

**Remarks by Eric Callisto
Chair, Committee on International Relations
Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin**

Terry Barnich Award Ceremony

February 15, 2015

It is my pleasure to share with you more information on the purpose of the Annual Award for Promoting International Cooperation among Utility Regulators and Development of Professional Regulation, which is awarded each year by NARUC's Committee on International Relations.

This award acknowledges important contributions made by an outstanding individual from among the NARUC commissioners and staff who has dedicated his or her time, energy and expertise to furthering regulatory best practices in a global environment.

This award, established in 2011, honors former Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission (1989 to 1992) Terrence "Terry" Barnich, who was killed on Memorial Day, May 25th, 2009, while working as the Deputy Director of the State Department office overseeing U.S. reconstruction projects in Iraq. He was a dedicated public servant and an active NARUC member.

The Terry Barnich Award is an important tool both for promoting and recognizing work of NARUC membership on international regulatory issues and for improving the understanding of good policy-making and regulatory practices. It recognizes regulators who go the extra step, who take personal responsibility for providing information in a peer to peer manner that is useful to our foreign counterparts.

Each year we honor one of our own members who has given their time and energy not just during that particular year, but also who has a history of involvement in NARUC's international activities.

We have bestowed this award to two commissioners and one commission staff person during the first 3 years of eligibility. Kevin Gunn, David Boyd, and Kim Wissman each represented outstanding career achievements, and specific efforts in the award year.

This year we are blessed with an abundance of talent and selflessness, and we make the award to two individuals.

Denise Parrish of the Wyoming Public Service Commission's Office of Consumer Advocate has been engaged in NARUC's international programs for the past decade, working in various capacities with the Energy Regulators' Regional Association (ERRA) and the International Conference of Energy Regulators. In the past year she presented at the ERRA meeting in Istanbul, Turkey, and has been very active in Women in Energy (WIE), helping to arrange and present webinars and promoting the WIE mentoring program. She has visited 23 countries over the past 10 years to discuss regulation and transparency practices. She also served three years as chair of the Staff Subcommittee on International Relations.

Bill Smith has been active in international issues for decades, most notably as a founding member of the Black Sea Regulatory Initiative, which has been one of NARUC's most notable international partnerships. His regulatory expertise and diplomatic skills have been essential to making this an effective effort. Additionally, this past year he contributed to the Georgia bilateral project, providing expert assistance in the areas of cross-border markets and cost allocation, and to the province of Manitoba providing an orientation to U.S. markets, especially Midwest markets.

It is an honor and a pleasure to name Bill Smith and Denise Parrish the recipients of the 2014 Terry Barnich Award.