

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

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Ohio Staff Leader Wissman Wins 2013 Terry Barnich Award

WASHINGTON—A national organization of her regulatory colleagues honored Public Utilities Commission of Ohio staff leader Kim Wissman with a prestigious award recognizing her contributions in building international regulatory relationships across the world.

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on International Relations named Ms. Wissman as the 2013 winner of the Terry Barnich Award. Mr. Barnich is a former chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission, who in 2007 served in the State Department in Iraq, providing needed expertise in energy. Mr. Barnich was killed in Fallujah on Memorial Day in 2009.

In his honor, the NARUC Committee on International Relations developed the Annual Award Promoting International Cooperation Among Utility Regulators and Development of Professional Regulation in Honor of Terry Barnich. This award recognizes the ongoing commitment of NARUC members to furthering regulatory best practices around the globe. Last year's recipient was Commissioner David C. Boyd of Minnesota, who was honored for his active participation in a NARUC-facilitated Black Sea Regulatory Initiative.

Ms. Wissman is being honored for her volunteer efforts furthering effective regulation education last year in Georgia, Moldova, and Pakistan. Last April, for example, Ms. Wissman participated in an activity in Columbus, Ohio, with officials from the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission. The activity focused on wholesale and retail electricity markets, competition, and cross-border trading.

In addition, she took volunteer time and traveled to Moldova in May 2013 to participate in a National Agency for Energy Regulation of Moldova discussion on renewable power siting, competitive retail service, and interconnection policy. Moreover, in September 2013 she led a team of State commission staff that welcomed to Ohio a delegation from Pakistan for a meeting on the U.S. power markets and structure, commission organization and operation, service monitoring, public affairs, and incentive-based ratemaking.

"Kim Wissman epitomizes public service," said International Relations Committee Chair David Armstrong of Kentucky. "She represents Ohio, the United States, and NARUC in a way that is a credit to our profession. Kim has demonstrated exceptional character and deserves recognition for her contributions to international cooperation.

"I am honored to have nominated Kim Wissman for this distinguished award," said PUCO Chair Todd Snitchler. "We in Ohio know full well of Kim's talents, and we are pleased the rest of the world knows as well. Her knowledge and expertise have earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues around the world."

About Terry Barnich: Terry Barnich was killed in Fallujah, Iraq, on Memorial Day in 2009 while working as the Deputy Director of the State Department office overseeing U.S. reconstruction projects in Iraq. Mr. Barnich served as Chair of the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1989-1992,

and he was an active member of NARUC's Committee on Telecommunications. He also provided expert testimony on a wide range of regulatory issues as well as authored numerous articles concerning emerging competitive markets.

In 2007, Mr. Barnich volunteered to serve our country in Iraq providing needed expertise in energy. He served as Deputy Director and counsel to the electricity section of the State Department's Iraq Transition Assistance Office and as legal advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Electricity and later became Deputy Director, overseeing all U.S. State Department reconstruction programs. In these roles, he helped develop the framework to attract future private investment to Iraq. He also served as liaison to policymakers at the U.S. embassy in Iraq and the Iraqi embassy in Washington. In this role, Mr. Barnich was a top consultant when the President, Vice-President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, National Security Advisor and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs visited Iraq.

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NARUC is a non-profit organization founded in 1889 whose members include the governmental agencies that are engaged in the regulation of utilities and carriers in the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. NARUC's member agencies regulate telecommunications, energy, and water utilities. NARUC represents the interests of State public utility commissions before the three branches of the Federal government.

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