

Rocky Mountain Energy Council Implementation Strategy Meeting

Draft Agenda - July 8 and 9, 2003

**Location – Federal Center Building 50, Denver, CO
Main Conference Room**

Meeting Goal — *Develop a tactical implementation plan that will allow the Rocky Mountain Energy Council Pilot Program to be up and running by December, 2003*

Objectives:

To establish operating procedures for the RMEC

To develop a shared understanding of the goals of the RMEC with members and staff that will be engaged in implementation of recommendations/action plan

To generate detailed consensus recommendations and/or options to the RMEC on issues related to implementation

Tuesday July 8 – Morning

7:30 to 8:00 – Registration – Federal Center, Main Conference Room Lobby

8:00 to 8:30 Overview, Introductions

- ❖ Agenda Overview & Meeting Goal/Objectives
- ❖ Participant Introductions (names, affiliation, two to three words that would describe a successful meeting/what you expect to get out of this meeting)
- ❖ Roles and responsibilities (Council Members, State and Federal Staff, Team Leaders and Facilitators/Recorders)
- ❖ Decision – Making
- ❖ Proposed ground rules

8:30 - 10:00 - Opening Plenary Session Discussion: Setting the Stage for Achievement

Invited Speakers will welcome participants:

- James Moseley, Deputy Secretary, Department of Agriculture;
- Bryan Hannegan, Council on Environmental Quality
- Jack Belcher, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, House Resources Committee;
- Conrad Lass, Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior

Bob Middleton, Chair of the White House Task Force on Energy Project Streamlining, will discuss:

- ❖ National Energy Policy
- ❖ President's Management Agenda
- ❖ Rocky Mountain Energy Council: Principles and Goals
- ❖ State/Federal Partnerships
- ❖ General Council Organization
- ❖ RMEC Executive Secretary Office: Role and Function
- ❖ Support Funding (meetings, printing, etc.)
- ❖ Relationship between Rocky Mountain Energy Council and the Energy Policy Group Resources

A question and answer period will follow Bob's presentation.

10:00 – 11:15 Setting the Goals for the Breakout Sessions.¹

¹ Breakout Session Process Overview

Participants will pre-register for the team/conversation in which they are most interested/experienced.

Six teams have been organized. There will be two sessions with three concurrent conversations. These teams have been organized to develop a more detailed implementation plan that will operationalize the functions and facilitate the achievement of goals of the RMEC. Consensus is the goal for breakouts. Multi-voting can be used to prioritize issues to be addressed by RMEC. Participants are encouraged to attach timelines (things that need immediate attention, and those that are more complex to occur over time). Representatives will report out recommendations and options for consideration to the RMEC in a plenary session. Recommendations will be pasted into a proposed, integrated timeline in the plenary sessions. Council members will discuss and decide upon recommendations.

Team leaders will guide the substantive portion of the conversation, provide an overview and summarize. Facilitators will work with team leaders to ensure objectives are met within the time allowed, and will also work to organize the conversation around where there is agreement/disagreement and generating options.

It is critical that these conversations go as deeply as possible in the time allowed, and that discussions go to/are bound by the functions and goals of the RMEC:

- The Rocky Mountain Energy Council has three functions.
 - 1) To develop federal/state partnerships for long-term management of renewable and nonrenewable energy resources on state and federal public lands.
 - 2) To allow more forward looking and strategic planning—on a regional basis—for the environmentally responsible development, production, and distribution of the Nation's valuable energy resources
 - 3) To develop processes for early collaboration and consultation among the State and Federal Agencies responsible for managing, authorizing, consulting on, reviewing, or certifying renewable and nonrenewable energy projects on public land.
- The goals of the Rocky Mountain Energy Council are:
 - 1) To reduce the conflict, uncertainty, and time involved in making decisions on energy resource management in the Rocky Mountains.
 - 2) To take a long-term and regional view on managing energy resources in the Rocky Mountains
 - 3) To establish a mechanism to coordinate top-level federal and state policy guidance regarding the development of regional energy resources and their transmission to markets.
 - 4) Institutionalize early collaboration and participation of all parties involved in regional decisions on environmental, economic, and energy issues.

Kathleen Rutherford will give a broad process, goal and objective overview for the breakout sessions. Rutherford will clarify the roles, responsibilities and expectations of all participants in these sessions. Individual Session Leaders will then speak to their specific goals.

