

Honorary Resolution for Commissioner Emeritus Norman J. Saari

Whereas Norman J. Saari served on the Michigan Public Service Commission (“MPSC”) for four years as a Commissioner from August 2, 2015 through July 2, 2019;

Whereas prior to this appointment, Norman Saari served as Chief of Staff for Michigan legislative leaders, as Executive Director of Governmental Affairs for Consumers Energy Company, for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and with honor in the Michigan National Guard;

Whereas Norman Saari, while a Commissioner, was an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”), serving on the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, and the Washington Action Committee, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety;

Whereas Norman Saari served with distinction on the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration’s (“PHMSA”) Liquid Pipeline Advisory Committee;

Whereas Norman Saari ably represented Michigan on the board of the Organization of PJM States (“OPSI”);

Whereas Commissioner Saari has been a catalyst and committed leader on electric vehicles, shaping and promoting Michigan’s regulatory approach to ensure the great “Auto-State” of Michigan leads in this area of technology and policy innovation and then extending that to a national stage through NARUC;

Whereas Norman Saari was a consistent and relentless advocate for natural gas safety, through improved regulation, infrastructure, operations, and awareness;

Whereas Norman Saari brought decades of knowledge of legislative processes and thoughtful policy expertise to his job as a Commissioner, which assisted the MPSC in its decision making and interactions with the Michigan legislature and served him well in his many different roles on NARUC Committees;

Whereas Norman Saari, with his thoughtful inquisitiveness and diligent public service stewardship engaged in his Commissioner role on contested cases and other pressing issues before the MPSC and always prioritized his Commission work to serve the 10 million individuals who call Michigan home and then carried that same work ethic to assist with issues on a national level through his work as a member of NARUC;

Whereas Norman Saari is also sorely missed on a personal level; his quick wit and engaging storytelling, his art of photography, and his appreciation for travel, fine cigars, MSU Dairy Store mint chocolate chip ice cream, and Michigan State University Spartans -- Go Green! -- were truly appreciated;

Whereas Commissioner Emeritus Saari, or “Norm,” is a mentor to many and a friend to all who will be greatly missed, but his impact will be long-standing both on a state and national level; *now therefore be it*

Resolved that the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2019 Annual Meeting and Education Conference in San Antonio, TX, extends to Norman J. Saari its utmost gratitude and appreciation for his years of public service to the State of Michigan and to NARUC and wishes Commissioner Emeritus Saari well in his retirement.

Passed by the NARUC Gas Committee

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on November 19, 2019