

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 17, 2013

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Denney, Vice Chairman Gibbs, Representatives Wood(35), Barrett, Moyle, Eskridge, Raybould, Andrus, Shepherd, Wood(27), Boyle, Vander Woude, Gestrin, Miller, Anderson(1), Pence, Erpelding, Ward-Engelking

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representatives Moyle and Vander Woude

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained with the minutes in the committee secretary's office until the end of session. Following the end of the session, the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Chairman Denney called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Boyle** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Rep. Eskridge introduced **Lyle Stewart**, President, Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWR), member of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan and **Alana Delong**, member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Lyle Stewart, PNWR, reviewed Alberta's location and its geography. He explained the energy breakdown in the Canadian economy. He described where oil sands are in the northern part of Alberta and he reviewed the other areas of mineral deposits.

Mr. Stewart reviewed the total value of mineral sales in Saskatchewan from the last four years and explained the continuous uranium production numbers from 2011. He gave a summary of the importance of the petroleum sector. He described the differences between light, medium and heavy oil. Mr. Stewart described the process of carbon dioxide capture and storage and said Saskatchewan has large amounts of un-captured carbon dioxide. He gave a background of the carbon dioxide projects and reviewed the success of the projects. He said this creates an important economic and energy win for the sector.

Alana Delong, Alberta Legislative Assembly, reviewed the geography of the oil pipeline in Alberta. She described what oil sands are and said they are a naturally occurring mix of sand and clay and water and a very heavy oil. She described what percentage of oil can be extracted from the different types of oil sands. She reviewed where the oil from Canada is going within the U.S. Ms. Delong described the issue of pipeline corrosion. She reviewed the top U.S. trade partners, and explained the economic impact in the US. She reviewed the number of jobs in the U.S. from Canadian oil production and explained the economic impact in the U.S. Ms. Delong reviewed Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) which is a key element to Alberta's climate change regulations.

DOCKET NO: 20-0201-1201: **Ara Andrea**, Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0201-1201**, Idaho Forest Practices Act, saying the Idaho Forest Practices Act defines the best management practices for harvesting operations all over Idaho. She reviewed several of the changes to the rule. She said the rules provide for a careful balance of practices for all forest practice managers. The rule provides for definitions and also provides for timber salvage operations, which were currently not allowed. She said the rule sets new lower stocking minimum levels and also clarifies intent of another rule. She said this rule sets new tree retention standards (shade rule) and removed the definition of clear-cut. She said the correct definition of clear-cut was inserted into the rule and will promote more successful practices.

Jim Riley, President, Riley and Assoc., spoke on behalf of Stinsen Lumber Company, Hancock Forest Management and Bannock Lumber Products, who stand in support of adoption of this rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to accept **Docket No. 20-0201-1201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO: 20-0314-1201: **Neil Crescerti**, Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0314-1201** regarding leasing of State Endowment Trust Lands. He said after the passage of **S 1271** in the 2012 legislative session, the State Board of Land Commissioners directed negotiating rule making for this rule. He reviewed the changes in the Pending Rule, which include sections of definition. He said these changes will incorporate management plans. He reviewed clarifications in applicant processing and explained redundant sections and their proposed removal.

In response to questions regarding stricken language of the rights of the Department, **Mr. Crescerti** explained that this language is removed from the rule because it is redundant and the rights of the Department are added word for word in the lease contract documents.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to accept **Docket No. 20-0314-1201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Wood(35)** requested she be recorded as voting **NAY**.

DOCKET NO: 20-0315-1201: **Bob Pietras**, Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0315-1201**, Geothermal Leases. He said this rule governs the leasing of state land for geothermal resources. Mr. Pietras said their stakeholders voiced concerns regarding this rule and the Department made a commitment to address these concerns of the stakeholders in further negotiated rule making. He reviewed the key changes to the rule which include the deletion of three sections, which brought resolution to the concerns brought forward in 2011, regarding shut downs. He said the substance of these sections has been incorporated into the lease. Mr. Pietras said there was concern with sampling requirements and that has been moved to the lease. He said there were concerns regarding by-products and the content of this section has been moved to the lease regarding by-products. Mr. Pietras said several other sections were deleted to allow the leases to be negotiated on a lease by lease bases. He reviewed the other sections that were also deleted. He said the section on lease requirements was modified to protect the state. He reviewed the changes on water rights and said in summary the Pending Rule clarifies these rights.

In response to questions, **Mr. Pietras** said all leases go to the Land Board for approval, they are the oversight for leases. He said the Attorney General's Office is involved in all negotiations of leases and ensure the language is in the appropriate place and the lease language stays consistent.

Ben Otto, Idaho Conservation League, said he participated in the negotiated rule making process and believes in the promotion of geothermal energy. He said the important parts of the rule are still there for protection of the Department and the details of the lease are in the lease. He gave an example of geothermal development and said they are comfortable with the changes. He said the changes in the rule allows more flexibility in talking with lessees and creates a clearer and simpler system.

MOTION: **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to accept **Docket No. 20-0315-1201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO: 25-0101-1202: **Jake Howard**, Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board, presented **Docket No. 25-0101-1202**. He explained the rule represents what is currently allowed regarding wolf trapping. He said this rule sets training and licensing requirements, and sets limitations on what clients can do during a hunt.

In response to questions, **Mr. Howard** said this rule allows outfitters to accommodate their clients, it doesn't effect the public and sets the framework of what an outfitter can do when trapping wolves. He also clarified that the outfitter is the company, the guide is the employee, and the trapping equipment must be owned by the outfitter. If trapping equipment is owned by the guide, it must be leased to the outfitter and the documentation must be on file. This rule clarifies that a guide may not on his/her own accord place traps and treat those traps as incidental to the hunt.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to accept **Docket No. 25-0101-1202**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Representative Denney
Chair

Susan Werlinger
Secretary