

Resolution For State Commission's Action Initiating Dialogue on Efforts Aimed at the Protection of Critical Infrastructure and the Allocation of Supporting Resources

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) finds that further ensuring the security and reliability of the Nation's critical infrastructures is of the highest public interest due to the risk of terrorism, as well as 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, petroleum, water and telecommunications infrastructure; *and*

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

WHEREAS, NARUC's Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure is committed to continue to work with State Commissions to provide appropriate tools to further address this important issue; *and*

WHEREAS, NARUC has strongly encouraged coordinated security efforts by federal, State and local authorities; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened in its November 2003 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, recommends that State Commissions address the matter of how critical infrastructure or systems are being protected, how this protection is being financed and sensitive information is protected from disclosure; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC recommends that State Commissions initiate a dialogue with stakeholders not later than the end of the first quarter of 2004 to address these issues. State Commissions may reference forthcoming cost recovery resource materials to be issued by the Critical Infrastructure Committee. This dialogue could take any number of forms ranging from an order issued by the commission at its own motion to open a docket and commence a hearing to less formal approaches such as informational meetings. Other State agencies that have a role in critical infrastructure protection should be included in this dialogue as appropriate; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That NARUC urges the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, Environmental Protection Agency and other key federal agencies to support State actions by providing assistance and guidance in protection of critical infrastructure.

*Sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 18, 2003
Adopted by NARUC Convention November 19, 2003*