



ICC Commissioner D. Ethan Kimbrel Promoted to Chair of NARUC Gas Committee

Chicago, IL – The Illinois Commerce Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of Commissioner D. Ethan Kimbrel as chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners’ Committee on Gas. NARUC President Paul Kjellander, who serves on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, made the appointment.

“We are pleased to welcome Commissioner Kimbrel in his new role,” said Kjellander. “He has served as co-vice chair of the committee, brings solid experience as a former administrative law judge and is engaged with national and federal partners, all of which will help him advance the important work of the committee.”

The Gas Committee is tasked with raising awareness and understanding surrounding issues affecting the transportation and sale of natural gas safely, efficiently and economically. The Committee also examines critical issues involving the gas industry such as reliability, pipeline safety, energy efficiency, natural gas interdependencies as well as review appropriate policies tied to modernizing the natural gas utility infrastructure. Members of the Committee work closely with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of Transportation.

“I am truly honored to chair this committee, as this is an incredible time to be involved in the regulated gas space. The U.S. energy sector, both domestically and abroad, is undergoing significant transformation,” said Kimbrel. “We have a responsibility to help foster awareness and understanding of issues affected by federal, state and local policies and regulations, including enhancing and modernizing the natural gas utility infrastructure, energy efficiency, new technologies, electric and natural gas interdependencies and appropriate coordination with renewables. We also must maintain our focus on the safety and reliability of our natural gas systems. There is much work before the committee, which I look forward to continuing with my colleagues from across the country.” Kimbrel’s appointment further positions the ICC as a leading regulatory Commission across the nation.

“The ICC is extremely proud of Commissioner Kimbrel and the work he has been doing on this Committee. The recognition he is receiving is well deserved and we could not be more pleased with this appointment,” ICC Chairman Carrie Zalewski.

In addition to his responsibilities on the Gas Committee, Kimbrel is a member of the NARUC-U.S. Department of Energy Natural Gas Partnership, is vice-chair of the NARUC Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety and serves on the Committee on International Relations. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI) and is a member of OPSI’s Market Monitoring Advisory Committee and is the Vice Chair of the Independent State Agencies Committee. He participates in the NARUC-NASEO (National Association of State Energy Officials) Microgrid State Working Group as well and serves on the Board of Advisors for the Institute for Regulatory

Policy Studies (IRPS) at Illinois State University.

Kimbrel was appointed to the Commission on January 19, 2018 to a five-year term. Prior to being appointed as Commissioner, Kimbrel served as the Commission's Chief Administrative Law Judge for nearly three years, and another seven years as a Commission Administrative Law Judge. Before joining the Commission, Kimbrel practiced in the area of personal injury, appellate, malpractice and commercial litigation. He also served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Leslie E. South in the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, Fourth Division.

Commissioner Kimbrel received his law degree from George Washington University and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago.

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