

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, September 19, 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
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
Rep. Richard W. Wheeler

Members Excused:

Sen. Carlene M. Walker
Rep. Roger E. Barrus

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 9:08 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Peterson moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Becker, Rep. McIff, and Rep. Winn were absent for the vote.

2. Technology In the Classroom

Dr. Judy Park, Associate Superintendent, Data, Assessment, and Accountability, Utah State Office of Education, distributed and reviewed "Turning Technology Toward Performance."

Dr. Patti Harrington, State Superintendent of Public Education, discussed the value of computers in the classroom and answered questions about the allocation of funds provided by the Legislature last session.

Dr. Michael Peterson, Executive Director, UEN (Utah Education Network), distributed "Utah Education Network Status Report" and noted that UEN provides network connectivity to all schools and colleges in the state. Dr. Peterson discussed plans and needs for the future.

3. Nuclear Power

Mr. David Freeman, President, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners, discussed the economics of building and managing nuclear facilities. Mr. Freeman said nuclear power is expensive and recommended consideration of solar and wind resources in the state.

Mr. David Schlissel, Senior Consultant, Synapse Energy, distributed and presented "The Risks of Building Nuclear Power Plants." He said the technology is not yet sufficiently developed to assure the economic viability of nuclear power. Mr. Schlissel discussed the importance of continued research of nuclear power and incentives for energy efficiency.

Rep. Fisher asked staff to provide information on the Public Service Commission's process for approving energy generation facilities for the purpose of understanding how nuclear energy would be considered.

Rep. Becker said he would like to hear from experts in the state before taking any action to promote nuclear power.

4. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Jenkins asked that the October meeting begin at 8:00 a.m. Committee members were in agreement.

MOTION: Rep. Hemingway moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.