



## State of Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, October 17, 2013

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to noon

**Location:** Idaho Department of Commerce, Sawtooth Conference Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 700 W. State Street, Boise.

*The purpose of the Alliance is to enable the development of a sound energy portfolio for Idaho that includes diverse energy resources and production methods, that provides the highest value to the citizens of Idaho, that ensures quality stewardship of environmental resources, and that functions as an effective, secure, and stable energy system.*

### **Meeting Objectives:**

The primary objective of this Board meeting will be Economic Development and how ISEA can support the Idaho Department of Commerce. Additional items include an update of the Columbia River Treaty Process, submission and approval of the Baseload Task Force report, and an ISEA Communications update.

### **Meeting Agenda:**

**9:00 - 9:05 Welcome/ Introductions - Jackie Flowers**

**9:05 - 10:30 Economic Development and the Future of Energy - Jeff Sayer**

- Strategic Vision of the Idaho Department of Commerce
- Role of Energy in strategic vision
- How ISEA can support Commerce in Economic Development
- Open discussion on how ISEA can support Commerce
- Identify action items

**10:30 – 10:45 Break**

**10:45 – 11:15 Columbia River Treaty Process - Jim Yost**

- Update on the process
- Recommendation for the future of the treaty

**11:15 – 11:30 Baseload Report - Jackie Flowers**

- Final submission of the Baseload Report to the Board.

**11:30 – 11:50 Communications Update - Jackie Flowers**

- ISEA Facts Sheets, OER/ISEA Brochure, Idaho Energy Primer, and Speaker Bureau.
- Communication Task Force path forward, social media.

## **11:50 – Noon Other Business\Wrap Up and Adjourned**

- Membership of Transmission and Transportation Task Force, suggestions for the Transportation Task Force Chair.
- Upcoming Legislative Session; potential transmission “day on the hill”.

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

### **Introductions and Announcements**

Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance (ISEA) Executive Chair, Jackie Flowers opened the meeting with a welcome and continued with a round table introduction of present members and guests.

### **Economic Development and the Future of Energy**

Jeff Sayer, Idaho Department of Commerce shared the Commerce’s strategic vision for Idaho’s economic development. As the lead economic development agency for the State of Idaho, their mission is to create jobs and strengthen communities. They view the “customer as being their business”. Growth will happen by concentrating and maintaining a focus on three pillars; maintain low cost business development, recruit a highly skilled workforce, and support new businesses with infrastructure to cultivate and prepare for growth. While Commerce has short-term goals for Idaho, it is also looking into the future over the next twenty years since Idaho needs to consider the future of energy and water. Jeff stated that Commerce is interested in partnering with ISEA, and that they are looking at not only where Idaho’s strengths are but where the world is heading in terms of the energy future.

Several members suggested that discussions in advance with Commerce would help coordinate future projects whether that is construction, data centers, power, gas, etc. Jackie stated that there is a clear opportunity for the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance to partner and become a resource for the Idaho Department of Commerce for future economic development and energy. Jackie listed some action items for the Board to continue discussion on. A meeting will be held with Commerce within six weeks to discuss siting and strategic recruiting, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and what the industrial focuses are in the state’s economic development regions. Larry La Bolle volunteered to put together a draft with the Board’s combined ideas on what to do moving forward.

### **Columbia River Treaty Process**

Jim Yost, Northwest Power and Conservation Council gave an update on the Columbia River Treaty Process. The original treaty between the United States and Canada provided for a power exchange, with flood control management. The treaty does not expire; originally created in 1960 and was to be a 60 year treaty but will continue after 2020. Only if there is a ten year notice can the treaty be modified, terminated, or negotiated.

The purpose of the United States evaluation for the Treaty is to determine whether, with the current obligations and benefits provided by the Treaty, it needs to be rebalanced following the initial 60-year term. The Power Group was formed in 2011 to provide a forum for electric utilities and industry associations to evaluate the future of the Treaty. Their purpose is to advocate for a fair and equitable

outcome in any Treaty negotiation with Canada for the estimated 6.4 million Pacific Northwest electric customers they serve.

Potential impacts of treaty modification for Idaho could include possible power exchange savings and where they might be spent, potential establishment of new precedents by including and paying for ecosystem maintenance and improvements, and effects on power production.

