

**Summary of Actions:**  
**Western Interstate Energy Board Meeting**  
**September 22, 2005**  
**San Diego**

With nine states (AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, WA, WY), one province (AB), and the Federal Representative present, the Board:

- Approved the minutes of the April 18-19, 2005 Board meeting in San Jose.
- Reviewed reports on Board activities, committee activities, and finances.
- Received a report from Federal Representative Jim Geringer on the Department of Energy's actions in preparation for Hurricane Rita's impact on the energy sector and key provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct).
- Discussed with Pam Inmann, WGA Executive Director, Western Governors' Association (WGA) activities involving the Board.
- Received a briefing from Kevin Moran (WGA Washington, D.C. Director) on key provisions of the EPAct.
- Received an update on the energy activities of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) from Tony Usibelli (WA).
- Received a report from Tony Usibelli on potential Board work on a petroleum emergency exercise and petroleum adequacy project. Based on his discussions with DOE, Usibelli proposed holding an emergency petroleum exercise in western states in coordination with DOE's Office of Energy Assurance. He envisions a two-day exercise in Spring 2006 that would focus on petroleum and be held in the central west. The objective of this effort would be to improve state understanding of the petroleum market, identify key issues that would improve emergency response, and develop communication links between state staff on such emergencies. Mark Anderson from Usibelli's WA office will be the lead person organizing this project. CA, NV and OR expressed interest in assisting WA on this project.
- Held a brief round table on state/provincial responses to higher gasoline and petroleum product prices.
- Approved, with modification, a 2006 Work Plan for CREPC

- Approved, with modification, an options paper for forming a Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body and agreed to recommend to Western Governors the formation of such a Body.
- Directed staff to give high priority to implementing the CREPC Work Plan, supporting any gubernatorial decision to create a Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body, and protecting western interests in the implementation of EAct.
- Held a State/Provincial Roundtable on recent developments. See attachment for key points from the Roundtable.
- Adopted a motion to thank Marsha Smith for her years of work as Chair of CREPC.

## September 22, 2005 Roundtable on Recent State/Provincial Developments

- Montana
  - Montana will be hosting an Energy Future Symposium in Bozeman on October 18-19. The conference will focus on coal and liquid fuels, and coalbed methane. Eight governors will be attending.
- California
  - The CEC recently released an energy report that covers natural gas, climate change, nuclear energy, and water issues. A draft of the report is available on the CEC website.
  - The court case against CA CO2 limits on automobiles will be heard in early 2007. WA has adopted the CA standards and OR will adopt by the end of the year.
- Idaho
  - The ID PUC recently halted the practice of new wind development contracts obtaining ID avoided cost rates under PURPA.
  - ID is in the seventh year of drought
- Washington
  - Energy Northwest announced a proposal to build a new 600 MW IGCC coal plant in western WA. More information is expected once the petition is filed this spring. The plant might participate in the Big Sky partnership sequestration project and would be subject to WA requirements to attain CO2 emissions 20% below the best available technology standard.
  - WA adopted CA vehicle emission standards which become effective if adopted by OR.
  - WA adopted CA appliance efficiency standards.
- Arizona
  - AZ is considering a proposed refinery located near Yuma that would utilize crude oil from Mexico. The project received an air permit but still needs to obtain financing.
  - A new coal-fired power plant has been proposed near the Black Mesa Peabody mine. It is assumed that once the Mohave plant in southern NV shuts down on December 31, 2005, it will not start again. A new coal plant would keep the Black Mesa mines open.
  - A second biomass plant is due online in the next calendar year.
- Oregon
  - OR increased its solar residential tax credit from \$1500 to \$6000 for PV systems, and adopted appliance efficiency standards. A summary of other bills passed by the legislature was provided in a handout.
- Alberta
  - AB is developing electric resource adequacy standards and currently tracking the capacity in the system.
  - AB adopted a uniform policy that requires generators to pay a direct interconnection fee plus an additional charge based on system requirements and distance of transmission.