

Resolution to Support Improvements to U.S. Department of Energy's
Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Program

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Energy's Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Program (VRGGP), created pursuant to the 1992 Energy Policy Act and managed by the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA), has been operational since 1994; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, began a comprehensive review of the current voluntary emissions reduction registration program under section 1605 (b) of the 1992 Energy Policy Act. The comprehensive review was designed to enhance measurement accuracy, reliability, and verifiability, working with and taking into account emerging domestic and international approaches; and

WHEREAS, The comprehensive review of 1605 (b) was designed to explore reforms to ensure that businesses and individuals that register emission reductions are not penalized under future climate policy and to give transferable credits to companies that can show real emission reductions; and

WHEREAS, On July 26, 2000, NARUC adopted a resolution entitled, "Resolution Encouraging the Voluntary Filing of Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Plans by Electric Power Generators " which supports the voluntary reporting of greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Secretary of Energy on July 8, 2002, sent

a letter to President Bush outlining recommendations to improve the Department of Energy's Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Program. The recommendations support the development of fair, objective, and practical methods for reporting baselines, reporting boundaries, calculating real results, and awarding transferable credits for actions that lead to real GHG reductions; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its July 2002 Summer Meeting in Portland, Oregon, endorses the attached recommendations of Secretary Abraham, as outlined in his July 8, 2002 letter to President Bush, to improve the Department of Energy's Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gases program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the NARUC recognizes that State public utility commissions play an important role in the further development and implementation of voluntary reporting of greenhouse gases, especially as it relates to the development of greenhouse gas trading protocols.

Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 31, 2002