

Resolution on the National Council on Electricity Policy

WHEREAS, Key electricity decisions are no longer solely in the domain of State electricity regulators and primary questions and implications of environmental regulations, such as those pertaining to the *Clean Power Plan*, require the participation of State air and environmental regulators, State legislators, consumer advocates, and others, to both improve their relevance and to serve as a counter-balance to the perspectives of utilities and other energy companies; *and*

WHEREAS, In 1994 NARUC served as a co-founder of the National Council on Competition and the Electric Industry; *and*

WHEREAS, Between 1994 and the present this forum has convened key stakeholders in State government on the most pressing electricity issues of the day; *and*

WHEREAS, In 1999 this Council was re-named the National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP); *and*

WHEREAS, The National Council has served as a valuable resource for research on energy efficiency and regulation, environmental regulation, infrastructure finance, critical infrastructure protection, and other issues; *and*

WHEREAS, The National Council has served as an honest broker of conversation on these and other topics that serve multiple agencies and interests; *and*

WHEREAS, In December 2009 the National Council's *Utility of the Future in a Carbon Constrained World* Conference served as the launch pad for initiatives among State legislatures and commissions, as well as air agencies; *and*

WHEREAS, The relevance of the National Council was further heightened when it convened *The Three Interconnections Meeting: Facing the Future With Interconnection-Wide Planning* in 2013 that brought together decisionmakers from three energy interconnections to harmonize best practices in transmission planning; *and*

WHEREAS, From its inception the National Council has served as an informational forum that analyzes and directs attention to best practices and policies rather than as a proscriptive body that recommends or requires policy action; *and*

WHEREAS, Since 2015 the reformed NCEP has convened representatives of the commissions from every region of the U.S., building from the participants of the Eastern Interconnection Planning Council (EISPC) and expanding to include representatives of the Mountain and Pacific West, including State legislatures, air agencies, consumer advocacy agencies, and State energy offices; *and*

WHEREAS, The purpose and objectives of the National Council are to:

- Provide technical assistance to States, regions, and multiple stakeholders;

- Improve understanding of electricity technologies, markets, programs, and policies;
- Improve interstate and intrastate coordination on electricity issues; and
- Undertake planning and coordination activities of the EISPC; *and*

WHEREAS, In meeting these purposes and objectives, the National Council serves as an invaluable forum that can assist State commissions in their efforts to craft electricity policy that is informed by decisionmakers who work in these other critical decisionmaking bodies; *now, therefore be it*

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 128th Annual Meeting in La Quinta, California, hereby acknowledges the National Council on Electricity Policy and commends its support and participation by its members in National Council programs and activities.

*Sponsored by the Committees on Electricity and Energy Resources and the Environment
Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors on November 15, 2016
Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole on November 16, 2016*