Resolution Honoring G. O’Neal Hamilton

WHEREAS, After his election to the South Carolina Public Service Commission in 2004, Commissioner G. O’Neal Hamilton became an active member of the NARUC Committee on Gas, ultimately rising to assume the chairmanship of that Committee in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hamilton’s service as Chairman of the Committee on Gas came during a challenging time in the industry and he met those challenges successfully, providing consistent and forward-thinking leadership; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership, the Committee and the Staff Subcommittee on Gas developed the 2008 Update of the NARUC Natural Gas Information Toolkit, which has been a useful tool for NARUC member commissions helping them address problems consumers face from volatile and high natural gas prices; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Hamilton’s leadership led to the unprecedented effort to convene the largest number of standing committees to consider a series of energy interdependency issues that spanned several NARUC meetings and impacted the work of several standing committees; and

WHEREAS, During this same period, the Committee on Gas supervised a two-year study, that covered public and private interest stakeholders, and detailed the financial and environmental impacts of maintaining oil and gas moratoria restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Under Chairman Hamilton, NARUC strengthened relationships with colleagues from the U.S. Department of Transportation, and in particular with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and the NARUC/DOE LNG Partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy, among others; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his efforts to educate commissioners, consumers, policymakers and stakeholders on natural gas issues, during his term as Chairman, Commissioner Hamilton also led the Committee to consider and pass numerous resolutions that ultimately became NARUC policy on many issues of national and international import, including policy statements on price volatility, consumer advocacy, hydraulic fracturing, financial reform (including excessive speculation and hedging issues), liquefied natural gas (LNG) development, pipeline safety, cybersecurity, full fuel cycle efficiency measurement, biomethane and renewable energy, natural gas research and development, energy efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Hamilton’s southern charm, professionalism, humble spirit and political prowess allowed him to move the work of the committee forward while working behind the scenes; and

WHEREAS, His colleagues on the Committee on Gas will miss his determination, strength, passion and service to the Gas Committee as Chairman; now, therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2010 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, expresses its sincere appreciation to Commissioner Hamilton for his years of dedicated public service and his distinguished leadership within NARUC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all NARUC members convey their best wishes for Commissioner Hamilton in all of his future endeavors in NARUC and beyond.

Sponsored by the Committee on Gas
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 16, 2010
Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 17, 2010