

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, November 15, 2006 – 2:00 p.m. – Room W015 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Gregory S. Bell, Senate Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Sen. Mike Dmitrich
Sen. Darin G. Peterson
Sen. Kevin Vantassell
Rep. Ralph Becker
Rep. Bradley M. Daw
Rep. Fred R. Hunsaker
Rep. Rosalind J. McGee
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Ross I. Romero

Members Excused:

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Rep. Lorie Fowlke
Rep. David Ure

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

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

1. Committee Business

Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Hunsaker moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2006 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dmitrich, Rep. Noel, and Rep. Romero were absent for the vote.

2. Renewable Energy Tax Credit: Draft Legislation

Mr. Philip Powlick, State Energy Program Manager, Utah Geologic Survey, commented on changes to the renewable energy tax credit as provided in 2007 General Session draft legislation, "Renewable Energy Tax Credit."

Dr. Cathy L. Hartman, Professor of Marketing, and Dr. Edwin R. Stafford, Associate Professor of Marketing, Utah State University, distributed and reviewed "Utah Wind Development," and discussed the factors critical to the commercial development of wind energy in Utah.

MOTION: Rep. Allen moved to recommend "Renewable Energy Tax Credit" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dmitrich, Rep. Becker, Rep. McGee, Rep. Romero, and Rep. Tilton were absent for the vote.

3. Cogeneration of Electric Power

Mr. Paul Barber, Associate Director, Utah Association of Energy Users, explained cogeneration as the production of two useful forms of energy from the same unit of fuel. Mr. Barber discussed different forms of energy consumed to produce electricity, and commented that participation in capital investments may be one way to involve utilities in the development of co-generation projects.

Mr. Nick Travis, Energy Solutions, responded to questions from the Committee.

4. Federal Telecommunication Reform

Mr. North distributed and commented on "H.R. 5252 To promote the deployment of broadband networks and services," and "COPE: Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement Act."

5. Conservation Enabling Tariff: Questar

Mr. Ron Jibson, Vice President, Operations, Questar Gas Company, gave an overview of what the tariff involves and commented on the benefits to customers.

Mr. D. Jay Hammond, Board of Committee of Consumer Services, commented on the issue.

Mr. Paul Proctor, Assistant Attorney General, commented on the issue.

6. Clean Coal: Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle Technology(IGCC)

Mr. Nick Rahn, Vice President, Resource Development, Rocky Mountain Power, distributed and presented "Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle."

7. Energy Policy Task Force Report

Rep. Roger E. Barrus and Rep. Ralph Becker gave a brief update on the Energy Policy Task Force's energy policy developments.

8. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Daw moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dmitrich, Rep. Allen, Rep. Fowlke, Rep. Romero, and Rep. Wheeler were absent for the vote.

Chair Bell adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.