Draft recommendations are out for public comment; comments will be accepted until October 25, 2013.

## **Baseload Report**

Mark Stokes, Baseload Task Force Chair, was unable to attend. In his absence Jackie Flowers gave the Board an update on the Baseload report. During the last Board meeting Mark asked for comments to revise the draft report, he has made the suggested edits and formally submitted the final Baseload report to the Board. This completes the Baseload Task Force report assignment. An Energy Fact Sheet assignment will be sent to the Baseload Task Force soon.

## **Communications Update**

John Kotek, Board member and Communication Task Force Chair, was unable to attend the meeting to give a communication task force projects update and; in his absence Jackie Flowers gave the Board an update. The Hydropower and Geothermal Task Force Idaho Energy Fact Sheets were submitted to the Board for review. Several other Task Force Fact Sheets are in various stages of development. Comments are due back to Diane Holt, Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER) by Friday November 1, 2013. The Idaho Energy Primer 2013 update has been finalized and posted on the OER/ISEA web site, some color hard copied copies have been distributed. The 2012 Idaho Energy Plan and Idaho Energy FAQ have been posted to the web. The ISEA Speakers Bureau has had several requests for speakers; topics have included alternative energy for high school classes, energy saving tips, and ISEA and the future of energy in Idaho.

During the last ISEA Board meeting, the Board discussed establishing an ISEA Twitter account. The account would be managed by the Idaho Office of Energy Resources, to communicate factoids from the updated Primer and to announce new information resources and reports. A list of suggested ISEA energy "Tweets" was distributed to the Board for comment. Comments are due back to Diane Holt, OER by Friday November 1, 2013. Jackie Flowers would like to consider Linked-In as a social media tool for ISEA.

## **Other Business**

Additional members for the Transmission Task Force were discussed including possible members from Rocky Mountain Power, Idaho Association of Counties, and other possible non-utility members. The Transportation Task Force needs a Chair and some additional members, possibly from a food processor, Idaho trucking line or association, and LNG interests. Board members were asked to consider people to meet these needs and send suggested names to Diane Holt.

The Board discussed possible actions for the upcoming Legislative Session. A legislative "Day on the Hill" transmission presentation along the lines of the recent Idaho Council on Industry and Environment "practical paths" meeting was suggested. Other suggestions included doing an "Energy 101" presentation and/or identifying changes in the energy landscape for legislators.

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:45.**

## Next Steps

- Jackie listed some action items for the Board to continue discussion on Economic Development and the Future of Energy.
  - (1) siting prioritization based on strategic marketing areas and ways to improve meetings/coordination of needs assessment for potential companies, also consider doing case study review of past recruiting – what worked, what didn't?
  - (2) Review of existing capacity in key marketing areas as defined by Commerce.
  - (3) High tech and/or energy focused economic development for recruiting business that are building off of existing workforce capabilities or assets of the State of Idaho in these two spaces. Also review options for marketing “Green Energy” or “Sustainable Energy” off of existing clean portfolio of Idaho for both economic development and to help existing businesses become more familiar with their energy resources if a green or sustainable focus is important.

A meeting will be held within six weeks to discuss siting and strategic recruiting, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and what the industrial focuses are in the state's economic development regions.

- Board members will submit comments on the Hydro Power and the Geothermal Energy Fact Sheets. Please submit any comments to Diane Holt, OER by Friday, November 1, 2013.
- The list of energy fact Tweets are to be reviewed by the Board members with comments submitted to Diane Holt, OER by Friday, November 1, 2013.
- Board members will submit suggestions for a Transportation Task Force Chair and, additional potential members for the Transportation and the Transmission Task Forces. Additional members for the Transmission Task Force may include Rocky Mountain Power, Idaho Association of Counties, and a non-utilities person. Paul will provide a new IPUC member name. Additional members for the Transportation Task Force may include a food processor, Idaho trucking line, or LNG interest. Don will provide a new name from Simplot. Have suggestions emailed to Diane Holt, OER no later than Friday, November 1.
- Board members should contact Diane Holt, OER if they find anything that should be corrected in the Idaho Energy Primer 2013 Update. The OER will continue to make any changes to the Primer before new copies are printed.
- Further discussion will take place for planning a transmission workshop early in the legislative session.