



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
(*Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 218E.805*)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The third meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Legislative Committee on Energy was held on Monday, May 19, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 2135 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's website at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/interim/77th2013/committee/>. In addition, copies of the audio or video record are available through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Senator Kelvin Atkinson, Chair
Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair
Senator Aaron D. Ford
Senator Michael Roberson
Assemblyman Crescent Hardy

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Assemblyman David P. Bobzien

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Marji Paslov Thomas, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division
Dan Yu, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Matt Mundy, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Gayle Nadeau, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

OPENING REMARKS

- Chair Atkinson provided opening remarks and explained the protocol for the Public Comment sections of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jane Feldman, Energy Chair, Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club, said she was advocating for energy efficiency, and in particular, for the energy efficiency standard that she stated was removed from Nevada's energy portfolio standard (EPS) during the 2013 Legislative Session. Ms. Feldman noted Nevada's energy efficiency ranking in the nation has fallen from number 13 to the mid-30s.

Discussion ensued among Chair Atkinson, Vice Chair Kirkpatrick, and Ms. Feldman regarding her comment on "the energy efficiency standard," which Ms. Feldman declared was removed from Nevada's EPS.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2014, IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

CHAIR ATKINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 13, 2014, MEETING HELD IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR FORD AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATION ON NEVADA'S GREEN BUILDING TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

- Kevin Hill, Energy Efficiency Program Manager, Office of Energy, Office of the Governor, testified regarding Nevada's green building tax abatement program, otherwise known as the LEED program, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Addressing his slide presentation ([Exhibit B](#)), Mr. Hill provided an overview of the program that included its background and purpose, qualifications to obtain tax incentives, legislative background on green building tax incentives, and specifics of the LEED program.

There was discussion between Vice Chair Kirkpatrick and Mr. Hill regarding the number of LEED projects and associated tax abatement application filings and revolving loans relative to Assembly Bill 33 (Chapter 502, *Statutes of Nevada 2013*). Also discussed was the status of the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC's) regulations. Responding to Vice Chair Kirkpatrick's inquiries, Mr. Hill said there are eight LEED projects, and possible a ninth. He said he was not involved with the application filings. Additionally, Mr. Hill stated the State's regulations typically exceed those of the USGBC.

PRESENTATION ON BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO, WHITE PAPER, ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: ALIGNMENT OF NEVADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND ENERGY POLICY

- Chris Lynch, Director, Business Environmental Program (BEP), University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), stated the white paper ([Exhibit C](#) and [Exhibit D](#)) was authored by himself and Dick Bartholet, Director of Research, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UNR, as part of a United States Department of Energy (DOE) grant to analyze and recommend methods to improve Nevada's regulatory and policy environment for improving energy efficiency in the commercial building inventory of the State.

Mr. Lynch addressed the following aspects of the grant during his presentation:

- The leadership team (or stakeholder group) assembled to fulfill the purpose of the grant consisted of the Governor's Office of Energy, NV Energy, and UNR.
 - The stakeholders focused on commercial buildings, because they represent 46 percent of total building energy consumption, or 20 percent of total U.S. energy use. In that usage there is a lot of waste and, therefore, opportunities for increased energy efficiency.
 - The structure of the project for the diverse group of stakeholders was to broadly investigate the alignment and potential conflicts in State economic development and energy policies.
 - Nevada's energy policy choices affect its economy, and in the context of achieving higher rates of energy efficiency in the State's commercial building supply, the stakeholder group arrived at a set of eight recommendations (page 2 in [Exhibit C](#)).
- Mr. Bartholet continued the presentation ([Exhibit C](#)) noting that early in the project, it was learned there were economists using the same tools and set of circumstances as the stakeholder group, but the conclusions were diametrically opposed.

Mr. Bartholet shared the stakeholder group reviewed several states that developed progressive modeling to improve the regulatory and policy environment for energy efficiency projects in the commercial buildings. He pointed out that the State of Hawaii developed a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model to analyze how regulation and policy decisions flow back through the economy and the impacts on various sectors.

