



Minutes

Wednesday, January 31st

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Idaho State Capitol (Lincoln Auditorium)

700 W Jefferson St, Boise, ID 83702

Members in Attendance:

Mark Peters
Brad Little
Wendy Horman
John Tippets
Lawrence Wasden
Sam Eaton
Bobbi Jo Meuleman
Janet Nelson
Rebecca Casper
Mark Rudin
Jeff Feeler
Rose Bernal
Neels Van der Schyf
John Grossenbacher
Daniel Stone
Noel Bakhtian
Steve Laflin
Fred Hughes
Mark Nye

9:32am Mark Peters called the meeting to order. Welcomed Bobbi Jo Meuleman as an official member of the LINE commission in her new role as Director of the Idaho Department of Commerce.

Housekeeping items: Idaho National Laboratory received an A+ rating from DOE as well as Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA) contract extension to 2024.

Wasden moved to approve the minutes from October 17th meeting. Seconded by Rudin. Motion passed.

Dr. Peters introduced Doug Hunter, CEO of Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems Presentation. See PowerPoint.

Joint Use Module Project (JUMP) – INL intends to utilize module 1 and 2 for research and development. First of kind manufacturing risks will be mitigated through that program. Objective is to make the project successful. Power purchase agreements – purchase power for a period of time.

Idaho Partnership: state support is invaluable and leadership is critical. We are experiencing that throughout Idaho, including municipalities.

John Hopkins, CEO of NuScale gave a highlight of the NuScale SMR technology, options for risk mitigation, and decision points.

Mason Baker, General Counsel for UAMPS, addressed wet vs dry cooling method and ongoing water acquisition and financial analysis.

Q: Tippets – Can you tell me the amount of water required for wet cooling?

A: 18,000 acre feet per year for full water cooling, still looking into acquisition cost.

Q: Tippets – Impact of natural gas prices – use of SMR viable to compete with natural gas at prices now? Why are you limited to 12 modules?

A: Yes. It is cost competitive. Not limited to 12, other configurations would be possible.

Q: Bakhtian – What about the energy and water nexus? Global deployment, including those with water/drought needs.

A: NuScale has a study on this concept. Will get to commission members. Desalination will be part of the JUMP project to study – hybrid system, treating water at night, less water is available.

Q: Laflin – Do you have an update on the selection of contractors?

A: Yes, it is a global search. Consortium of vendors in Idaho. Currently evaluating proposals, hope to be done by end of month.

Peters asked Ken McClure, consultant for UAMPS, to talk about the proposed legislation. Two pieces of legislation to clarify 2 existing Idaho statutes -- property tax and sales tax exemption.

Q: Tippets – Do we have a Statement of Purpose or Fiscal Note for those two pieces of legislation?

A: They have not been drafted. Information is hard to come by. Sales tax will be easier to characterize. If the project goes forward you get a lot of sales tax that you wouldn't gather otherwise. Property tax is straightforward – would qualify for that.

Q: Tippets – Do you have an estimated impact on sales tax?

A: 5/6 of the project would be eligible for sales tax - that would be a large number.

Q: Casper – Bringing it back to Idaho, from the perspective of being home to first of kind technology - What does that mean?

A: Will allow us to go into small towns with aging infrastructure to repurpose and retrain and employ the skilled workforce. It would also allow Idaho to become the hub of advanced reactors and open the floodgates to other technologies. Finally, it will give you the leadership role, potential globally. In traveling internationally, Idaho and INL are the leaders and have the chance to stay there.

Peters – INL is the partnership with the first mover in this space, it's the place to do it. We've been doing it since 1949. More conversations like this to come.

Peters welcomed Jack Zimmerman, DOE-ID, to give the DOE ID cleanup update. See PowerPoint.

Q: Tippets – With the IWTU timeline, assuming a successful simulant run – what is the best case timing to start treating the liquid waste?

A: Before the end of the calendar year unless a mechanical type issue arises. Path forward should be straight.

Wasden – Jack, thank you for the work you and your team do. Extraordinary work in TRU waste, known WIPP and timeline issues that we can deal with. Thank you for your work with IWTU, appreciate the frank conversation and encouraging message. Appreciate your friendship and honesty.

Q: Bernal – Could you speak to moving the waste out – with no additional coming in for treatment. What does that do to jobs?

A: Severe. 600 to 700 people working, about half would go away. Could retain workforce if we continue with future mission, otherwise it would shift to D&D of the facility and RCRA closure. Ultimately all jobs would go away in about 5 years. Extending would keep people employed for a longer period of time. Highly skilled workers who know the process.

