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ICC Commissioner Kimbrel Appointed Co-Vice Chair of the NARUC Committee on Gas

Chicago – National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) President Brandon Presley of Mississippi has appointed Illinois Commerce Commissioner D. Ethan Kimbrel as co-vice chair of the Committee on Gas. Kimbrel joins fellow co-vice chair Julie Fedorchak of the North Dakota Public Service Commission and Commissioner Diane X. Burman of the New York State Public Service Commission, who chairs the committee.

The Committee on Gas fosters awareness and understanding of issues affecting the transportation, distribution and sale of natural gas safely, efficiently and economically. The Committee delves into critical issues, including reliability, pipeline safety, energy efficiency, natural gas interdependencies and the review of appropriate policies to enhance and modernize the natural gas utility infrastructure.

In addition to the Committee on Gas, Kimbrel was recently appointed vice-chair of the NARUC Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety and is a member of the NARUC Committee on International Relations. He is also a member of the NARUC-DOE (U.S. Department of Energy) Natural Gas Infrastructure Modernization Partnership (NGIMP) and a member of the NARUC-NASEO (National Association of States Energy Officials) Microgrid State Working Group.

Kimbrel serves on the Board of Directors for the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI) as well and is a member of OPSI's Market Monitoring Advisory Committee and the vice-chair of the Independent State Agencies Committee. Additionally, Kimbrel is on the Board of Advisors for the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies (IRPS) at Illinois State University.

“We are fortunate to have someone with Commissioner Kimbrel’s intellect and experience joining the NARUC Gas leadership team in a dual role as co-vice chair of Gas and vice-chair of the Committee on Gas Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety,” said Presley. “His diligent leadership on these Committees is important to the cause of strengthening effective public regulation and serving the public interest.”

“Very excited to have Commissioner Kimbrel take on these important dual roles on the gas leadership team,” said Chair Diane X. Burman. “I have no doubt his skills, experience and perspective will positively impact the Committee’s collaborative approach as a whole.”

“Many residents across Illinois rely on natural gas for hot water, to prepare meals and heat their homes. As regulators, we are always looking at ways to keep costs affordable for consumers while improving the safety of our natural gas infrastructure. In my new roles, I look forward to helping lead the discussion on these topics with other regulators from across the country,” said Kimbrel.

“Commissioner Kimbrel is an integral member of the Commission, with a great deal of expertise and knowledge about the natural gas industry and pipeline safety. We are very happy with these appointments and look forward to hearing what new ideas he brings back to Illinois,” said ICC Chair Carrie Zalewski.

Prior to being appointed as commissioner, Kimbrel served as a Commission administrative law judge for 10 years of which the last three years were spent as the chief administrative law judge. Before joining the ICC, 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. He earned his law degree from George Washington University and holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Chicago.

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About NARUC

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.

About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission’s Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click [here](#). If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint [here](#). For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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