

National Geothermal Collaborative Steering Committee

Final Meeting Summary

September 15, 2003

Conference call

In Attendance:

Ted Clutter – Geothermal Resource Council
Paul Dunlevy – Bureau of Land Management
Troy Gagliano – National Council of State Legislators
Karl Gawell – Geothermal Energy Association
Dennis Gilles, Calpine
David McClain – McClain Associates
Susan Norwood – Department of Energy
Marilynn Semro – Seattle City Lights

Alternates:

Matthew Brown – National Council of State Legislators
David Laroche – White House Energy Task Force
Arlene Rocabado – Southern California Edison
Dan Schochet – Ormat, GRC

Meeting Objectives

1. Update on dissemination of the RPS report
2. Update on Impediments work group activities
3. Establish a work group to develop a year three NGC Work Plan
4. Update on Issue Papers
5. Set a location and date for NGC face-to-face meeting

RPS Report Update

The RPS Report was mailed on Friday, September 12th to legislators, legislative staff, energy or natural resource committee chairs, and legislative librarians in 13 states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming). The RPS report was also mailed on September 12th to the following associations:

- o American Power Association
- o National Hydropower Association
- o National Association of Rural Utility Cooperatives
- o National Association of State Energy Officials
- o National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- o National Renewable Energy Laboratories
- o Land and Water Fund of the Rockies/Western Resource Advocates
- o Western Governor's Associations
- o Western Interstate Energy Board.

The RPS report will be disseminated via email this week to NCSL's "Energy L" list serve, consisting of about 200 legislators and legislative staff you are interested in energy (many of the same people who received the mailing).

The following are additional organizations that will receive a copy of the RPS Report:

- NRECA – National Rural Electric Cooperative Association – each state association head
- Michigan State, Jan Beecher, Institute of Public Utilities
- New Mexico State (Jody will speak with Matthew Brown to establish a contact person)

There has already been interest in the RPS report; Kathleen Rutherford made copies available at the CERT conference on Tribal Energy Issues; and Susan Norwood made copies available at the GPW State Summit (specifically the eleven state leads received a copy).

RPS Next Steps

Committee members agreed to explore building workshops based on the RPS report; using the workshops as a tool to further the NGC's objectives. A workgroup will work to develop the workshops. Dan Schochet and Marilyn Semro will continue in their roles as the RPS Workgroup, with the addition of a representative from NCSL.

Agreement: The Steering Committee agreed to explore building workshops from the RPS report. A workgroup will develop the workshops. The workgroup will be a continuation of the RPS workgroup with the addition of an NCSL representative.

In developing workshops, Steering Committee members recognize the importance of coupling the workshops with other meetings. This would tap into an existing set of participants and attract people beyond one issue set. A suggestion was made to develop a set of workshops that target states that have geothermal resources, but not a RPS. Planning state workshops should be done carefully and take into account the difficulty in attracting legislators to a workshop where the issue set is narrow. Kathleen mentioned that the Utah Clean Energy Alliance is already interested. Two suggestions were made regarding opportunities to partner with NCSL meetings:

- NCSL Meeting in DC in December (it is possible for the NGC to have 30 minutes on the agenda);
- NCSL energy seminar for new energy legislators or newly elected legislators (tentatively scheduled for June 2004)

Another avenue the NGC may pursue is to provide testimony, in a similar fashion to NCSL, by bringing experts from the field. NCSL publicizes their ability to testify.

Several Steering Committee members mentioned upcoming opportunities to present on the RPS Report and the NGC. The following is a list of members, the conference they are attending, and the number of copies of the RPS Executive Summary requested:

- Dan Schochet, Western States Renewable Energy Summit, October 8th, Reno, Nevada - 100 copies
- Marilyn Semro, American Public Power Association, October 21st, conference on wind
- Ted Clutter, constructing an article based on the RPS Executive Summary for the GRC Conference in Mexico – 50 copies
- David McClain – 25 copies
- Troy Gagliano – 50 copies next week

Impediments Workgroup Update

Kathleen Rutherford attended the CERT Energy Workshop in San Diego. She attended breakout sessions and spoke both about the RPS Report and the Collaborative's interest in developing workshops for tribes interested in developing or investigating the development of geothermal resources on their lands. One specific conversation was with Donna Lucas, Energy Communication Specialist with the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians(ATNI) about the possibility of collaborating to put on geothermal workshops. CERT has expressed an interest in supporting such workshops, and these conversations will be opened at the ATNI Conference scheduled for September 22-23, in Seattle. Roger Fragua, CERT and an NGC Steering Committee Member, will present information on the NGC at this conference in order to advance this conversation.

The Impediments document, the basis for workshops, that outlines the impediments recorded in current literature and conferences, is near completion. Paul Dunlevy and Kathleen have been working on the final major revisions and that the workgroup will review.

Year Three Work Plan Workgroup

The third year of the NGC grant begins November 1, 2003. Kathleen Rutherford requested a workgroup be established to develop the year three work plan. The workgroup will work with a work plan template developed by RESOLVE and focus on the priorities of the NGC. Susan Norwood and Dan Schochet (members of the year two work plan workgroup) were willing to be a part of the workgroup. Kathleen will contact Karl Gawell and Paul Dunlevy to gauge their interest in joining the Work Plan workgroup as well.

Steering Committee members on the call brainstormed possible topics to pursue in year three:

- Energy pricing.
- Inconsistency between BLM field offices and permitting requirements.
- Risk – the perception of risk and how that impedes development and fund acquisition for exploration; how to resolve the impediments through policies.
- Production Tax Credits.
- Other tax incentives

Issue Papers

Troy Gagliano, NCSL, is drafting the issue papers with information from many sources included members of the NGC. He will be talking to county tax assessors to get data on the economic benefits of geothermal development. Steering Committee members suggested Troy speak with Inuit County in California, counties in Nevada or other counties outside California, Ormat (Dan Schochet), and Caithness (Stuart Johnson). It was also suggested that royalties through BLM are apart of the economic benefits of geothermal development.

Face-To-Face Meeting, Location and Date

The next face-to-face NGC Steering Committee meeting will primarily focus on the consensus process for the issue papers. Because of an extensive travel schedule overlaid with the holidays Troy Gagliano suggested that the meeting be the third week of January.

The Steering Committee agreed to meet in Reno, Nevada during the week of January 19th. Jody Erikson will collect schedules and set the dates for the two day meeting in Reno. There was a request to set the agenda so that members can fly in the morning of the meeting and fly out at the end of day two.