

Resolution Supporting Energy Emergency Preparedness

WHEREAS, In light of the high state of alert that the nation is experiencing, 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; and

WHEREAS, NARUC supports the National Governors Association's (NGA) Policy Statement on Energy Emergency Preparedness, adopted as part 7 of its Comprehensive National Energy Policy (NR-18) at the NGA's 2001 Annual Meeting; and

WHEREAS, NARUC supports the Office of Homeland Security to ensure a coordinated emergency preparedness effort at the federal, State and local levels; and

WHEREAS, NARUC supports the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) September 14, 2001, statement of policy regarding Extraordinary Expenditures Necessary to Safeguard National Energy Supplies, Docket No. PL01-6-000, which recognizes that utility companies may face uncertainty about recovery of costs associated with further efforts to safeguard energy infrastructures, and which seeks to assure companies that FERC will approve applications to recover prudently incurred costs necessary to further safeguard the reliability and security of our energy supply infrastructure in response to the heightened state of alert; and

WHEREAS, NARUC believes that the federal government, the States, territories, and energy industries should undertake regular comprehensive review and updates of emergency

plans, rules, orders, and programs. Such efforts should assess the vulnerability of energy supply and delivery infrastructures to determine the efficacy and appropriate levels of response, to adopt necessary procedures, and to encourage the energy industry to put in place additional measures as may be needed to further safeguard energy resources and infrastructure. Furthermore, should energy supply disruptions occur for any reason, States should be prepared to respond quickly and effectively by having in place well-developed contingency plans; now therefore be it

RESOLVED,, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened in its November 2001 113th Annual Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, commits to cooperating and working with the Office of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Governors Association, the National Association of State Energy Officials, and the National Emergency Management Association to develop and integrate energy emergency response plans and procedures; and be it further

RESOLVED,, That NARUC encourages the DOE to expand its cooperative relationship with the States on energy emergency preparedness matters and, as part of this effort, to undertake a comprehensive review and updating as needed of plans, rules, orders, and programs designed to assess the vulnerability of energy supply and delivery infrastructures and respond to

supply disruptions when they occur; and be it further

RESOLVED,, That NARUC supports the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's working with the States in the review of the safety and security of the nation's nuclear power plants, including the containment vessels, spent fuel pools, dry cask storage facilities, operational control facilities, and security measures, as necessary; and be it further

RESOLVED,, That DOE should undertake a review of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to establish recommendations on its appropriate size and to develop more specific criteria on its use; and be it further

RESOLVED,, That States should approve appropriate applications by electric and gas companies subject to their jurisdiction to recover prudently incurred costs necessary to further safeguard the reliability and security of our energy supply and delivery infrastructure

Sponsored by the Committees on Electricity and Gas.
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors, November 13, 2001. Adopted in Convention November 14, 2001.