

Resolution Honoring Michigan Commissioner Ojiakor N. Isiogu

WHEREAS, Orjiakor N. Isiogu was appointed to the Michigan Public Service Commission by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm on September 9, 2007 for a term ending July 2, 2013; *and*

WHEREAS, Orjiakor N. Isiogu has announced that he has retired from the Michigan Public Service Commission; *and*

WHEREAS, Orjiakor N. Isiogu served as Chairman of the Michigan Public Service Commission from the time of his appointment until October 2011 during which time he was tasked with implementing comprehensive new energy laws, as well as convening the Plug-in Electric Vehicle Task Force to plan for the roll-out of electric vehicles in Michigan; *and*

WHEREAS, Before being appointed Commissioner, Orji served as the Director of the Telecommunications Division of the Michigan Public Service Commission from June 2003 until his appointment to Commissioner, wherein he oversaw the implementation of transformational State legislation, as well as State and federal regulatory orders designed to facilitate increased competition in the telecommunications market; *and*

WHEREAS, Orji has been an active member including serving as a Co-Vice Chair of the NARUC Committee on Telecommunications, a member of the International Relations and Electricity Committees, a Co-Chair of the Smart Response Collaborative effort between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), and as a Co-Chair of NARUC's White House Smart Grid Working Group; he has also participated in several U.S. AID/NARUC international partnership activities on behalf of NARUC; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Isiogu served as a member of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations, on the Board of Directors of the Organization of MISO States (OMS), and as Secretary of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference (MARC); *and*

WHEREAS, In November 2012, Orji was appointed to the challenging role of Chairman of the NARUC Presidential Task Force on Federalism in Telecommunications, thus ensuring that he would not fade out, but instead burn brightly until the end (whether as a beacon of light, or as a sacrificial offering is still unclear); *and*

WHEREAS, As Chairman of the Michigan Public Service Commission, he participated in the Signing Ceremony for a new regulatory partnership (funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development through its cooperative agreement with NARUC) with the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission in Abuja, Nigeria in July 2008; *and*

WHEREAS, Throughout the course of the Michigan-Nigeria Regulatory Partnership, which continues to date, Commissioner Isiogu served as a model diplomat and excellent regulatory expert, actively contributing to discussions in Nigeria and in Michigan and bridging cultural and technical linkages between the two regulatory commissions; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Isiogu's support of the partnership and affinity for NARUC's International Programs have allowed NARUC to document concrete reform actions and efforts by the Nigerian Commission, thereby earning NARUC positive acknowledgement by USAID; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Isiogu volunteered his expertise to advance dialogue on renewable energy in The Gambia under the NARUC/USAID Regulating Clean Energy International Partnership that supported the country's effort to establish, for the first time, a Renewable Energy Law; *and*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Isiogu never missed a meeting of the Committee on International Relations and always provided great stories of his experiences with the Nigerian partnership; *and*

WHEREAS, Orji has also had the unenviable position of working on such items as the infamous Missoula Plan, proving his willingness to take on even the most arduous of tasks in service to the people of Michigan and the nation; *and*

WHEREAS, Orji has always been a model of professionalism in dealing with complex and contentious issues, promoting regulation that is fact-driven, necessary, beneficial to citizens, and not overly burdensome; *and*

WHEREAS, His affinity for an occasional celebratory Rusty Nail, no matter what time of day, resulted in him being one of the few commissioners, Commissioner Burke led home; *and*

WHEREAS, Orji has always conducted himself in a manner that distinguishes his service as inspires those working with and for him; *and*

WHEREAS, We will miss Orji's professionalism, dedication, work ethic, and friendship; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners convened in its 2013 Summer Committee Meetings in Denver, Colorado, commend Orjiakor N. Isiogu for his service to the people of the State of Michigan and NARUC; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors, Telecommunications and International Relations Committees of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners wish Orjiakor N. Isiogu continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

*Sponsored by the Committees on Telecommunications and International Relations
Adopted by the Board of Directors July 24, 2013*