

Resolution on Diesel Gallon Equivalent for Natural Gas Vehicles

WHEREAS, On November 14, 2012, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) adopted a resolution on “Expanding the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Market” recognizing the economic, environmental and societal benefits of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs), including natural gas vehicles (NGVs), and encouraging the development of consistent, fuel-neutral policies that support the growth, adoption and increased environmental performance of AFVs; *and*

WHEREAS, In 1994, the National Conference of Weights and Measures (NCWM) established the gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) as the official unit of sale for compressed natural gas (CNG) because it is a consumer-friendly unit of measurement which allows consumers to easily evaluate the cost between natural gas and traditional motor fuels; *and*

WHEREAS, Since 2011, an increasing number of long-haul trucking companies have begun converting their fuel source to liquefied natural gas (LNG), which displaces diesel as a motor fuel and is sold on a diesel gallon equivalent (DGE); *and*

WHEREAS, The NCWM Natural Gas Steering Committee has issued a recommendation to adopt gallon equivalent standards as the official method of sale for natural gas motor fuels; *and*

WHEREAS, In spite of the NCWM Natural Gas Steering committee’s recommendation, which supports a common sense approach and promotes clear standards, the NCWM at-large continues to consider standards that would have consumers purchase natural gas as a motor fuel under the metric system using the kilogram unit of measurement, which would create customer confusion when comparing with other American energy weights and measures; *and*

WHEREAS, If adopted, such standards would make it difficult for consumers to make informed decisions with respect to fueling preferences and would serve to hinder NGV deployment; *and*

WHEREAS, Adopting metric standards would also create significant costs to natural gas fueling stations which would need to replace existing natural gas fuel dispensers and related infrastructure; *and*

WHEREAS, The NCWM is scheduled to vote on natural gas motor fuel standards at their annual meeting in July; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2014 Summer Committee Meetings in Dallas, Texas, urges State and federal policymakers to support the NCWM Natural Gas Steering Committee’s recommendation to adopt gallon equivalent standards as the official method of sale for natural gas motor fuels; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports efforts to remove barriers to NGV deployment and ensure consistent policies to help realize the full economic, environmental and societal benefits of NGVs; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports consumer education and outreach on the benefits of NGVs and policies that allow consumers to evaluate and make simple and accurate comparisons between natural gas and traditional motor fuels; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges any State or federal official involved with the NCWM to strongly reject any proposal proffered by the NCWM which would require natural gas motor fuel to be sold in units other than diesel and gasoline gallon equivalents.

Passed by the Committee on Gas.

Adopted by the Board of Directors, July 16, 2014