

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 20, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W015 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Michael E. Noel, House Chair
Sen. Mike Dmitrich
Sen. Darin G. Peterson
Sen. Carlene M. Walker
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Ralph Becker
Rep. Jim Bird
Rep. Melvin R. Brown
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Lynn M. Hemingway
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Kay L. McIff
Rep. Aaron Tilton

Members Excused:

Rep. Richard W. Wheeler

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.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dmitrich, Sen. Peterson, Rep. Becker, Rep. Brown, were absent for the vote.

2. Nuclear Power

Dr. Gary Sandquist, College of Engineering, University of Utah, distributed and presented "Nuclear Energy Brief." Dr. Sandquist discussed safety issues and the environmental impact of nuclear plants.

Mr. Bill Fehrman, President, PacifiCorp Energy, said PacifiCorp is currently evaluating different types of technologies and the potential for nuclear power. Mr. Fehrman responded to questions regarding federal, state, and local regulations which may affect decisions for the future.

3. Renewables (Energy) Portfolio Standard (RPS)

Mr. Brent Gale, Senior Vice President, MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, distributed "Renewable Energy Review," and discussed RPS requirements and compliance costs.

Sen. Jenkins needed to be excused for the remainder of the meeting and turned the chair over to Rep. Noel.

4. Utah Energy Initiative

Dr. Dianne Nielson, Energy Advisor, Governor's Office, distributed "Utah Energy Program Update," Western Governors' Association Policy Resolution 07-16," and "The Western Governors' Association Energy Efficient Buildings Workshop." She said that the state needs to diversify its energy supplies.

Ms. Vanessa Pierce, HEAL (Healthy Environment Alliance of Utah), distributed "Letter to Chairs from HEAL" and "UK lumbered with foreign nuclear waste," and requested that the Committee to thoroughly examine the issue.

Mr. Mike Peterson, Utah Rural Energy Association, said Utah is dependent upon coal for power generation and that any additional expenses due to renewable portfolio standards would negatively impact rural energy users.

Mr. Randy Parker, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke to the issue.

5. Renewable Energy Tax Credit Utilization

This item was not discussed.

6. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Noel adjourned the meeting at 12:21 p.m.