

Resolution Regarding NARUC and NASEO Joint Recommendations to
DOE's Office of Energy Assurance in Responding to Energy Supply
Disruptions and/or Energy Emergencies

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) finds that further ensuring the security and reliability of the nation's energy supply and delivery infrastructures is of the highest public interest due to the ongoing risk of terrorist action and other natural and technological hazards; and

WHEREAS, NARUC has formed the Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure to identify appropriate role(s) of regulatory commissions with respect to the security of the nation's electric, natural gas, water and telecommunications infrastructures from threats of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, The Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure is responsible for ensuring that State commissions have the information and tools needed to work with the industries to keep critical infrastructure secure; and

WHEREAS, NARUC has strongly encouraged coordinated security efforts by federal, State and local authorities; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Assurance (OEA) has an important role in the federal effort to protect critical infrastructure and key assets in the energy sector; and

WHEREAS, OEA works with the private sector and State and local governments to ensure a secure and reliable flow of

energy; and

WHEREAS, OEA coordinates with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other federal agencies on cyber and physical protection efforts; and

WHEREAS, OEA's vision for energy assurance comprises the creation of an energy infrastructure, in partnership with DHS, the States, local governments and private industry, that is robust, secure, and reliable in the new threat environment that includes malevolent threats and increasing complexity due to interdependencies; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its July 2003 Summer Committee Meetings in Denver, Colorado recommends DOE establish a single point of contact at DOE, either an office or individual, in the event of a disruption or emergency; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC recommends that DOE work with NARUC, the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), other State level stakeholder and industry to develop a communication protocols where States would identify contacts in State government, by fuel type, and set up an internal State level communication mechanism which would be supported by DOE in order to assure that information is rapidly shared with key participants and to avoid misinterpretation of information. Existing, not new, industry/government information sharing efforts should provide the foundation for this exchange of information; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges assistance with regional coordination and exercises to avoid one State taking action contrary to actions taken by others and to ensure federal/regional/State and industry coordination; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC encourages DOE to assist the NARUC Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure in developing State and regional models on critical infrastructure policies and practices that will focus on various approaches for meeting States needs on items such as information disclosure, cost recovery and prudence of investments, emergency natural gas allocations, and to assist with dissemination of this information to States; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC supports DOE-sponsorship of meetings to examine the outlook for energy supply for the summer and winter as an opportunity for States to meet with DOE and the industry to discuss the potential for supply disruptions and actions to mitigate the risk; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC's Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure commits to continue to work with OEA and DHS on these important issues.

Sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 30, 2003