



## State of Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance

**Date:** Thursday, May 31, 2012

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Idaho Public Utility Commission, 472 W. Washington St., 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

This Board Meeting will address feedback from the Idaho Legislature's request to add a Transportation Task Force to the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance, update ISEA Guidelines and Procedures, and discuss ISEA Communication and Outreach.

### Meeting Agenda

**9:00 - 9:05**     **Welcome/ Introductions – Steve Aumeier**

**9:05 – 9:15**     **Transportation Task Force Panel of Experts Discussion – Steve Aumeier**

- Background and purpose of panel discussion
- Transportation Task Force “Boundary Conditions” explanation
- Introduction of expert panel members
  - Matthew Shirk, Idaho National Laboratory
  - Charlie Jones, Stinker Stations
  - Dr. Jon Van Gerpen, University of Idaho
  - Scott Stokes, Idaho Transportation Department
- Panel discussion format description

**9:15 – 10:45**     **Discussion**

- Introductory statement by each panel member (about five minutes each)
- Questions and interactive discussion between Board members and expert panelist (90 minutes)

**10:45 – 11:00**     **Final Discussion, Wrap-up, and Summary – Steve Aumeier**

**11:00 – 11:15**     **Break**

**11:15 – Noon ISEA Governance Issues – Steve Aumeier and John Chatburn**

- Update of the ISEA Guidelines and Procedures
- Board Discussion

**Noon – 1:00 Lunch**

**1:00 – 1:20 ISEA Governance Issues (continued) – Steve Aumeier**

- Summary of discussion and revision of the ISEA Guidelines and Procedures

**1:20 – 1:50 ISEA Communication and Outreach – John Kotek**

- Update\Discussion

**1:50 – 2:00 Other Business\Wrap Up and Adjourned**

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

### **Background and Purpose of the Discussion**

Steve Aumeier, ISEA Chair, began the meeting describing the background and purpose for the panel discussion to the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance (ISEA) Board members. The information the panel members provide during the discussion will be key in helping the Board of Directors address a request from the Idaho Legislature to add a Transportation Task Force to the ISEA. The Task Force would be used to provide information, analyses, and other assistance to help Idaho stakeholders capture as much opportunity, and minimize as much risk as possible due to rapidly changing transportation energy markets and technologies.

Transportation fuel is a substantial part of the energy budget for Idaho citizens and businesses, and a significant factor in economic activity in the State. Discussing the potential objectives of a Transportation Task Force, including the opportunities and benefits that could occur to the state, is important information for the Board to consider.

### **Transportation Task Force Panel of Experts Introductions and Discussion**

#### **Idaho Transportation Department**

Scott Stokes, Idaho Department of Transportation (IDT), described the new IDT Strategic Plan developed last year. Its primary areas of focus are (1) your safety, (2) your mobility, and (3) and your economic opportunity. They are working on defining what their role will be to help the Idaho economy grow. IDT's vision represents what they need to become to fulfill and exceed the needs and expectations of the citizens of Idaho.

Scott shared transportation data relative to current trends in Idaho. Fuel use in Idaho has decreased from the peak in 2007 and plateau in recent years despite an increase in population and motor vehicle registrations. The data gathered by Idaho Department of Transportation looks ahead into the future and helps IDT understand transportation needs to help drive economic development in Idaho

#### **Idaho National Laboratory**

Matthew Shirk, Idaho National Laboratory (INL) informed the Board members about the current INL Idaho vehicle testing program. It includes plug-in electric vehicles, hybrid, and full electric vehicles. The program also looks at alternative combustion engine fuels including hydrogen, natural gas, biofuels, and other alternate fuels. As part of this research INL is currently managing fleet data and reporting on vehicle use trends, how consumers are using the cars, the changing infrastructure, how electric vehicle power use is affecting generation needs and the grid on the community and national level, and how the use of these vehicles is affecting a shift from petroleum to electric energy usage in vehicles. The data that is gathered and placed into reports from these projects is provided to the Department of Energy and open to the public on the INL Advanced Vehicle Testing website.

### **Stinker Stations**

Charlie Jones, Stinker Stations, is interested in the future of transportation energy in Idaho and believes it is important to stay current with trends. Stinker has been an early adopter of biofuels; including ethanol and biodiesel. Biofuels production and use has largely been driven by economics of government subsidies, which come and go. However, business should try to understand where the market is going so they can make informed, long-term decisions. Fuel consumption peaked in Idaho in 2007 because of the recession and consumers bought more fuel efficient vehicles and made some lifestyle changes. Peak oil is no longer the main concern. The U.S. has reached its maximum oil consumption and new oil production technologies will increase supply, continuing to decrease our dependence on foreign oil.

