

Resolution Honoring Commissioner Jeffrey P. Ackermann of Colorado

Whereas Jeffrey P. Ackermann holds a Bachelor's degree from Albion College and a Master's degree in non-profit management from Regis University;

Whereas Jeff has spent more than three decades in state government and the energy sector, starting his professional career in the service of low-income energy consumers, twice as director of Colorado's energy efficiency assistance program (weatherization) as well as an advocate for energy consumers with the state's non-profit energy assistance fund;

Whereas during the years that followed, Jeff led the research efforts at the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, focusing on issues ranging from electric system planning to the regulatory implications of emerging technologies and scenario planning. Jeff also served as an advisor to the commissioners on energy efficiency;

Whereas in 2013, Jeff was named executive director of the Colorado Energy Office. Under his leadership, the office made significant strides in improving innovative production and efficient consumption of Colorado's energy resources;

Whereas Jeff was appointed Chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") effective Jan. 9, 2017, by Governor John Hickenlooper. His four-year term expired on Jan. 11, 2021;

Whereas during his tenure as chairman, Jeff helped guide the Colorado PUC as it navigated an energy industry transformation driven by technological advancements and environmental imperatives. He dealt with unprecedented matters of statewide importance, such as Public Service Company and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association electric resource planning, electric grid modernization, accelerated coal plant retirements, transportation electrification, and electric distribution system planning;

Whereas Jeff worked diligently to advance good regulatory policy not only for the consumers of Colorado, but also nationally by service as chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC") Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment ("ERE") and co-chair of the NARUC-NASEO Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning, in addition to service on other regional and national boards and institutes;

Whereas as a frequently sought speaker, moderator, and emcee, Jeff routinely brought levity, obscure historical references, wryly delivered humor, inspirational insights, and unexpected connections to his many energy-related engagements;

Whereas Jeff led not only his region, but the nation through the NARUC ERE Committee meetings efficiently and effectively, seeking to learn and creating an atmosphere where all points of view were welcomed, and Jeff was never heard to utter any hurtful remarks to any person;

Whereas while volunteering with NARUC International, Jeff dedicated his expertise and unique problem-solving skills to assisting the Jordan Energy Regulatory Commission in advancing best practices on topics such as energy efficiency and rate-making, through many impassioned diagrams scribbled on scrap paper and insightful presentations;

Whereas as part of the cultural experience of volunteering with NARUC International, Jeff bought a large amount of Jordanian spices that almost a decade later he has still not been able to use up and will continue to serve in meals to his family and any willing guests for many years to come; *and*

Whereas Jeff endured the COVID-19 Pandemic with as much grace and dignity as possible, including patient and gentle treatment of his feline office mate who insisted upon purr-ticipating in Zoom meetings; *therefore be it*

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its Winter Policy Summit, extends gratitude to Jeffrey Ackermann for his leadership and wisdom, both at the Colorado PUC and NARUC, and for his efforts to continually champion strong environmental stewardship and consideration of low-income ratepayers. NARUC expresses its best wishes for his future endeavors.

*Sponsored by the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment
Adopted by the Board of Directors on February 11, 2020*