Impressed with the Hawaii model, the stakeholder group engaged UNR economists to evaluate what it would take to develop a CGE model for Nevada. Mr. Bartholet said a separate report was developed by UNR on a CGE model. This report (<http://www.unrbep.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Process-for-Developing-a-CGE->

[Model-for-Nevada-112713-final.pdf](#) [Exhibit E]) was submitted to Nevada's Office of Energy. Mr. Bartholet disclosed he is leading a task force to pursue how to develop funding for a CGE model and the process of testing it over a couple of years. He pointed out the advantage to developing a CGE model is it avoids a proprietary model, which could be developed by various stakeholders such as NV Energy where economists do not have access to all the algorithms and assumptions that went into an open model. Concluding his remarks, Mr. Bartholet said a CGE model would be one of several tools that could be used to help make policy decisions to improve the regulatory environment for energy efficiency projects in the State.

Discussion ensued among Chair Atkinson, Vice Chair Kirkpatrick, Assemblyman Hardy, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Bartholet regarding recommendations one through eight on page 2 of [Exhibit C](#).

PRESENTATION ON ENERGYFIT NEVADA

- Kyle Davis, representing EnergyFit Nevada, provided introductory comments.
- Lauren Boitel, Executive Director, EnergyFit Nevada, said EnergyFit Nevada is a Statewide collaborative organization dedicated to energy efficiency for residential, commercial, and governmental sectors. The long-term objective for EnergyFit Nevada is to develop a sustainable energy-efficient industry through market transformation. Among other matters discussed during the slide presentation ([Exhibit F](#)), Ms. Boitel explained the well-recognized blue label "Home Performance With Energy Star" program is the core of the EnergyFit Nevada program.
- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick queried Ms. Boitel regarding retrofitting older apartment complexes for energy efficiency to assist residents of those buildings in achieving reduced utility bills.
- Ms. Boitel responded the EnergyFit Nevada program was dictated by large federal grants, but the program is at a transition point to provide a pathway to Nevadan's for energy-efficient living and not just homeowners but also renters, multi-family units, low-income housing, and senior citizens.

PRESENTATION ON CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT WHITE PAPER, *RENEWABLE ENERGY POWERS SILVER STATE AS A CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY HUB*

- Lydia Ball, Executive Director, Clean Energy Project (CEP), said CEP is a Nevada-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to powering a clean energy economy through education and outreach on the economic benefits of developing a clean energy future in Nevada. She shared that in March 2014 the CEP released a white paper ([Exhibit G](#)) showing there was a 10-to-1 rate of return on the investment that the State of Nevada has made for clean energy projects since 2010.

Beginning her slide presentation ([Exhibit H](#)), Ms. Ball noted the passage of A.B. 522 (Chapter 377, *Statutes of Nevada 2009*) that expands the renewable energy tax abatement program. She said through this program, a tracking system was set up for capital investments, tax abatements, jobs, and state income, among other aspects of renewable energy projects. Ms. Ball explained the tracking system in the Governor's Office of Energy was the primary source for the data in the March 2014 CEP white paper.

- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick stated conventions on solar, geothermal, and wind energy will be held in Nevada during 2014, which will bring positive international exposure to the State as a leader in renewable energy resources.

PRESENTATION ON ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF ROOFTOP SOLAR

- Monica Brett, Grant Administrator, Energy Education Partner, DOE, provided introductory comments. Ms. Brett noted that in April 2013 she was invited to attend a strategy session by the national nonprofit organization, Civil Society Institute with the goal of providing input into the organization's national clean energy agenda from a local perspective.

Topics addressed by Ms. Brett during her portion of the slide presentation ([Exhibit I](#)) on the "Economic Benefits of Rooftop Solar" were:

- Grid security;
- Definition for resilient communities;
- The power grid in a crisis;
- Volatile energy prices hurting the economy and the connection to man-made disasters, especially war and terrorism;
- The connection between energy and water resources;
- Challenges the nation faces transitioning from last century's infrastructure to this century;
- Two ways to begin a thoughtful dialogue on energy by focusing on education and the economy; and
- A roundtable discussion that was held on rooftop solar with representatives from large and small solar industry companies participating. The roundtable was facilitated by Kelly Thomas, LEED AP BD + C, HERS, Development and Membership Manager, U.S. Green Building Counsel Nevada Chapter, and the

discussions resulted in a white paper titled *Roadmap for Rooftop Solar in Southern Nevada by 2020*. (Please see [Exhibit J](#).)

