Resolution on EPRI's Western States Power Crisis Report and Electricity Enterprise Security Assessment

WHEREAS, It is in the nation's long term interest to establish a secure, reliable electricity infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The impacts of a power crisis, that began in California in 2000, now involves the 11-state Western power grid and other western interconnection entities; and

WHEREAS, The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), the nation's premier electricity R&D center has identified specific recommendations in its 2001 reports "The Western States Power Crisis: Imperatives and Opportunities" and "The Electricity Enterprise Security Assessment"; (http://www.epri.com/WesternStatesPowerCrisisSynthesis.pdf); and

WHEREAS, EPRI's recommendations, although stimulated by western events, encourage national application without geographic constraints, to improve U.S. grid reliability and security; and

WHEREAS, Additional energy security challenges have heightened the urgency for consideration of EPRI's recommendations; and

WHEREAS, The most effective synthesis of technology solutions can further the long term transformation of the electricity system in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, These technology solutions include adding/strengthening transmission capacity, increasing clean, high efficiency generation capacity, and recovery from power system disruptions (see attached recommendations); and

WHEREAS, The NARUC Board of Directors, in its November 2001 Annual Convention, passed a Resolution Supporting Energy Emergency Preparedness that would encourage State approval of prudently incurred costs of electric and gas companies to further safeguard the reliability and security of our energy supply and delivery infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Collaborative funding and coordinated public/private efforts may accelerate the development and deployment of these technologies to meet electric power infrastructure challenges; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National
Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened in its February 2002 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C., urges state public utility commissions to consider implementing EPRI's recommendations as stated in the "The Western States Power Crisis: Imperatives and Opportunities" and "The Electricity Enterprise Security Assessment."

Sponsored by the Committees on Electricity and Energy Resources and the Environment
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors February 13, 2002