

Energy and Utilities Technical Working Group

8 February 2012

Meeting Notes

These meeting notes are provided as is and may be augmented or clarified by members of the group. The notes are not necessarily provided in the order they were discussed and likely contain errors as they are based on the memory of the writer.

Agenda

1. IGO general update
2. Energy data needed for management of Idaho Lands
3. New information regarding energy and utility geographic data needs for Idaho
 - a. Office of Energy Resources
 - b. Idaho Transportation Department
4. Open discussion from Group

Attendees

1. Bill Brown
2. Bill Farnsworth Idaho Geospatial Office
3. Bruce Tuttle Idaho Department of Water Resources
4. Bob Pietras Idaho Department of Lands
5. Bob Smith Idaho Geospatial Office
6. Dr. Dan Ames Idaho State University
7. Dan P. Jensen Idaho National Lab
8. Dixie Booker-Lair Idaho Department of Lands
9. Joshua Appleman Electronic Data Solutions
10. Matt Wiggs Office of Energy Resources
11. Ryan McDaniel Idaho Department of Water Resources

Those at last meeting not at this meeting

1. Becky Rose Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security
2. Brian Liberty Idaho Power
3. Eric Smith Jefferson County
4. Kimberly Pettit Idaho Department of Lands
5. Rod Collins Bureau of Land Management
6. Randy Rich Avista Energy
7. Scott Van Hoff USGS

Discussion

Bill Farnsworth shared the progress the IGO has made in obtaining commitments from Idaho Counties to submit parcel data to the state. He has also held 3 state agency meetings.

Finally, he mentioned that after consulting with state lawyers there is no authority for the state to establish regional resource centers (RRC) like the Eastern Idaho RRC. This will obviously be a big topic in the February 16th IGC-EC meeting.

Dixie Booker-Lair showed the group maps that she uses to track energy projects, specifically wind generation projects. According to Bob Pietris, the Idaho Department of Lands had suitability analysis performed for solar energy generation on state endowment lands. They would like to have similar analysis for wind and geothermal energy. Dixie mentioned that the project data she has is at risk of falling out of date, continuing maintenance is an issue that needs to be resolved. Dixie is a member of the Idaho Wind Working Group which is part of US DOE's Wind Powering America program.

Idaho State Wind Working Group

Contact: Sandy Cardon, Boise State University Office of Energy Research

<http://coen.boisestate.edu/windenergy/wind-working-group>

An Idaho State Wind Working Group has been formed under Wind Powering America to identify specific state concerns, barriers, and obstacles to wind development in Idaho. The working group is a collaboration of government agencies, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and industries interested in wind development. You are welcome to participate in future meetings.

The next Wind Working Group meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel in Boise, ID.

Dan Jensen shared information regarding the needs of Office of Energy Resources, Idaho Department of Transportation and Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security after discussing.

Office of Energy resource needs include location of generation facilities and transmission lines. These two data sets are also needed by the Bureau of Homeland Security, Department of Lands and IDWR. Office of Energy Resources also mentioned using data to keep legislature informed regarding current on the ground conditions and provide information that will enable the legislature to make best possible policy decisions. They are interested in finding a permanent resource to maintain energy data.

Dan shared information from a discussion with ITD District 6's Bill Shaw. ITD needs utility information for all utilities on state owned property beginning with ROWs to support planning, design, construction, permitting and maintenance of State's transportation infrastructure. In contrast with IDWR this is fairly detailed utility information that is needed. It is hoped that such data would not end at the property line, but be part of a regional utility infrastructure database.

Idaho Bureau of Homeland shared their needs in response to a request for such in January. Their energy related needs are listed below.

Power Companies

- Transmission Lines

- Generation Facilities with Capacity (include type and function i.e. coal, natural gas, hydro, peak shavers, etc.)
- Substations
- Service Areas
- Control Centers
- Transmission Connections with Adjoining States

Natural Gas

- Service Areas
- Pipelines
- Control Centers

Petroleum Product transport Infrastructure in general

The meeting moved to the open discussion agenda item. Dan discussed the need to move forward and asked the group to suggest ways the group might do that. Ryan McDaniel suggested that he would provide a list of energy related data held by IDWR along with whether that data could be distributed or not. Dan committed to send an e-mail to all participants requesting a similar data inventory.

Further Work

All participants are encouraged to provide a simple data inventory of energy and utility related data held by their agency\company along with the whether that data was available or not for distribution. Might I suggest we categorize this distribution in three ways: public distribution okay, OOU distribution only, no distribution.

Next Meeting

Due to time constraints in meetings will now be held every other month. The next meeting will be held April 11th from 10:30 -11:30 AM MT.