Individual Session Presentations (15 minutes each)

- ❖ Building State/Federal Partnerships - John Corra (Wyoming)
- ❖ Communication - Jim States (RMOTC)
- ❖ Data Management - John Krummel (Argonne Lab)
- ❖ Conflict Resolution -Rutherford/Erickson (Resolve)

Objectives of the breakout sessions are twofold:

To generate and exchange information from a variety of experiential perspectives

To effectively shape implementable recommendations, identify those areas where more information is needed, propose solutions to identified issues

Outcome: Where consensus is reached, recommendations to the tactical implementation plan will be made. Where consensus is not reached, options will be shared.

11:15-12:30 LUNCH

(Working on-site lunch for WHTF, Executive Secretary Office, and facilitators)

12:30-1:15 Lessons Learned, Successes to Build On

Three presenters will share informative stories/frameworks to enable participants to apply principles of success and benefit from lessons learned in building this collaborative effort.

- ❖ The Federal Leadership Forum - Bill Daniels (BLM)
- ❖ Southwest Strategy - Harv Forsgren (Forest Service)
- ❖ Columbia River Basin Salmon Recovery Project - Ted Boling (CEQ)

Tuesday July 8 - Afternoon

1:15 - 2:45 – Breakout Sessions – Building Blocks for a Tactical Implementation Plan

- **Team 1** — Develop a process to build State/Federal Partnerships for long-term management of renewable and nonrenewable energy resources on public lands
- **Team 2** — Develop a process for early collaboration and consultation among the State and Federal Agencies responsible for managing, authorizing, consulting on, reviewing, or certifying renewable and nonrenewable energy projects on public land
- **Team 3** — Establish procedures for Internal Communication and External Outreach

Break: 2:45 – 3:00

3:00 to 4:45 Plenary Session — Breakout Session Recommendations and Discussion (Rutherford)

Objective: In order to create an integrated, proposed implementation plan for the RMEC, participants will be asked to consider their recommendations in light of a targeted timeline. The timeline will help the RMEC to determine what can be tackled at their meeting in December, and what should follow thereafter.

Breakout groups will report issues, options and recommendations to the whole group in plenary. These will be posted on a timeline that focused on the next meeting of the RMEC in December, and reflects time after that as well. Participants also have the option of generating options for who/what agency might be responsible for each suggested action, however the RMEC will make final decisions in the plenary sessions.

- Team 1 Representative
- Team 2 Representative
- Team 3 Representative

Discussion, clarifying questions.

4:45 – 5:30 (as needed) (Middleton/Rutherford)

- Open Floor Discussion
- 1st Day Wrap up
- Planning for tomorrow

Wednesday – July 9, 2003

8:00 - 8:45 Plenary Session (Rutherford)

1. Review of Previous Day's accomplishments, Status and Direction (CEQ Task Force Staff)

8:45 to 10:00 Breakout Sessions - Building Blocks for a Tactical Implementation Plan

- **Team 4** — Decision making and Dispute Resolution – Outline process that RMEC can use to identify affected stakeholders, evaluate proposed solutions and comments, incorporate suggestions, and resolve conflict
- **Team 5** — Addressing Impediments to Success² — Identify obstacles to success such as outdated business procedures. Duplicative regulations, and untimely decision-making processes. Develop process to evaluate and implement solutions.
- **Team 6** — Strategic Planning - How do we measure success – short and long-term? Deliverables. Identify positive performance goals, terms of measure and information needed including regulatory approvals for data collection and timelines for performance measurement. Start with stated goals.

10:00 – 11:30 Plenary Session — Breakout Session Recommendations and Discussion (Rutherford)

- Team 4 Representative
- Team 5 Representative
- Team 6 Representative

11:30 to 12:00 – Wrap up & Next Steps (WHTF)

- What needs to be done?
- Who is responsible?
- ~~What are the timeframes?~~
- Transition Responsibilities to the RMEC. (How does Task Force move into background on this project. Who needs to be party to this conversation?)

² Success should be directly related to the stated goals of the RMEC. See Footnote #1.

