

***Resolution Supporting the National Action Plan on Demand Response***

**WHEREAS**, For years, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) has supported and promoted demand-side management as a means of making the most efficient use of electricity;<sup>1</sup> *and*

**WHEREAS**, Both the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and numerous States have taken concrete steps in order to implement cost-effective demand response programs for the benefit of customers;<sup>2</sup> *and*

**WHEREAS**, FERC is required to develop the National Action Plan on Demand Response (National Action Plan) as outlined in Section 529 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA); *and*

**WHEREAS**, The provisions of Section 529 direct that the National Action Plan include (1) identifying requirements for technical assistance to States to allow them to maximize the amount of demand response resources that can be developed and deployed, (2) designing and identifying requirements for implementation of a national communications program that includes broad-based customer education and support, and (3) developing or identifying analytical tools, information, model regulatory provisions, model contracts, and other support materials for use by customers, States, utilities, and demand response providers; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The National Action Plan proposes the development of a national communications program, with a multi-faceted structure that would include a Communications Umbrella, local implementation, and direct outreach to States, policymakers and partners whose support will be needed to develop demand response in every region but particularly in areas where there are no existing demand response programs or current plans to implement such programs; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The Communications Umbrella will provide a consistent, yet flexible, research-based message framework that could be adapted for use by local demand response implementers, including State and local government officials; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The National Action Plan will include two general categories of action with regard to tools and materials, (1) a web-based clearinghouse to provide the most current information and analyses on demand response, and (2) tools and methods for assessing the impacts, costs, benefits and operation of demand response programs; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The National Action Plan recommends the formation of a Coalition to coordinate implementation of the National Action Plan as a way of harnessing the collective energy of a variety of individual organizations and yielding outcomes that have greater reach and depth than those organizations could achieve acting individually; *and*

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.naruc.org/Testimony/08%200521%20NARUC-DemandResponseSmith.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.naruc.org/News/default.cfm?pr=49>

**WHEREAS**, State governments, including NARUC’s member commissions, individual utilities and other demand response providers continue to take important actions in support of demand response. These actions include issuance of legislation and State energy plans, regulatory commission decisions, and the deployment of demand response programs and enabling technologies;<sup>3</sup> *and*

**WHEREAS**, Demand response cannot achieve its full potential without the support of State regulators and State regulators agree that more effective demand response requires the action of State commissions; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Facilitating cost-effective demand response initiatives is one of many areas where the interests of FERC and State regulators overlap<sup>4</sup> and the coordination of federal and State initiatives offers the best way to assure the full benefits of Demand Response are delivered to consumers; *and*

**WHEREAS**, State commissioners continue to work on demand response issues jointly with FERC through the FERC-NARUC Smart Response Collaborative; *and*

**WHEREAS**, That although the National Action Plan calls for the “deployment of the maximum amount of price-responsive demand response, such as “retail dynamic rate designs enabled through advanced metering,” that in times of limited government and private resources and extensive needs and priorities within the electric industry, it may not be possible for the broad goals and recommended measures of the NAPDR to be fully implemented; *now therefore be it*

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2010 Summer Committee Meetings in Sacramento, California, supports the National Action Plan as a tool to achieve the nation’s demand response potential, to build on past successes and make additional use of cost-effective demand response resources in the future; *and be it further*

**RESOLVED**, That the NARUC Board of Directors endorses the principal objectives and recommendations of the National Action Plan, and urges its member commissions to support individually, and where appropriate regionally, the elements and potential applicability of the recommendations outlined in the National Action Plan, in an effort to identify potential improvements in the development and deployment of demand response nationwide.<sup>5</sup>

---

*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment  
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 21, 2010*

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ferc.gov/legal/staff-reports/sep-09-demand-response.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.naruc.org/Testimony/08%200421%20NARUCCompetition.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Modeled after ‘Resolved’ clause in *Resolution Supporting the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency*, [http://www.naruc.org/Resolutions/EC-2\\_NationalActionPlan0706.pdf](http://www.naruc.org/Resolutions/EC-2_NationalActionPlan0706.pdf).