

***Resolution Honoring Commissioner Paul Afonso***

**WHEREAS**, Paul G. Afonso earned a B.S. in Finance, *cum laude*, from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso received a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as a staff assistant to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as a delegate from the 91<sup>st</sup> District to the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso engaged in the private practice of law and served as General Counsel to the Bristol Group, having specialized in commercial and international trade law, with an emphasis on joint venture projects, trade litigation, and legislative counseling; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as General Counsel of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Electricity, where he acted as chief legal and policy advisor to the members of the DTE and represented the DTE before the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and federal courts and regulatory agencies; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso was appointed Chair of the DTE effective August 2003; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as Chair of the DTE until 2005; *and*

**WHEREAS**, After the end of his tenure as Chair, Commissioner Afonso continued to serve as a member of the DTE until his resignation to return to private law practice effective June 12, 2006; *and*

**WHEREAS**, During his tenure as a member of the DTE, Commissioner Afonso served as Chairman of the Energy Facilities Siting Board, which is the agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts responsible for reviewing major energy facility proposals and representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with respect to FERC-jurisdictional projects within Massachusetts; *and*

**WHEREAS**, In addition to his direct service to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Commissioner Afonso was active in regional and national regulatory affairs; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as President of the New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as a member of the Federal-State Joint Conference on Advanced Services; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as State Vice-Chair of the New England/New York FERC/State Joint Board on Economic Dispatch; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso was active in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in many different ways; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso served as a member of the Telecommunications Legislative Task Force; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso was an active member of the Committee on Electricity; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso was particularly active in NARUC's response to the enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, having served as co-leader of the PURPA working group; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso is justifiably proud of his Portuguese heritage; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso is a member of the Board of Directors of the Portuguese Heritage Scholarship Foundation, a member of the Portuguese-American Leadership Council of the United States, and is the co-host of a weekly Portuguese-American public affairs program on WHTB in Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso is noted for his intense intelligence, his quick wit, his engaging sense of humor, his lack of perspective about matters relating to certain New England-based baseball teams, and the fact that he is never at a loss for words; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Afonso's NARUC colleagues will miss the extra dose of good humor and common sense that he brought to the Association's deliberations; *now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its February 2007 Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C., extends its best wishes to Commissioner Afonso and hopes for his success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

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*Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity*

*Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors February 21, 2007*