Issues for consideration in breakout sessions

Team 1 — Building State/Federal Partnerships for long-term management of renewable and nonrenewable energy resources on public lands.³

Team Leader/Facilitator:

Key questions for consideration include:

How best to foster federal/state partnerships with regard to policies/regulations on:

- ❖ Energy development;
- ❖ Project oversight;
- ❖ Environmental protection?

How do we talk about regional/long term?

How to integrate transmission planning with resource development?

Team 2 — Developing processes for early collaboration and consultation among the State and Federal Agencies responsible for managing, authorizing, consulting on, reviewing, or certifying renewable and nonrenewable energy projects on public land⁴

Key questions here that need to be answered/have options generated might include:

Given your experience, and the impediments identified with regards to interagency/intergovernmental coordination, how would you restructure your agency/program role in energy development with regard to:

- ❖ Permitting
- ❖ Reviewing
- ❖ Commenting

Or

³ From the RMEC Management Plan:

“The Council will be responsible for fostering Federal/State partnerships and early collaboration for Federal and State Government decision-making on energy issues facing the region and the Nation.

In addition, the agencies responsible for managing onshore energy resources generally do not take a long-term or regional view on developing energy resources for the Nation. Energy planning is done on a forest-by-forest, field office-by-field office, or—at best—State-by-State basis. Most energy resources that are developed are not used locally, but need to be moved to areas of use. The overall planning efforts do not link the development of energy resources with the transmission of these resources to the end users.

It is also important that federal decisions on public land not be made in a vacuum and that effective institutional partnerships be formed with the States so that policies and regulations on energy development, project oversight, and environmental protection be made in concert, for the benefit of local, regional, and national populations.” (also applicable to Team 2)

⁴ Ibid.

“In the case of federal decisions, many federal or delegated state agencies have a hand in permitting, reviewing, or commenting on energy projects. Many of the agencies are not involved early enough in the process to define potential concerns or problems and only become involved in the regulatory process where they “have to” review or comment. This sets up a circumstance where a lot of work may need to be redone or refocused to satisfy an information need or concern of the reviewing or commenting agency, causing delays and additional expenditure of already tight resources.”

At what point in the process does your agency/program/branch need to be involved in energy development projects on public lands in order to define potential concerns or problems and thereby eliminate delays linked with data gaps (with regard to these three stages):

- ❖ Permitting
- ❖ Reviewing
- ❖ Commenting

Team 3 — Establish procedures for Internal Communication and External Outreach

- Internal
- External/public affairs
- Chain of command
- Community outreach
- Define Stakeholders
- Media
- Public input
- Lines of communication between RMEC and Tribal governments
- Lines of communication between RMEC and local governments
- Educational outreach

Team 4 — Decision making and Dispute Resolution

- Consensus building
- Dispute resolution
- Sunshine laws
- Federal Advisory Committee Act
- Federal and State regulatory authorities
- ?Other

Team 5 — Identify Obstacles to Success

From the RMEC Management Plan:

“The Rocky Mountain Energy Council is a Presidential priority that will allow a more effective management strategy for energy development and energy policy issues on Federal and State public lands in the Rocky Mountains. It is proposed that the Council include the States of Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico and those Federal and State Agencies with responsibilities for managing energy projects within these States. The Council will be responsible for fostering Federal/State partnerships and early collaboration for Federal and State Government decision-making on energy issues facing the region and the Nation. It is intended that the Council will take a long-term perspective on managing renewable and nonrenewable public energy resources, including their identification, production, and transmission to the market. The responsibility of the Council will be to address and resolve issues affecting the environmentally responsible development of the valuable public energy resources that are needed

for the energy security, economic stimulation, and social well-being of the American Public.”

Issues identified in stakeholder interviews include:

- Building trust
- Competing priorities
- Statutory responsibilities
- Commitment
- Funding
- Staff Resources
- ?Other

Key questions to shape the conversation here include:

- ❖ What are the priorities?
- ❖ Can these be organized by cause/effect or other prioritization metric?
- ❖ What are the key issues and proposed solutions for each? Timelines?
- ❖ What needs to be overcome?

Team 6 – Strategic Planning - Given the goals/functions, how is success defined? How do we measure success? Then breakout into more detailed discussion on the short/long term outcomes/needs

- Short term outcomes
- Long term outcomes
- Performance measures
- Information collections and management
- Short term needs
- Long term needs
- Information acquisition
- Information sharing
- Usage/reporting