

# Alaska Energy Policy Task Force

*Created by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Alaska Legislature*

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**(Approved) Minutes of the  
November 18, 2003  
Meeting of the  
Alaska Energy Policy Task Force (EPTF)  
AIDEA/AEA Board Room, Third Floor**

**Call to Order:** Chair Barry called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Members present - Mike Barry, Dave Carlson, Robert Wilkinson, Wayne Carmony, Rick Eckert, Steve Haagenson, Meera Kohler. Tom Boutin on teleconference.

**Staff:** Becky Gay and Bernie Smith (EPTF.)

**Others attending:** Senator Fred Dyson, Alaska State Legislature, **Jim** Posey of Anchorage Municipal Light and Power (ML&P), Don Zoerb of Matanuska Electric Association (MEA), Phil Steyer, Lee Thibert and Mark Fouts of Chugach Electric Association (CEA) and Chris Rose of Alaska Conservation Foundation (ACF.)

**Approval of minutes of November 4 meeting:** Minutes were approved as presented.

**Staff reports:** Gay addressed administrative items; offering an request to please keep extraneous talking, cell phones, etc. outside the AIDEA/AEA working areas during breaks or the meeting in courtesy of the other staff. Gay also noted that the Legislative Bridge would be the only taping of the meetings from now on and it is accessible on the web to the public. Smith updated everyone on the pending Energy bill, noting ANWR and the gas floor mechanism were out, Denali Commission was funded and there would be large appropriations for training in the Indian Energy Section, should the bill pass.

**Development of the preliminary Task Force Report:** The Chair recognized Senator Dyson in the audience and asked if he had any comments. The Senator participated throughout the discussion, at one time stating that the savings from a unified system should “demonstrably benefit and ought not to demonstrably disadvantage” any present arrangements, since nothing the State participates in should be to the detriment of any region. During later discussion of the long term recommendations, Senator Dyson asked if there are sections or loops that could or should be DC transmission, and if so, which ones? Dyson also asked if a natural gas pipeline with a source of gas was reality, would it change the scenario regarding a long-term energy plan? To that question, Carmony replied that gas could be moved as electricity through electric lines, too. The Task Force proceeded to work directly on the draft document with staff integrating the comments as

they were agreed upon to the outline of the document. Most efforts were spent on Objectives IV, including the changes and elements agreed upon by the group. The changes were incorporated directly into a new draft documents as the day progressed. In conclusion, Chair Barry suggested beginning the next session with Objective II, "how best to incorporate state-owned Railbelt assets into the solution for current and long-term electrical needs." The Chair reiterated the suggestion to send written comments to staff to expedite the drafting of the document. Barry also directed staff to get an updated draft to the Task Force members before the next meeting.

**Set meeting schedules and deadlines:** Due to the inclusion of scheduled presentations, the next meeting will be an extended one, **Tuesday, December 2, at the AIDEA/AEA 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**, with a teleconference available through the Legislative bridge number. Next scheduled meeting is Thursday, December 18, tentatively from 1:30 - 5 p.m.

**Public comments:** Chris Rose, Alaska Conservation Foundations, spoke to emphasize the need to keep energy efficiency and renewables in the Task Force report and noted his written comments (distributed by staff), which included action items on wind power in particular. Rose encouraged attendance at the upcoming GE wind presentation at the Hilton and his willingness to answer questions should there be any.

**Task Force Member comments:** Barry mentioned the subject of tax counsel regarding refinancing issues facing a unified system operation.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.**