

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 Commission, 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