

Alaska Energy Policy Task Force

Created by the 23rd Alaska Legislature

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**Approved Minutes of the December 30, 2003
Meeting of the
Alaska Energy Policy Task Force (EPTF)
AIDEA/AEA Board Room
Anchorage**

Call to Order: Vice Chair Boucher called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m., with Chair Barry out sick.

Roll Call: Members present - Red Boucher, Wayne Carmony, Rick Eckert and Steve Haagenson, with Tom Boutin, Robert Wilkinson, and Dave Carlson on teleconference. **Staff:** Becky Gay and Bernie Smith (EPTF.)

Others attending: Jim Posey of Anchorage Municipal Light and Power (ML&P), Don Zoerb of Matanuska Electric Association (MEA), Joe Griffith, Lee Thibert and Phil Steyer of Chugach Electric Association (CEA), Chris Rose of Alaska Conservation Foundation (ACF), Jerry Burton and Jim Strandberg of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) and Earle Ausman of Polarconsult AK.

Approval of minutes of December 18 meeting: Minutes were approved with minor amendments by Carmony and Carlson.

Review final draft of Railbelt Task Force Report: The report was edited again, with the task being to distill from hard copy and complete the final document. Eckert asked about “netback” language, confirming its deletion in the latest draft. Carmony noted that “no new ground” was agreed upon earlier and at this late date the object was to clean up final editorial content and perhaps adjourn early, not explore new tax policy. Consensus held on that front. Haagenson emphasized “readability of the whole” document, requesting five minutes with staff after meeting to give his ideas on formats. Boucher noted comments prepared by Chugach and if possible to strengthen the renewable energy statement. Boutin thought staff edits to date looked okay and was glad to see “netback” pricing left out of the final document. Carlson had minor comments regarding readability, emphasizing that he believed the final should be “clear, short, and concise.” Wilkinson spoke to his version still including editorial content and revising to eliminate excess commentary. A short break was held so staff could get updated materials to teleconference **participants and reformat a final review document.**

Set meeting schedules and deadlines: January 13, 2004, Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at the AIDEA/AEA Third Floor, Board Room, 813 W. Northern Lights, Anchorage. Next meeting was set for January 28. Final draft of the Railbelt Findings will be emailed to the Legislature by the

mandated Dec. 31 deadline, with a printed copy to be delivered by the Legislative Affairs Agency Print Shop to each member. Gay noted presenters in the next set of deliberations will include AEA's Rural Energy Initiative, Larry Flowers of NREL on wind and Brad Reeve of the Kotzebue wind project.

Public comments: Chris Rose, Alaska Conservation Foundation, spoke to the readability of the final cut, giving solid directions on formatting and organization. Rose thanked the Task Force for including his participation and asked again to be included in crafting action items on legislative directives. Steve Denton, Usibelli Coal Mine, spoke to the subject of "netback pricing" as a non-starter for resource developers, noting his objection to its inclusion so late in the process before being assured by staff that it had been removed.

Task Force member comments: Wilkinson requested a brainstorming session at next meeting, noting that third Thursdays do not work for his schedule. Carlson thanked everyone for their hard work and attempted to schedule SE presentations for January. Boutin noted he has cabinet meetings on Tuesdays, 10 a.m., so that doesn't work for his schedule either. Carmony thought the discussion on security could be sent out for other ideas if more discussion was needed. Boucher wished everyone a Happy New Year and voiced his thanks for everyone's contributions, then concluded the meeting saying, "Now the work begins."

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.