

## ***Resolution Honoring Charles D. Gray***

**WHEREAS**, Charles D. “Chuck” Gray carefully prepared for a lifetime of prestigious public service through careful study at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts (1974 B.S.), at Cornell University School of Law in Ithaca, New York (1977 J.D.), and at Woodstock in Bethel, New York (1969 L.S.D.) (yes THAT Woodstock); *and*

**WHEREAS**, In 1979 many events of great historical significance occurred: Jimmy Carter was President, gas cost 86 cents a gallon, inflation was 11%, the Russians invaded Afghanistan, there was a small fire at Three Mile Island, 63 Americans were taken hostage in the American Embassy in Iran, it snowed for 30 minutes in the Sahara Desert, and a newly-minted lawyer named Chuck Gray was hired to serve as NARUC’s Deputy Assistant General Counsel; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Just two years later, in 1981, Chuck was promoted to Assistant General Counsel of NARUC; *and*

**WHEREAS**, In 1996, Chuck became NARUC’s General Counsel; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Chuck finally escaped the clutches of the law and became a reputable citizen when he was named NARUC’s Executive Director in 1999; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Chuck remains a familiar and constant face in the regulatory space, with decades of experience weighing in on high-profile and, at times, thorny issues, including the disposal of nuclear waste, State compliance with the EPA’s Clean Power Plan, federal transmission siting authority, the manner in which other federal agencies interact with State jurisdictional facilities, and the merits of specific provisions in draft legislation; *and*

**WHEREAS**, During Chuck’s 36 years with NARUC, the Association thrived, increasing in influence (and staff size) almost every year; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Chuck embodies what NARUC should be: professional, measured, thoughtful, balanced, transparent, and accountable; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Everyone agrees that Chuck, whether sporting a full beard or appearing clean shaven, was an excellent Executive Director, lawyer, boss, confidant, Dad, and, as just about anyone that he has ever met readily acknowledges, friend;

**WHEREAS**, During his time with NARUC, Chuck traveled all across the United States and around the globe without incident or mishap; *and*

**WHEREAS**, After spending one day volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Chuck injured his back, thereby conclusively demonstrating that his abilities as an administrator and advocate far outweigh his carpentry and other construction-related skills (even Jimmy Carter told him to stick to his day job); *and*

**WHEREAS**, On June 30, 1986, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, sitting *en banc*, heard oral argument in *Jersey Cent. Power & Light Co. v. F.E.R.C.*, 776 F.2d 364 (D.C. Cir. 1985), with numerous judicial luminaries, such as future Supreme Court Justices Scalia and Ginsburg and renowned Circuit Judges Mikva, Edwards, Wald, and Bork on the bench; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Despite the fact that NARUC was merely participating in this case as an amicus, FERC's solicitor wisely asked Chuck to present argument in defense of the underlying FERC order, which Chuck did; *and*

**WHEREAS**, After listening to Chuck attentively, the D.C. Circuit vacated the underlying FERC order; *and*

**WHEREAS**, An observant visitor can easily ascertain Chuck's personal and professional capabilities, interests, and priorities by simply looking around his office, where you will find, among other, things:

A 1987 picture of Chuck standing with Secretary of Energy John Herrington which includes a note to Chuck expressing the Secretary's "thanks and every good wish" next to a plaque inscribed to "Coach Charles Gray" accompanied by a picture of his son's "1st American Warriors" Basketball team (one suspects that coaching children's athletics provided Chuck with experience that served him well during his NARUC career); *and*

A picture of Chuck dancing with his daughter at her wedding and a February 1993 letter from Phil Sharp, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Indiana from 1975 to 1995, who Chaired the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy and Power Subcommittee from 1987 to 1995, that accompanied a signed copy of HR 776, "The Energy Policy Act of 1992," in which Representative Sharp notes that this "law could not have passed without the help and contributions of many people" and expresses a desire "to acknowledge and sincerely thank you for your contribution;" *and*

A series of pictures of Chuck with his wife (and life companion Sue) and his children, a Blue Devils Assistant Coach paper weight from 1990, and a post card from former Commissioner (now Justice) Jimmy Ervin, near a few of some of Chuck's more recent awards, including The University of Missouri's Robert J. Trulaske, Sr., College of Business, 2015 FRI Crystal Award for Distinguished Contributions, which recognizes an individual who has made recent outstanding and significant contributions to the design, implementation or analysis of public utility regulatory policy; the Energy Bar Association's 2014 State Regulatory Practitioner Award for superior advocacy work and innovation; a 1988 certificate of appreciation from the President of the National Association of Attorneys General expressing gratitude for Chuck's work with NAAG moot courts, which are used to prepare State Attorney General's prior to their arguments before the United States Supreme Court; and a December 2004 "Dean's Award" from Michigan State University's Institute of Public Utilities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Not many of us can look back over the years and see repeated instances in which we have made a real difference in the lives of our family, our friends, and our fellow citizens; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Chuck is one of those rare individuals who has made an obvious difference in all facets of his life; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The NARUC family and all his friends in the regulatory community will miss Chuck's calm demeanor, abiding kindness and good humor, and generous spirit; *now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 127th Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, recognizes and congratulates Chuck for his many contributions to NARUC, the consumers of services provided by regulated entities, and the broader regulatory community and wishes him all the best in his future (and undoubtedly successful) endeavors.

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*Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 10, 2015*

*Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 11, 2015*