

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

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NARUC International Committee Announces Minnesota's Boyd as 2012 Barnich Award Winner

WASHINGTON—The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on International Relations formally announced Commissioner David Boyd of Minnesota as the 2012 winner of the Terry Barnich Award.

In a presentation Sunday, Feb. 3, International Relations Committee Chair David Armstrong of Kentucky gave Commissioner Boyd the award, noting his volunteer efforts across the globe have strengthened utility regulation.

Commissioner Boyd is the second winner of the annual Terry Barnich Award, presented each year to NARUC members whose service overseas reflects the values of the former Illinois Commerce Commission chairman.

Mr. Barnich, an active NARUC member in the late 80s and early 90s, was killed in Fallujah, Iraq, on Memorial Day in 2009 while serving as a senior advisor to U.S. State Department officials on energy and other issues. He volunteered in 2007 to provide Iraq needed expertise in energy. He served as Deputy Director and counsel to the electricity section of the State Department's Iraq Transition Assistance Office and as legal advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Electricity and later became Deputy Director, overseeing all U.S. State Department reconstruction programs.

Commissioner Boyd was honored because of his active participation in a NARUC-facilitated Black Sea Regulatory Initiative. The Initiative is funded by USAID. In particular, Commissioner Boyd hosted a 14-member group in Minnesota from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Turkey, and Ukraine in September 2012. The study tour focused on energy efficiency. In April 2012, Commissioner Boyd met with Black Sea participants in Kiev, Ukraine and again in Izmir, Turkey, in October 2012, to speak about U.S. regulators' role in promoting regional networks, transmission planning and how U.S. regulators hold utilities to public interest standards. Commissioner Boyd contributed to the ideas included in the Principles of Regulation to Promote the Development of Renewable Energy in the Black Sea.

In addition, Commissioner Boyd made numerous contributions to other international programs as a representative of the Minnesota PUC at the World Forum on Energy Regulation V in Quebec in May 2012, as Vice Chairman of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER) and as a speaker at the Berlin Seminar on Energy Policy.

Joining International Relations Committee Chair Armstrong in the presentation were 2011 winner Commissioner Kevin Gunn of Missouri and Commissioner Phyllis Reha of Minnesota.

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NARUC is a non-profit organization founded in 1889 whose members include the

governmental agencies that are engaged in the regulation of utilities and carriers in the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. NARUC's member agencies regulate telecommunications, energy, and water utilities. NARUC represents the interests of State public utility commissions before the three branches of the Federal government.

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