

EL-2 Resolution Supporting the Use of Interregional HVDC Transmission to Address Resource Adequacy, Reliability, and Electricity Affordability

Whereas U.S. electricity prices are increasing, creating growing affordability concerns for residential, commercial, and industrial customers across the country;

Whereas the Energy Information Administration reports that consumers paid, on average, \$110 more on their electric bills in 2025 than they paid in 2024;

Whereas increasing electrification, manufacturing reshoring, industrial expansion, and data center growth are accelerating electricity demand growth and placing additional stress on existing generation and transmission infrastructure;

Whereas utility load forecasts now project approximately 166 GW of additional U.S. peak electricity demand over the next five years — more than six times higher than utilities forecast only three years ago — reflecting the fastest period of demand growth in decades;

Whereas increased access to generation capacity is needed to support accelerating demand and maintain resource adequacy yet construction of new generation capacity faces permitting and siting challenges, interconnection delays, and supply chain constraints;

Whereas the increasing incidence, duration, and severity of extreme weather events impose additional stress on the grid and increase resource adequacy risks across planning regions;

Whereas interregional High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission enables bi-directional transfer capability and flexible energy flows between planning regions;

Whereas interregional HVDC transmission can provide planning regions access to diverse external generation resources and load profiles;

Whereas interregional HVDC can provide load-serving entities and their customers with access to additional capacity and energy resources without requiring equivalent construction of new generation supply within each individual footprint;

Whereas sharing existing energy resources between planning regions through HVDC technology can help reduce resource adequacy shortfalls, improve grid resilience, and deliver cost relief to consumers while preparing the electric system to meet future energy needs; *now, therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2026 Summer Policy Summit in Minneapolis, Minnesota, recognizes that interregional HVDC transmission can help address growing resource adequacy challenges by enabling access to resources across planning regions, and encourages Regional Transmission Organizations/Independent System Operators, transmission providers, utilities, and federal policymakers to evaluate opportunities to incorporate interregional HVDC transmission into resource planning and resource adequacy strategies, including reviewing and, where appropriate, updating federal regulatory frameworks to ensure

interregional HVDC transmission facilities are reflected within electricity markets and be appropriately recognized for the reliability, resilience, and affordability benefits they provide.

Passed by the Committee on Electricity

Adopted by the NARUC Board of Directors on July 22, 2026