

Resolution Supporting the Troops to Energy Jobs Initiative

WHEREAS, The Troops to Energy Jobs Initiative is an effort by the energy industry to develop an accelerated process for bringing returning military veterans into the energy industry workforce nationwide; *and*

WHEREAS, The Initiative is managed by the Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD), a non-profit consortium of electric, natural gas, and nuclear utilities; their associations and the unions who serve their industries; *and*

WHEREAS, A 2009 study by CEWD projected that nearly 40 percent of the nation's energy workforce will either be eligible for retirement or departing their jobs because of attrition during the next five years causing the electricity and natural gas companies and the nuclear power industry to face a potential worker shortage; *and*

WHEREAS, Jobs that are expected to be affected include engineers, technicians, line workers, plant operators and pipefitters; *and*

WHEREAS, Many veterans though their extensive military training and experience already possess the skills, knowledge and discipline required for energy careers; *and*

WHEREAS, The Troops to Energy Jobs Initiative seeks to increase the number of avenues through which veterans with applicable job skills can transition into energy jobs, and for which interested veterans can begin the process of training and certification in order to qualify for those jobs; *and*

WHEREAS, The Initiative focuses on the need for educators, employers and veterans to work together to get veterans trained, credentialed and ready to enter the energy workforce after departing the military; *and*

WHEREAS, The Troops to Energy Jobs Initiative has established a pilot program of five energy companies: Dominion, American Electric Power, Pinnacle West Capital Corporation/Arizona Public Service, Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern Company and seeks to eventually expand the program to the entire energy industry; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2011 Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, supports the mission and efforts of the Troops to Energy Jobs Initiative; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That State commissions along with the U.S. Departments of Defense, Labor, Veteran Affairs, and Energy and their local agencies, as well as community colleges and labor unions work together in support of this partnership between the U.S. military and the energy industry.

Sponsored by the Subcommittee on Education and Research

Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 14, 2011

Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 16, 2011