### **University of Idaho**

Dr. Jon Van Gerpen, University of Idaho, shared his thoughts on some of the national forces that are causing local impacts. Currently there are two pieces of legislation that are very relevant; one of them is the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The RFS requires our fuel supply to now contain about 10% in renewable fuels; this is scheduled to ramp up to 20% by 2022. The second is legislation for renewal of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ) standards, which are scheduled to be in the mid 50 mpg range by 2025, which will require substantial vehicle changes and extending standards to trucks and buses. The primary justification for this legislation is displacement of foreign oil, but climate change concerns may also contribute. Work at the University of Idaho's National Institute for Advanced Transportation Technology (NIATT) is looking at traffic issues, vehicles, and alternative fuel research. NIATT's contract with the U.S. Department of Transportation was recently renewed. The University of Idaho has a long standing program on alternative fuels that is focusing on feed stocks relevant to Idaho and the Pacific Northwest. There is an opportunity to expend alternative fuel production in Idaho.

### **Transportation Discussion Summary**

The Transportation panel discussion provided the ISEA Board of Directors with a solid foundation on which to move forward with the Legislature's request. Considerable discussion related to how transportation and fuels support and provide opportunities for economic development. This feeds into questions for policy, how we plan for rights of way, how we enable different business models as we see technology change, and the ways in which consumers purchase and use energy. Infrastructure development was a reoccurring theme in the discussion as well as the need for data that the public and elected officials need to make informed decisions. Since technology evolves so quickly, one issue discussed was how to keep up with the pace in order to educate the public and private sectors. The impact of federal policy is going to be a critical concern and is important to consider. Also, we have to

consider where the research opportunities are and how to connect them to deployment and economic development.

## **Communication and Outreach**

John Kotek, The Gallatin Group, updated the Board members on the next steps being taken to update the ISEA Communication Plan. People need access to the right data and information so they can make informed decisions. The first step towards developing an updated new communications plan is to review the communications plan that was drafted three years ago. John sent a draft plan update to the Communication Task Force for their feedback. He is interested in what and how the Board would like to communicate.

Helping the public improve their Energy IQ by developing informational flyers and listing the facts on a variety of topics that are of concern to the public would be helpful. Distributing the flyers through extension services, especially in the rural areas, would be very beneficial. Developing ISEA flyers, listing the facts on a variety of concerns, and placing the flyers on the Office of Energy Resources and ISEA web pages, and placing a link to the ISEA web page on the Idaho Public Utility Commission (IPUC) press releases would be beneficial in providing public access to this information. This could help to counterbalance some bad information that is on the internet (e.g., smart meter concerns). A one page synopsis of take away points from each task force report would be useful. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions, but not to their own “facts”.

The Board could also consider having Board members available for interviews and discussions of energy issues and information, and establishing a speaker’s bureau.

Additionally, a web site could be built that can easily be maintained and if funding to hire a student to develop a website could be secured. John Kotek has an intern, and IPUC has someone that may be able to help with such a project. Having facts on the ISEA website would be a great way to keep the information current. Also, developing a Frequently Asked Questions section with relevant bullet points, a Linked in group, or twitter page would be helpful. We need to be careful that we do not build something that we cannot maintain.

Keeping the data in the 2012 Idaho Energy Plan and the ISEA Energy Primer updated on an annual basis would also be helpful towards continued education for the public. John Kotek will work on ideas for developing the website and getting information from the Task Forces.

## **ISEA Guidelines and Procedures**

John Chatburn, Office of Energy Resources, suggested the Board move ahead with the update and completion of the ISEA Guidelines and Procedures to help support the existing ISEA Executive Order that expires in February, 2013. A final draft of the Guidelines is needed to take to the Governor’s staff to convey the ISEA Board members ideas for the future of the Alliance.

The Board made comments on possible changes, including restructuring the Board compositions and removing the ISEA Council where some of the cabinet members would be moved to the Board while; others would be accessed on an as needed basis. It was suggested that requesting a meeting with the Council to discuss these potential changes may be beneficial.

## Next Steps

- Board member comments on the 2012 ISEA Guidelines and Procedures are due to OER by June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- OER will add the Board comments into the final draft of the ISEA Guidelines and Procedures for review by the Governor's staff.
- ISEA Board members will plan a meeting with the ISEA Council to discuss the proposed leadership changes in the ISEA Guidelines and Procedures.
- Assign the Task Forces with the development of a fact sheet with a condensed version of the facts or bulleted items from their initial ISEA reports. OER will lead development of a template to be provided to the task forces for this assignment.
- Assign the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Task Force with developing a short report to define "what cost effective energy efficiency is". OER will develop a one page description to help specify what is desired for this assignment.
- Certificates of appreciation awards will be prepared for the Governor's Office to be awarded to Task Force members for the completion of their reports.
- John Kotek will work with an intern and the IPUC to update the ISEA web site to include the development of a Frequently Asked Questions section with relevant bullet points, Linked in group, and/or twitter page.

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:35 p.m.**