Resolution Honoring Michigan Commissioner Laura Chappelle

WHEREAS, Laura Chappelle earned a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from the Thomas Cooley Law School at the University of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle is licensed to practice law in the States of Illinois and Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle is a resident of Okemos, Michigan, where she lives with her husband and four children; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as a law clerk in the Saginaw County, Michigan, Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in the Saginaw County, Michigan, prosecutor’s office; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as regulatory affairs advisor to the Michigan State House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as a legislative aide to Michigan State Senator William Van Regenmorter; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as attorney for Paul Hillegond, Speaker of the Michigan State House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as regulatory affairs advisor and deputy legal counsel to Michigan Governor John Engler; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle was appointed as a member of the Michigan Public Service Commission in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as Chairman of the Michigan PSC from 2001 until 2003; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle continued to serve as a member of the Michigan PSC from 2003 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, While serving as a member of the Michigan PSC, Commissioner Chappelle has been involved in many important policy initiatives, including the development of laws that streamlined broadband deployment, the implementation of Michigan’s electric customer choice legislation, and taking action to provide rate relief and energy efficiency opportunities for low income citizens; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle has been an active and engaged member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and in other regional and national regulatory organizations; and
WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle has been an active and engaged member of the Committee on Electricity since taking office as a member of the Michigan PSC, having served with distinction as Vice Chair from 2002 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, Commission Chappelle has an abiding interest in new technologies, having served as Chair of the NARUC Broadband over Power Lines Task Force, a joint effort involving members drawn from the Committees on Electricity and Telecommunications, from 2004 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle served as co-chair of the National Governor’s Association’s Task Force on Electricity Infrastructure, where she helped develop the concept of using multi-State entities to address issues relating to the siting of multi-State transmission facilities; and

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WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle was instrumental in the formation of both the Organization of MISO States and the Organization of PJM States, having served as President of OMS from 2006 until 2007 and as Vice President of OPSI from 2005 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, In her work on behalf of the citizens of Michigan, NARUC, OMS, and OPSI, Commissioner Chappelle combined a passionate commitment to the adoption and implementation of sound regulatory policy with a willingness to work with colleagues that held a range of differing viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle is widely renowned for her effective use of chocolate during times of controversy, when difficult decisions must be made; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle is noted for her intelligence, diligence, persistence, friendliness, kindness, graciousness, and compassion for others; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Chappelle has resigned her position as a member of the Michigan PSC effective June 7, 2007; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened in its July 2007 Summer Meetings in New York, New York, expresses its gratitude to Commissioner Chappelle for her lengthy and distinguished career in public service and offers her its best wishes for success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committees on Electricity
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 18, 2007