establishing greenhouse gas mitigation policies; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the NARUC supports a full and vigorous debate including all stakeholders and considering all alternatives regarding the mitigation of anthropogenic greenhouse gases, adaptation policies and other global climate change measures; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the NARUC supports a coordinated research effort to establish scientific agreement as to the effects of human activities on the accumulation of greenhouse gases and their contribution to the global change; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the NARUC respectfully requests that the U.S. Department of State international negotiating team proceed cautiously with regard to any new aims and post-2000 commitments for greenhouse gas mitigation strategies that would place an undue cost burden on electric utility customers of the States; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the NARUC supports a national policy on global climate change that is consistent with efforts to develop cost-effective alternative energy sources and more efficient use of energy.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Conservation and the Ad Hoc Committee on International Relations
Adopted March 1, 1995*