Q: Bernal – when you say have you have a long way to go, can you elaborate?

A: Transportation, jurisdiction issues. Slow rate of shipment to WIPP brings an issue of timing and disposal. Needs to be cost effective. Relating to transportation – accident proof containers would need to get some licensing modifications to ship the large bulk of the material which is a 2 year period.

Q: Rudin – Once areas are exhumed, what happens?

A: All structures will have to be decommissioned and torn down and then place a natural cap over top. Caps will be monitored and maintained – very safe and effective over long term and use natural vegetation.

Q: Little – Are those caps part of the project? Legacy project?

A: Part of overall baseline to request funding and expect to be funded. Construction would not start until 2021 to 2023.

Q: Rudin – Follow up question – will there be long term monitoring?

A: Yes. Not 100% on timing. Will be turned over to legacy management. After 100 years unknown.

SMR Ad Hoc Subcommittee Report, Rebecca Casper and Bobbi Jo Meuleman

- Reviewed and approved SMR talking points for legislative session and community messaging.
 - Will be a working document with revisions and additions as needed
- SMR Ad Hoc committee will be dissolved at the completion of the 2018 legislative session. All SMR related issues will roll into the Research, Development, and Demonstration and Deployment subcommittee.

Research Development Demonstration and Deployment Subcommittee Report, Mark Peters

- The subcommittee continues to provide feedback to the Energy Systems Strategies Assessment and Integration (EESAI) study.
- RDD&D will absorb role and responsibility of SMR Ad Hoc Committee at the end of the 2018 legislative session –open to any SMR Ad Hoc subcommittee members to join RDD&D.
- The subcommittee will continue to develop strategies for building out the supply/value chain for advanced reactors in Idaho, and the region, and consult with LINE on required support

Safety and Environment and Risks Subcommittee Report, Mark Rudin

- Subcommittee unanimously decided to alter focus from calcine/HLW reclassification to identifying waste/SNF stream types at INL. The end product will be an educational/informational briefing - in a consistent format - for commission and public consumption.
 - The briefings will inform deeper and more knowledgeable conversations and potential recommendations from the subcommittee to the full commission (and beyond).
 - Will present 2 to 3 waste stream reports for feedback and input at May meeting

Education and Workforce Subcommittee Report, Rick Aman and Amy Lientz

- See PowerPoint

Horman – residency requirements are most restrictive in region which creates barriers. Adjusting requirements might allow for retention of that talent. Legislation is in the works, however it's too early to tell if it's a real opportunity.

Peters - Strategic Outcomes: what's the committee going to focus on for outcomes?

- The key is integration – the pieces exist
- Needed in several sectors but it's a great starting point with the narrow focus on Nuclear
- Providing clarity to teachers, parents, counselors for careers – road mapping

Little - The goal of having a robust committee structure is a well on its way. Greatly appreciate the hard work. The system is clearly working.

Opened meeting to public comment:

Monica Hamilton, Arco Economic Development. See transcript. Time to readdress settlement agreement and turn thinking to the future of the site and its workers. Reuse assets such as RMWC.

Beatrice Brailsford, Snake River Alliance, regarding Small Modular Reactors. 2011 analysis of SMR power considered looking at subsidies – would have been cheaper for government to buy the electricity and give it away for free.

Dana Kirkham, REDI, wants to add a community perspective. There is a will within the communities to make the SMR project happen. Support is strong for the proposed tax incentive bills as another tool in the toolbox. REDI is interested in any and all information the LINE Commission can provide for public consumption. AMWTP is real concern for the trained, skilled workforce at the completion of its life-cycle.

Bernal – Echo Monica and Dana remarks, would like to see if the commission would allow a concentrated work group to do what we can to preserve the jobs at AMWTP. Losing 300 people in Butte County is a real, harsh impact on the community. *LINE staff will get an email chain going to work through this issue.*

Little – work product with Rudin subcommittee and the working group for AMWTP will be a dual path for a real result.

Casper – Relating to AMWTP, it makes sense to save the national asset and save taxpayer dollars instead of shutting down. There are options but need to explore hurdles. ECA meeting had a presentation from Chairman of Citizen oversight for WIPP – explaining what is involved in the future of WIPP, max storage, etc. Facilitating that presentation for the spring LINE meeting would be an option.

Grossenbacher – The work being done by Dr. Rudin’s subcommittee is so important. We need to address legacy management issues after the waste streams/SNF have been identified and addressed.

Next meeting in late May. More details to come.

Wasden moved to adjourn 2:20pm.