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**** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ****

November 26, 2013

Commissioner Hall Appointed as Chair of NARUC's Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access

Public Service Commission of South Carolina Commissioner Nikiya "Nikki" Hall has been appointed as Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) Subcommittee on Utility Marketplace Access (UMA). Commissioner Hall, who served as Vice Chair of the subcommittee, replaces Commissioner Harold Williams of Maryland, and was appointed to the position by NARUC President Colette Honorable of Arkansas.

NARUC is a national organization that represents the nation's State utility regulatory commissions and their staff, including the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. The Utility Marketplace Access Subcommittee, established in 2010, promotes inclusion and the utilization of prudent and competitive procurement practices in the utility industry. UMA's aim is to open the gate of opportunity for women, minority and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses in utility supply markets and strengthen relationships that provide mutual economic benefits for ratepayers, investors, and disadvantaged business enterprises.

Commissioner Hall said of her appointment, "I am grateful and humbled for this opportunity. Electricity markets are changing almost by the day. Ensuring that we have an open market of diverse providers is essential and beneficial to consumers. I look forward to working with President Honorable and UMA members as we continue our work."

Commissioner Hall was elected to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina in June 2010, representing the 6th Congressional District and is currently serving as Vice Chair of the agency. She is an active member of NARUC, where she serves as Co-Chair of the NARUC Washington Action Program and is a member of the Association's Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment.

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