

Resolution Supporting Development of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Annual Reporting Requirement for 20 Most Expensive Transmission Facilities of Public Utilities and Other Transmission Developers

WHEREAS, The Edison Electric Institute (EEI) has identified planned investments by investor-owned utilities that reflect new major build-outs and necessary upgrades for meeting emerging electric needs; *and*

WHEREAS, Emerging electric needs include: facilitating robust wholesale electricity markets through reduced grid congestion; integrating renewable energy resources; bolstering system reliability; replacing aging infrastructure; and increasing grid resiliency and security; *and*

WHEREAS, During the period of 2015 through 2018, the EEI estimates that owners of bulk power transmission facilities will have spent approximately \$85 billion, even before adjusting for inflation, in transmission investment; *and*

WHEREAS, Investments in transmission facilities will provide important benefits to retail consumers, but may result in increases in the retail rates that those consumers must pay; *and*

WHEREAS, Consumers only have access to the costs of electric transmission facilities recoverable through their retail electric rates within the context of formal regulatory proceedings for the utility providing end-use electricity service; *and*

WHEREAS, Consumers should be provided increased transparency in obtaining access to the costs of major transmission facilities included in their retail electric rates to allow for greater understanding of the costs, needs, and requirements for investment in transmission facilities; *and*

WHEREAS, An annual report filed by transmission owners identifying their 20 most expensive electric transmission facilities would provide consumers the opportunity to receive and understand more specific information regarding the rate implications of the cost of transmission facilities incurred by the public utility providing their electric service; *and*

WHEREAS, The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission currently has authority pursuant to Title 16 USC § 825c to establish a reporting requirement for public utilities to file annual reports; *and*

WHEREAS, Among other things, Title 16 USC § 825(c) provides that such reporting could include information concerning transmission investment and project cost; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2016 Summer Meetings in Nashville, Tennessee, urges the FERC to exercise its authority under Title 16 USC § 825(c) to institute a proceeding to investigate whether to establish a requirement for public utilities and other developers of transmission facilities to file annual reports providing investment and project cost information of their 20 most expensive transmission facilities.

Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity on July 26, 2016
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors July 27, 2016