

Resolution Honoring Elijah Abinah

Whereas Mr. Abinah has over 28 years of experience in public utility regulation, most recently as the Utilities Division Director for the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), serving the ACC for 19 years and before that the Oklahoma Corporation Commission for eight years;

Whereas Mr. Abinah served as the Co-chair of the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on International Relations from November 2021 – August 2023, and as a member since September 2017, dedicating his time and efforts to facilitate information sharing within the domestic regulatory community about international utility and regulatory processes, methods, and viewpoints. And Mr. Abinah further served as a member of the Staff Subcommittee on Telecommunications from February 2008 – August 2023;

Whereas Mr. Abinah was recognized in November 2018 with the coveted *NARUC Annual Award for Promoting International Cooperation among Utility Regulators and Development of Professional Regulation in Honor of Terry Barnich* for his dedication to providing impactful and lasting support to NARUC's partners abroad;

Whereas Mr. Abinah has provided critical knowledge and assistance to NARUC's long-running partnership with the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development and Power Africa, and has engaged with NERC on reliability, cost-reflective tariffs, regulatory accounting, gas-to-power, and power purchase agreements, while also training new NERC commissioners on key issues;

Whereas Mr. Abinah consistently goes above and beyond with his volunteer time to NARUC. This was most recently demonstrated when he participated in several days of training with NARUC at a September 2023 NERC training on Rate Design for Vulnerable Customers, actively participating in discussions and contributing to the overall success of the event. Even though he had not originally planned to take part in this event, he enthusiastically participated and made valuable contributions to the content and operations of the program;

Whereas over two separate trips to Kigali, Rwanda, Mr. Abinah supported the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority to improve their electricity rate setting practices and prepare for the introduction of net metering;

Whereas Mr. Abinah provided foundational training on regulatory accounting to the Zambia Energy Regulation Board, guiding participants in identifying key considerations and next steps for implementation;

Whereas Mr. Abinah supported the launch of the Papua New Guinea Energy Regulatory Partnership, attending the first peer-to-peer activity to build the partner regulator's capacity on to design and implement cost-reflective electricity tariffs. Mr. Abinah also provided ongoing remote support to NARUC's PNG partners by reviewing draft regulations and participating in virtual trainings;

Whereas Mr. Abinah shared expert insights on market design and retail electric competition at the Remote Partnership Exchange on Wholesale Market Development with Ghana's Energy Commission and Public Utilities Regulatory Commission; *now therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at their Annual Meeting in La Quinta, California, extend their gratitude to Elijan Abinah for his roles as Chair of NARUC's Staff Subcommittee on International Relations and for his significant contributions to NARUC's International Programs and express their best wishes for his future endeavors.

*Passed by the Committee on International Relations
Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on November 14, 2023*