

Resolution Honoring Patrick H. Wood III of Texas

WHEREAS, The Honorable Patrick Henry Wood, III, is a native of Port Arthur, Texas; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University in 1985 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1989; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood worked as a project manager for Atlantic Richfield in Indonesia from 1985 until 1986; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood was engaged in the private practice of law with Baker and Botts in Washington, D.C., from 1989 until 1991; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood served as legal advisor to Commissioner Jerry J. Langdon of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from 1991 until 1993; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood served as legal counsel to Commissioner Barry Williamson of the Texas Railroad Commission from 1993 until 1995; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood was appointed Chairman of the Texas Public Utilities Commission by Governor George W. Bush in 1995 and served in that capacity until 2001; *and*

WHEREAS, As Chairman of the Texas PUC, Chairman Wood was an ardent supporter of market-oriented policies, believing them to be superior to direct regulation as a way to ensure that customers receive adequate and reliable service at a reasonable cost; *and*

WHEREAS, While Chairman of the Texas PUC, Chairman Wood was actively involved in the development of Texas' electric restructuring legislation and with the initial implementation of that legislation; *and*

WHEREAS, In the course of his work as Chairman of the Texas PUC, Chairman Wood strongly supported policies intended to fully implement the introduction of competition into local exchange telecommunications markets; *and*

WHEREAS, During his tenure as Chairman of the Texas PUC, Chairman Wood was actively involved in the work of the Telecommunications Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where he strongly championed policies that he believed would effectively and appropriately implement the Telecommunications Act of 1996; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood was appointed to the FERC by President Bush in 2001, taking office following Senate confirmation; *and*

WHEREAS, President Bush subsequently named Chairman Wood to be the Chairman of FERC later in 2001; *and*

WHEREAS, During his service as a member of and the Chairman of FERC, Chairman Wood was required to confront many difficult and challenging issues, including issues arising from the western energy crisis of 2000-2001; the financial difficulties faced by segments of the electric generation

industry; the terrorist attacks upon the United States on September 11, 2001; *and* the August 14, 2003, blackout; *and*

WHEREAS, In his role as a member of and Chairman of FERC, Chairman Wood vigorously attempted to foster the development of robust, open, and vibrantly-competitive wholesale markets for electricity and natural gas; *and*

WHEREAS, During the time that he served as a member and Chairman of FERC, Chairman Wood served on the NARUC Ad Hoc Committee on Critical Infrastructure and regularly participated in NARUC events; *and*

WHEREAS, During his tenure as Chairman of FERC, Chairman Wood was instrumental in the establishment of an Office of State Relations within the FERC External Affairs Office and with other efforts to improve communications between State regulators and the FERC; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood is noted for his intelligence, wit, persistence, vision, and devotion to the causes in which he believes; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood is an engaging and congenial individual who makes friends easily and goes well out of his way to remain in contact with his friends and colleagues; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood is married to Kathleen Ryder Wood; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood is devoted to the interests and well-being of his children, Patrick, Thomas, and Charles, and looks forward with eager anticipation to the birth of his fourth child in the near future; *and*

WHEREAS, Chairman Wood left office at the expiration of his term on June 30, 2005, to return to Texas; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 2005 Summer Committee Meetings in Austin, Texas, congratulates Chairman Wood on his lengthy and distinguished record of public service; extends its best wishes to him and his family; and hopes that he will be successful and happy in all his future endeavors.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors, July 27, 2005