

Resolution on Kyoto Protocol

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is participating in international negotiations on treaties and protocols for the mitigation of greenhouse gases; *and*

WHEREAS, The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has recently concluded negotiations leading to the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol; *and*

WHEREAS, The sequestration of CO₂ through afforestation, reforestation, and management and conservation of forest resources can provide direct and low-cost mitigation options with considerable environmental and economic benefits; *and*

WHEREAS, Without contributions from all countries, the goals of the Kyoto Protocol may not be achievable; *and*

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the NARUC membership that the Kyoto Protocol provide maximum flexibility to work toward its goals of CO₂ and other greenhouse gas reductions while at the same time minimizing global economic impacts; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”), convened at its 1998 Winter Meetings in Washington, D.C., urges the Parties to the UNFCCC to modify the Kyoto Protocol to include consideration of an expanded definition of sinks, a process to consider commitments for developing countries, and a flexible market-based system for trading encompassing Joint Implementation and the Clean Development Mechanism.

*Sponsored by the Committees on International Relations and Energy Resources
Adopted March 4, 1998*