

Resolution Honoring Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon

WHEREAS, Timothy Alan Simon was born and raised in San Francisco, California, where some say “summer is like winter” and where his father operated a bar and small business and taught his son about San Francisco civic life and politics; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon received a Bachelor’s degree in Economics at the University of San Francisco in 1979, a renowned Jesuit university committed to academic and social justice, after which he studied for his J. D. at the Hastings College of the Law, University of California, where he graduated in 1982; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon held several positions in the banking and securities industries and in securities law, including one at the Bank of America, and passed the bar in both California and Oklahoma (currently inactive in Oklahoma due to the undue influence of Commissioner Anthony); *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon learned politics and civic engagement at the feet of Willie L. Brown, the famous former Mayor of San Francisco and Speaker of the California State Assembly, who taught Simon about influencing people through speaking and stakeholder involvement, and the importance of inclusion and diversity; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon was selected by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to work as his appointments secretary, where he was responsible for hundreds of important California appointments and where he acquired a detailed knowledge of California State government; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon was known to be a confidante of “the Terminator” when he recused himself to the “cigar tent” outside the Governor’s personal office where much important State business was conducted over cigars, informal brainstorming, pushups, and reruns of “Conan the Barbarian;” *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon was selected by Governor Schwarzenegger to fill an open position at the California PUC in February 2007 and was subsequently confirmed by the State Senate; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon jumped into the fray of NARUC activities by joining the Gas Committee and Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access (UMA), and quickly demonstrated his political acumen and leadership skills by advancing in those organizations; *and*

WHEREAS, In response to the natural gas-electric market harmonization challenges identified in the National Petroleum Council (NPC) comprehensive study *Prudent Development: Realizing the Potential of North America’s Abundant Natural Gas and Oil Resources*, recommended actions that should be taken by NERC, NAESB, FERC, NARUC, and Independent System Operators to continue efforts to harmonize the interaction between the natural gas and electric markets. NARUC member Commissioners Robert Anthony of Oklahoma and Timothy A. Simon of California participated as members of the Coordinating Subcommittee of the NPC.

NAESB established a Gas-Electric Harmonization Committee to review issues identified in the NPC study specific to the natural gas-electric market harmonization; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon, in his six years at the CPUC and NARUC, became a strong voice of reason in the national debate on the shale gas revolution and how to strike the appropriate balance between increasing production while maintaining best practices for environmental practices; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon played a vital role in the Gas Committee by serving as Co-Vice Chair under the fine tutelage of then Gas Chairman O’Neal Hamilton, overseeing the LNG Partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy and NARUC for several years, serving on the natural gas committee of the NPC as it developed its important report in 2011, and generally advanced the cause of balanced development of shale gas exploration and increased use of natural gas in both power generation and direct use; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon has shown a distinct fondness for travel both domestic and international, and has been known to be present at conferences and facilities throughout the world where the topics “shale,” “gas,” or “revolution” are being discussed and debated; *and*

WHEREAS, Through his leadership and service with the National Utilities Diversity Council and UMA, Commissioner Simon has distinguished himself and the great State of California in the inclusiveness of diverse suppliers and partners in the energy sector, which has served to strengthen our collective work, culminating in the formal establishment of the NARUC Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access, formed in 2010, with the Commissioner’s leadership as Co-Vice Chair of the Subcommittee; *and*

WHEREAS, Commission Simon’s keen wit, elocution, and speaking ability have been on display for years in San Francisco, the Golden State, and NARUC circles, and have been known to awaken a slumbering audience and inject a spark into committee proceedings; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon treats all NARUC commissioners with utmost respect, using terms of endearment such as “the right honorable,” the “distinguished,” or the “future governor” when referring to his esteemed colleagues; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon was appointed as Chair of the Gas Committee in August 2010 by then NARUC President David Coen, and has overseen the growth and increased vitality of this committee in terms of membership, scope, and importance of issues; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon has been personally concerned and very attentive to the issues surrounding gas pipeline safety, including, of course, the response of the CPUC to the tragic explosion at San Bruno, but also supporting the creation of a NARUC Task Force on Pipeline Safety, serving as one of the first members, and increasing the focus of NARUC’s relationship with the federal pipeline safety regulators at DOT/PHMSA; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon has always taken the responsibility of education and training of young lawyers and regulatory staff seriously, and is currently an adjunct professor of law at Golden Gate University School of Law and teaches several classes; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon is the father of three children – Nahel, Jamal, and Suphia – and one granddaughter, Niyah, and is engaged to his long-time partner Kimberly Brandon, who has become a familiar face and a friend to many commissioners at NARUC meetings owing to her beauty, grace, and accomplishments in her own right; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Simon and Kimberly have always been involved in charitable causes in the San Francisco area, where he currently serves on several non-profit boards; *and*

WHEREAS, NARUC will miss Commissioner Simon’s intellect, charisma, leadership, and boundless energy within the NARUC community and especially in the areas of managing the “shale gas revolution” and in promoting greater workforce diversity among electric and gas utilities and in related markets; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at their 2013 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C. extend their sincere gratitude to Commissioner Simon for his many years of service to NARUC, to the citizens of the Golden State, and the United States, and convey their best wishes to Mr. Simon in his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors February 6, 2013