



2011 Winter Meeting Action Items

Suggested Statement for Alignment of Natural Gas Standards – to be submitted to the Regulatory Cooperation Council

PNWER supports having common standards for natural gas deployment in the transportation sector and would encourage the Canada/ United States Regulatory Coordinating Council ensure alignment between our two countries. We commend Natural Resources Canada's action to undertake the next phase of the "The Natural Gas Use in the Canadian Transportation Sector Deployment Roadmap" to study the standards for natural gas deployment and to identify any standards that would impede the implementation of natural gas vehicles across North America."

Telecommunications Working Group

1. Develop Scope and Budget for Information Technology Institute (ITI).
2. Foster and continue to build working group participation.
3. Identify and invite key U.S. and Canadian Legislators to participate in the ITI .
4. Submitted proposal and request an University Academy Liaison to help on identifying.

Tourism

1. Create Committee with Alaska, Washington, and BC Ferries to work toward a NorPass Pilot.
2. Create a regional tourism Northwest Product development sub-committee to explore opportunities for greater regional bi-national collaboration.
3. Continue to define a tourism Visa Pilot that can be submitted to Canadian and U.S. Federal Government Beyond the Border working group to expedite or accelerate tour visas (this would allow visitors to visit both the U.S. and Canada) to support group tours.

Energy Storage

1. Work toward developing policy priorities, best practices, and ensure that policy makers continue to attend meetings in order for private industry to inform policy makers directly.
2. Insert PNWER into discussions for the Northwest Power Plan in order to bring a perspective to the committee that is currently absent.
3. Find opportunities for energy storage options to be shared directly with regulators and utility managers.
4. Share information and broaden the coalition of those involved in the energy storage discussion by reaching out to related sectors such as timber, fishing, and transportation.
5. Find ways to gain access to research labs in order to pilot test energy storage policies.
6. Continue to pursue grants that could pair academic researchers and private companies in order to undertake research such as downsizing prototypes or gaining access to fabrication.
7. Develop opportunities, internships or training programs for students to get hands-on experience.
8. Continue to collaborate and reach out to all stakeholders to have broader conversations about storage technology and the costs and benefits for both the short and long term. Continue to evaluate the dialogue by emulating similar processes undertaken by other working groups within PNWER.

Energy Transmission

PNWER will request the cooperation of Secretary Salazar of US Department of the Interior and Secretary Vilsack of US Department of Agriculture, in expediting the permitting and siting of new transmission rights

of way, and has also requested the states, provinces and territories comprising the PNWER region, the legislatures thereof, and the relevant associated agencies of those jurisdictions, to assist in the establishment of permitting timelines for new high voltage electric transmission lines required within and through our region.

PNWER will send a letter requesting the following recommendations for Bonneville Power Administration:

- With regard to expansion of transmission capacity and relief of congestion, to concentrate on projects which offer the promise of near-term success – south to California (eg completion of the proposed upgrade to the Pacific Intertie), and north to British Columbia (strengthening of the northern intertie, focusing on those projects which already have existing rights of way, such as the Juan de Fuca Cable, and others);
- To encourage private investment, new models of cost allocation, and trans-border investment for transmission;
- To implement programs that can accommodate surplus energy generated during the spring freshet period (eg create incentives to transfer load, consider broader adoption of pumped storage);
- To allow a one-time off-ramp for current wind inter-connection application permits, to allow developers to get security deposits back, create more transmission capacity, and clear the queue for future development.