EXECUTIVE ORDER 08 – 26

OREGON ENERGY PLANNING COUNCIL

Our decisions in the next decade will determine Oregon’s energy future. Whether it is demand from our growing economy or growing population, Oregon’s energy needs are expected to increase. Oregon has charted a course to meet future demand with renewable energy, aggressive conservation strategies and increased efficiency. It will take time, however, to implement Oregon’s green, more efficient energy plan and invest in the energy infrastructure needed to incorporate renewable energy into the grid.

On August 27, 2008, I hosted a Summit on Oregon’s Energy Future. At the Summit, energy suppliers, public officials, scientists, labor and business representatives, students and environmentalists gathered to begin a discourse about creating Oregon’s energy future. The Summit identified Oregon’s need for a formal, comprehensive planning process to move the state toward clean, renewable energy, while also addressing the immediate issues of price stability and supply certainty for Oregon families and businesses.

Energy supply and demand are dynamic and thus, the State’s energy planning requires ongoing analysis, flexibility and adaptability. Even in these tough economic times, the need to address Oregon’s energy future in a comprehensive way remains an essential goal. The future well-being and prosperity of Oregon’s families and businesses depend on it. This Executive Order establishes the Oregon Energy Planning Council to provide proactive analysis, advice and assistance on energy planning.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Energy Planning Council (“Council”) is hereby established.

2. The Council shall consist of eleven members appointed by the Governor for terms of three years each. Members shall represent the best interests of Oregon as a whole. The Council shall include:

   a. A representative from the Oregon University System;
   b. A representative who is knowledgeable about energy transmission;
   c. A representative who is an energy economist;
   d. Two representatives of ratepayers;
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c. A representative of renewable energy providers;
f. A representative of the Bonneville Power Administration;
g. A representative of natural gas providers;
h. Two representatives of electricity providers; and
i. A representative who is knowledgeable about energy efficiency and conservation.

3. All members serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The terms of each appointment shall be three years. Initial terms shall be proportionately staggered to periods of one, two and three years. Members may be reappointed. The Governor shall designate a Chair, who will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. The following Oregon officials or their designees shall serve as ex officio members of the Council:

a. Chair of the Board of Agriculture;
b. Chair of the Board of Forestry;
c. Chair of the Economic and Community Development Commission;
d. Chair of the Energy Facility Siting Council;
e. Chair of the Environmental Quality Commission;
f. Chair of the Fish and Wildlife Commission;
g. Chair of the Land, Conservation and Development Commission;
h. Chair of the Oregon Global Warming Commission;
i. Chair of the Oregon Investment Council;
j. Chair of the Public Utilities Commission; and
k. The State Economist.

5. The Council shall meet at least quarterly and at the call of the Chair or the Governor. The Council’s deliberations shall be public, and the Council shall hold meetings at different locations throughout the state, at the direction of the Chair.

6. On or before December 31, 2010, and continuing thereafter on a biennial basis, or at the request of the Governor, the Council shall issue an Oregon energy planning report to the Governor and the Legislative Assembly, which may outline:
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a. Oregon’s current energy use and energy supply and its future energy needs;
b. Challenges to addressing the immediate issues of price stability and energy supply certainty for Oregon families and businesses;
c. Recommendations for bridging any potential gaps in Oregon’s energy supply;
d. Recommendations for short, middle and long-range strategies for meeting Oregon’s future energy needs, including the costs of any required infrastructure improvements and the expected environmental and economic impact of each energy strategy;
e. At least two alternative strategies for meeting Oregon’s energy needs; and
f. Any recommended statutory changes for legislative consideration and recommended budget items to be included in the Governor’s budget.

7. On an ongoing basis, at the request of the Governor, the Council shall provide analysis and counsel on energy forecasting, energy transmission, energy price stability, renewable energy, alternative energy sources and energy efficiency.

8. The Oregon Department of Energy shall provide staff support to the Council. Other state agencies shall assist the Council upon request. The Council shall consult with national energy experts as appropriate.

9. The members of the Council shall not receive compensation for their activities as members of the Council, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in attending Council business pursuant to ORS 292.495(2) and subject to availability of funds.
Done at Salem, Oregon, this 17th day of December, 2008.

Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE