

Resolution Encouraging Research And Development Investment in
Electricity Infrastructure Technologies

WHEREAS, It is critical to future growth of the 21st century economy for the U.S. electric power infrastructure to provide reliable service in an environmentally responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, Open access requirements and State electric industry restructuring initiatives are resulting in a dramatically increasing number of wholesale power transactions; and

WHEREAS, The nation's power delivery grid was designed to deliver electricity to retail customers through a vertically integrated utility system and may not function optimally in an open, competitive market; and

WHEREAS, More competitive markets have increased demands on the grid; and

WHEREAS, The public sector, through its legislative and regulatory bodies, will continue to play a vital role in the efficient expansion of the size and scope of the electricity industry's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, New technology development and its widespread application can be an effective way to help address needed electricity infrastructure changes; and coordinated public/private sector technology initiatives can help meet this challenge successfully; and

WHEREAS, The Electricity Technology Roadmap and the Power Delivery Reliability Initiative, broad strategic technology planning efforts sponsored by the Electric Power Research

Institute ("EPRI") are prime examples of the type of technology research and development needed to enhance the power delivery system; and

WHEREAS, The NARUC has, on repeated occasions, expressed through resolutions and other actions its support for a broad and vigorous program of electricity-related research and development by EPRI, the electricity industry, the U.S. Department of Energy and others to serve the energy-related needs of the American public and our global neighbors; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its March 2000 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., encourages strategic intensification of both public and private research and development activities in electricity infrastructure technologies, and particularly encourages the development of public/private partnerships that can bring unique and magnified strengths to bear on these issues.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, March 8, 2000.