

***Resolution Regarding the Extension of the Electric Magnetic Fields Research and
Public Information Dissemination Program***

WHEREAS, Congress, in the Energy Policy Act of 1992, established the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination Program (EMF RAPID) to conduct a five year, \$65 million research program to determine whether electric and magnetic fields (EMF) are a public health hazard; *and*

WHEREAS, Congress, the U.S. utility industry, and several foreign governments are funding research on the health effects of extremely low frequency EMF's in response to public concern about EMF and earlier EMF research results; *and*

WHEREAS, EMF RAPID is now reaching its full potential, as envisioned by Congress, since research was not funded until late 1994; *and*

WHEREAS, The "Possible Health Effects of Exposure to Residential Electric and Magnetic Fields" report from the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council (NAS/NRC) recommends that continued research of the impact of EMF on human health is necessary; *and*

WHEREAS, The Energy Policy Act of 1992 requires a report to Congress by March, 1997 from the EMF RAPID program on whether the research indicates that EMF poses a health hazard; *and*

WHEREAS, The results of the EMF research funded by the EMF RAPID program will not be available until 1998; *and*

WHEREAS, Other major research projects, such as a childhood leukemia study and two breast cancer studies, are expected to be completed within the next year which may lead to a more definitive answer to the impact of EMF on human health; *now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1997 Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., recognizes that the EMF RAPID program will need a time extension to complete and prepare its report to Congress on whether the research indicates that EMF poses a health hazard; *and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the NARUC supports legislation that would extend for an additional year the sunset clause of the EMF RAPID program as authorized by the Energy Policy Act of October, 1992.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Electricity
Adopted February 26, 1997*