

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, September 21, 2005 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W015 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Gregory S. Bell, Senate Chair
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Mike Dmitrich
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Darin G. Peterson
Rep. Ralph Becker
Rep. Bradley M. Daw
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
Rep. Rosalind J. McGee
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Aaron Tilton
Rep. Richard W. Wheeler

Members Absent:

Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Rep. Ben C. Ferry
Rep. Fred R. Hunsaker
Rep. Ross I. Romero
Rep. David Ure

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Becker moved to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. General Agreement on Trades in Services: Draft Legislation

Mr. North distributed and discussed "Utah International Trade Commission." He explained that the draft legislation creates a commission that will study international trade and its effects on the Utah Legislature's ability to regulate.

3. State Energy Policy Working Group Report

Rep. Becker gave an update on the Energy Policy Working Group. He explained that the subgroups have been discussing several issues involving energy development, transmission, conservation, and governmental organization. They are meeting again to decide on some proposals that could be presented to the Legislature.

Mr. Ted Rampton, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, spoke to the Committee. He said there is great potential for the co-generation of energy but there needs to be a policy that promotes its development.

Chair Bell said he would speak with the chairs of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee to see when they would like to hold a joint meeting.

Rep. Noel made remarks questioning the conduct of SUWA (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance) attorneys during recent litigation at the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

4. Energy Policy - Governor's Office / Economic Cluster

Dr. Laura Nelson, State Energy Director, distributed and discussed "Energy Office Update." She explained her recent activities and her general goals as the state's energy director.

5. Municipal Power Plant Revenue Transfer Disclosure: Draft Legislation

Sen. Bell noted that the correct title of this agenda item is "Notice Requirements for Budget Transfers from Utility Funds - Draft Legislation."

Rep. Tilton distributed and discussed 2006 General Session draft legislation "Notice Requirements for Budget Transfers from Utility Funds."

Mr. Roger Tew, Utah League of Cities and Towns, supported Rep. Tilton's proposed language.

Mr. Ted Rampton, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, supported the proposed legislation.

MOTION: Rep. Tilton moved to pass out 2006 General Session draft legislation "Notice Requirements for Budget Transfers from Utility Funds" with a favorable recommendation. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Bramble and Rep. Becker absent for the vote.

Mr. Parker discussed "National Energy Bill -- State Impacts." He explained the main components of the national energy bill.

6. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Bramble and Rep. Becker absent for the vote.

Chair Bell adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.