

Resolution Urging a Prompt Administration Decision on Yucca Mountain

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**WHEREAS**, NARUC adopted its Nuclear Waste Principles in 2000 supporting timely development of a geologic repository for safe, permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration's National Energy Policy recommends the use of sound scientific analysis to provide for a deep geologic repository for nuclear waste; and

**WHEREAS**, Characterization of the Yucca Mountain site as a permanent repository for nuclear waste reached a significant milestone with the release of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Science and Engineering Report on May 4, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, The Science and Engineering Report provides further support for the suitability of Yucca Mountain as a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel from the nation's commercial nuclear reactors and high-level radioactive waste from the nation's defense programs; and

**WHEREAS**, The release of the report marks the beginning of DOE's formal decision-making process that will culminate with the submittal of the Yucca Mountain Site Recommendation by the Secretary of Energy to the President; and

**WHEREAS**, DOE also released the Supplement to the draft Environmental Impact Statement in May 2001, which shows that operation of a repository at Yucca Mountain should have no measurable impact on public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, The Environmental Protection Agency has issued

a final radiation standards rule for Yucca Mountain that is fully protective of human health and the environment; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its July 2001 Summer Meeting in Seattle, Washington, urges the Administration to ensure DOE remains on schedule to submit the Yucca Mountain Site Recommendation to the President in 2001, and urges the President to reach a decision on site suitability as quickly as possible therefore, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That NARUC strongly urges the Administration and Congress to fulfill its obligations under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act to develop an integrated system for transportation and long-term disposal of spent nuclear fuel.

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Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, July 18, 2001.