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CCIF RELEASES NEW REPORT FOCUSED ON SMART COMMUNITIES AND THE VALUE OF COLLABORATION WITH STATE REGULATORS, CONSUMER ADVOCATES, AND ENERGY COMPANIES

SAN DIEGO – July 18, 2017 – The Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF) today released a new report, "Connecting Communities: Smart Cities, Enabling Technologies, and the Grid," focused on the increasing prominence of "smart communities" and what they mean for state utility regulators, consumer advocates, and energy companies. The report was released at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Summer Policy Summit in San Diego. CCIF is a collaborative that includes members of NARUC, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), and the Edison Electric Institute (EEI).

This new report is the result of a yearlong effort, and it clarifies the "smart community" concept as any neighborhood, town, village, city, county, or state that is using digital technology and innovation to solve problems and benefit all citizens. It also explores the driving social forces behind smart communities. It goes on to delineate the many ways community leaders are already working with state utility regulators, consumer advocates, and energy companies to execute smart community projects, including energy-efficiency upgrades, resiliency planning, advanced metering infrastructure, weatherization, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Finally, it recognizes the need for ongoing dialogue, the potential for partnership, and a number of other opportunities and challenges with respect to smart communities.

Through open dialogue with approximately 75 state utility regulators, consumer advocates, energy companies, community leaders, and other smart community experts, this report notably highlights areas of particular relevance to CCIF's three core groups and identifies their potential roles with respect to smart initiatives. Leaders from each of the major participating organizations commented on the significance of the latest CCIF initiative.

"There is great potential to collaborate, advise, and partner with smart communities in ways that could result in long-term benefits for all customers," said John W. Betkoski, III, NARUC First Vice President and Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority Vice Chair. "Across the board, these projects are aimed at making communities more connected, data-driven, inclusive, mobile, sustainable, resilient and, ultimately, more livable."

"Cities and counties operate on limited budgets, yet they're tasked with being public service providers responsible for maintaining and improving the social, financial, and environmental well-being of their communities," added NASUCA President and Montana Consumer Counsel Bob Nelson. "Smart

community projects open the door to innovative solutions that promise to address these objectives in a way that meets the needs of communities and utility customers."

"Smart communities leverage data and smarter energy infrastructure to create a better quality of life for citizens," said Phil Moeller, Executive Vice President at the Edison Electric Institute (EEI). "The synergies taking place between smart communities and energy companies are critical to making things like charging stations for electric vehicles and more energy efficient buildings and homes a reality."

The report also highlights specific cities with ongoing smart community initiatives and projects including:

- Columbus, Ohio
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- San Diego, California
- Spokane, Washington

The report serves as a useful framework for additional exploration of the topic, particularly with respect to smart communities' impact on relevant sectors of the electric power industry, their customers, and the regulatory and policy arenas.

While reflecting summit discussion among participating state utility regulators, consumer advocates, energy companies, and smart community experts, the CCIF report is not intended to represent or override any individual or collective policies or positions of NARUC, NASUCA, EEI, or other participating organizations.

Launched in 2010, CCIF engages state commissioners, consumer advocates, and energy companies to work together to develop solutions to meet customer needs.

For more information and a copy of the new CCIF report, please visit www.CCIForum.com.

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Contact:
Katrina McMurrian, Executive Director
Critical Consumer Issues Forum (CCIF)
Phone: 615.905.1375
katrina@CCIForum.com