

Resolution Regarding Interstate Transmission Planning and Expansion

WHEREAS, There is potential in the U.S. Congress for legislation that includes federal pre-emption of state siting authority; and

WHEREAS, Regional electricity markets are developing throughout the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to maintain State jurisdictional authority, improve the coordination of interstate transmission planning and siting, and integrate (with State processes) siting practices on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, The National Governors Association (NGA) Task Force on Electricity Infrastructure, which consists of Governors' appointees (including seven commissioners) from sixteen States, has developed in collaboration with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), among other participants, a framework-Multi-State Entities (MSE)-for addressing interstate transmission planning and expansion; and

WHEREAS, The MSE is designed to accommodate regional differences and many specific MSE design and implementation issues are most appropriately addressed at the State and regional level; and

WHEREAS, There exist regional governors associations and regional utility commission conferences that may best facilitate the implementation of the MSE framework within their respective regions; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) convened at its July 2002 Summer Meeting in Portland, Oregon, endorses the NGA's "Task Force Principles on Interstate Transmission Planning and Expansion," to be further developed within each specific region; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC encourages the NGA and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to work with both regional governors associations and regional regulatory commissioner conferences to further develop and implement MSEs at the regional level; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC charges the Committee on Electricity to develop a method of consolidating the MSE framework with the State advisory role in RTOs; and be it further

RESOLVED, NARUC recommends that the MSE be composed of no more than two representatives, appointed by the Governor, from each State, with each State having one vote. NARUC further recommends one representative be a member of the State siting authority agency or the agency responsible for certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 31, 2002