

***Resolution Honoring James Blake “Buddy” Atkins***

WHEREAS, James Blake “Buddy” Atkins, Ph.D., of the Second District of South Carolina, served as Vice-Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners’ (“NARUC”) Energy Resources and the Environment Committee from July 2003 to March 2004, and energetically and cheerfully promoted the goal of providing utility customers with environmentally sustainable and affordable energy services; *and*

WHEREAS, Buddy Atkins worked with dedication and talent in encouraging the Energy Resources and the Environment Committee in its efforts to analyze, develop, and advocate market structures and regulatory frameworks that support and promote energy efficiency, environmental protection, renewable and distributed resources, consumer protection, low-income weatherization and assistance, and "public interest" research and development; *and*

WHEREAS, Buddy Atkins brought his broad experience as a Hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey; Extension Specialist for the North Carolina State University; Section Chief in the North Carolina Division of Soil and Water Conservation; Surface Water Hydrology Section Chief in the South Carolina Water Resources Commission; Senior Scientist with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control; and Research Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina; *and*

WHEREAS, Buddy Atkins regularly demonstrated his acuity at working with others in promoting responsive government and regulation in his role as an Energy Resources and the Environment Committee member, and as a Commissioner on the South Carolina Public Service Commission, always presenting and judging issues on their substantive content, speaking with candor and directness, and combining technical expertise with respect for others; *and*

WHEREAS, Buddy Atkins’ devotion and energy epitomizes the statement made in 1835 by his fellow South Carolinian, James Calhoun that:

*The very essence of a free government consists in considering offices as public trusts, bestowed for the good of the country, and not for the benefit of an individual or a party; and*

WHEREAS, Buddy Atkins’ departure from NARUC and the Energy Resources and Environment Committee will create a sense of loss and deep gratitude for his efforts, but also the recognition among his peers that they have worked with a man who has, himself, been a measure of what a public utility commissioner can be; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its March 2004 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., expresses its sincere appreciation to Commissioner James Blake Atkins for most dedicated public service to the Association; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and all NARUC members convey their best wishes for Buddy Atkins in all of his future endeavors.

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*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment  
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors March 10, 2004*