



State of Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday - May 5, 2023

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. MST

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Participants:

ISEA Board Members

Todd Combs, Idaho National Laboratory – Chairman

Jared Ellsworth, Idaho Power

Bear Prairie, Idaho Falls Power

Will Hart, Idaho Consumer-Owned Utilities Association

Alan Prouty, Simplot

Richard Stover, Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

Lori Blattner, Intermountain Gas

Others

Stephen Goodson, Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Emily Her, Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

Kristina Fugate, Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

Alexa Bouvier, Idaho Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

Meeting Agenda

Welcome/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Prairie motions to approve the minutes, Prouty seconds. Minutes are approved unanimously.

Action Item: 2023 ISEA Task Forces

State Energy Plan Task Force

- It’s been 11 years since the State Energy Plan (SEP) was last updated. Envisions that task force is staffed by the Board, including some legislators.
 - Combs: I recommend Administrator Stover be the chair of the Task Force.
 - Prouty: It would be great to have Rich be the Chair of this effort.
 - Hart: It is key to find engaged legislators that may have an energy background or interest.
 - Stover: The first step will be to talk with the Board and Jaime in the Governor’s Office. I agree we need to pick legislators that will attend and contribute.
- Combs moves to approve the SEP Task Force with Administrator Stover as Chair and Board as members. Seconded by Hart. Passes unanimously.

Advanced Nuclear Strategic Framework Task Force

- Briefly discussed advanced nuclear at the last meeting. This past Wednesday at the LINE Commission meeting, the Governor's Office showed support for advanced nuclear. There's a lot of work going on in the region such as in Wyoming and the DOE released a liftoff report for commercialization of advanced nuclear. One of the key facts is that the country needs to triple the amount of nuclear firm power to achieve federal 2050 goals.
 - Stover: When looking at the SEP, I envision an audit of opportunities in Idaho and how we might take advantage. Sees this task force creating a framework that would act as a spoke to the SEP. It could encompass other topics that were discussed last meeting such as critical minerals, tech, infrastructure, hydrogen. Puts forth this idea given the development of advanced nuclear and the Governor's support.
- Blattner: Interested in exploring hydrogen. In my job I work with Oregon and Washington. Those states are more flexible, and the regulatory environment is more open to innovation. Hydrogen could be an interesting combination with this proposed task force.
 - Hart: I agree with the importance of having ISEA look at hydrogen whether that is within the Advanced Nuclear Task Force or having its own task force. ICUA recognizes hydrogen is not a silver bullet, nonetheless many public power providers are putting money into it. Any form of baseload power is worth looking into further.
- Combs: In terms of combining the two, if you look from INL's perspective, we are in the midst of creating an energy technology proving ground, and the first investment is \$20.5M to develop hydrogen electrolysis testing capability and is interested in combining that with exploring how hydrogen can be produced with reactors.
- Stover: We have had turnover at OEMR, and we have a sense of urgency. I would like to time the work product and put information out in a timelier fashion. That's why I'm only proposing two task forces. We can circle back if we'd like to open more task forces in the future.
 - Combs: Given bandwidth of OEMR, I recommend tackling these things a couple at a time.

Other Suggestions from Board

- Combs: Geothermal had some interest at the last meeting. The Idaho Geothermal Alliance is working on a significant study regarding Idaho's geothermal resources. This could be a reason to wait until their report is released and until OEMR has more bandwidth.
 - Hart: SEP will probably have a few pages on geothermal and hydrogen, so not sure if the task force is needed right now.
 - Stover: From the SEP effort, we might identify other areas to develop task forces around.
- Combs: Another interest from the Board at the last meeting was a task force on critical minerals. Ultimately, I think we'll want to dig deeper into this, but right now it might be better to focus on the SEP.
 - Prouty: Let's keep track of geothermal and critical minerals and see if we want to pursue these topics after completing the SEP perhaps in a year or two from now.
- Combs: At the last meeting wildfire and drought were also discussed.
- Prairie: Supply side resources decisions have been driven by economics. The State could incentivize/not disincentivize moving those things forward. Transmission – state and local

jurisdiction have a lot of control. Markets, market design, and development of regional markets. There is the Extended Day Ahead Market and the West/Northwest deciding whether to expand into CAISO or move into SPP Markets+. These are things that are moving swiftly in the West, and the State from regulatory and legislative levels will have interest in this. Having the State positioned with an educated point of view as these decision points come up will help us make good decisions.

- Combs moves to approve the Advanced Nuclear Task Force. Hart seconds. Passes unanimously.
- Stover: Will keep the Board informed and OEMR will start sending out polls to schedule meetings.
 - Hart: Ken McClure who represents UAMPS or Bear would be good selections for the Advanced Nuclear Task Force.

Round Table Discussion on Topics of Interest

Will plan to hold the next ISEA Board Meeting in-person. Location TBD.

Public Comment Period

No public comment.

Wrap up and Adjournment

Combs moves to adjourn the meeting. Prairie seconds. Meeting adjourns at 2:00 pm.