- Louise Helton, Vice President and Founder, 1 Sun Solar Companies, testified regarding the economic benefits of rooftop solar to the State of Nevada, noting she is a proponent of “distributed generation,” or “rooftop solar.” Referring to her prepared remarks, Ms. Helton further stated the rooftop solar industry could be an economic revitalization for the State by bringing energy independence to the citizens of Nevada and transforming neighborhoods into clean communities. (Please see [Exhibit K](#).)

Ms. Helton proposed the following three recommendations for the Committee to consider that resulted from the roundtable discussion that Ms. Brett shared about during her presentation:

1. Commission a report on the investment potential of rooftop solar in the State so data-driven decisions can be made that will create the best opportunities for ratepayers.
2. Create the opportunity for PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) funding to democratize energy and allow citizens an affordable energy choice.
3. Set-aside 300 megawatts (MW) of rooftop solar relative to Senate Bill 123 (Chapter 490, *Statutes of Nevada 2013*), which would allow for the most controllable expansion of renewable energy to meet growing needs without expensive transmission costs.

Continuing, Ms. Helton mentioned a 2013 report produced by the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs known as *LASER* (<http://innovation.luskin.ucla.edu/sites/default/files/EDF%20Book%20Final.pdf>), which stands for *Los Angeles Solar and Efficiency Report*. The report demonstrated what opportunities would be available for investment possibilities, not just for solar but also for energy efficiency in the Los Angeles area. The result of this report led to a four-fold expansion of the City’s rooftop solar program. (Please see [Exhibit L](#).)

Discussion ensued among Chair Atkinson, Senator Ford, and Ms. Helton regarding the affordability for low-income consumers, especially residential customers, to acquire rooftop solar systems. Ms. Helton responded that affordability for low-income customers is challenging, but most people agree if power bills can be reduced to a loan payment on an installation that is equal to or less than an individual’s power bill, it is affordable for everyone.

- Scott Shaw, Director, Research and Development, Service 1st Energy Solutions, offered a brief autobiographical sketch and continued addressing the slide presentation ([Exhibit I](#)) on the Economic Benefits of Rooftop Solar. Starting at the 17th slide titled

“PACE,” he noted PACE began with commercial clients and then expanded to larger programs that include residential customers.

Further addressing the slide presentation, Mr. Shaw discussed the following matters:

- PACE financing;
- Benefits of PACE;
- PACE financing benefits for the consumer;
- Southern Nevada residential housing market; and
- Northern Nevada residential housing market.

Discussion ensued among Chair Atkinson, Senator Ford, and Mr. Shaw regarding Senator Ford’s inquiry about how the PACE program works relative to a property value assessment and whether loan payments for the solar energy system would be attached to a participating customer’s mortgage payments. Also discussed was credit ratings relative to PACE loan approvals. Mr. Shaw responded the property is the credit, or guarantee, for a solar energy system loan, and the liability for the loan is an element of the property tax bill, which is separate from the mortgage.

There was discussion between Senator Roberson and Mr. Shaw regarding Senator Roberson’s question about PACE loans being applied to property tax assessments that become liens on the properties. Mr. Shaw responded that the liens reassure investors that the loans are guaranteed.

Continued discussion ensued between Senator Roberson and Mr. Shaw related to the following matters:

- Where PACE has been utilized throughout the country relative to commercial businesses;
- The economic benefit of commercial solar systems as soon as they are installed;
- Residential results of solar system installations as experienced in the various states;
- Commercial benefits of PACE versus residential benefits of the program and whether a group of homeowners or a homeowners’ association can combine resources to take advantage of the PACE program; and
- The difference between a PACE loan and a “green mortgage,” PACE loan funds through investor groups, and PACE programs in lower income neighborhoods.

There was discussion among Chair Atkinson, Assemblyman Hardy, and Mr. Shaw regarding the following:

- The cost of a rooftop solar system, terms for a PACE loan, and the length of time a system can be expected to be productive;
- The dilemma of potential increased property taxes on homes because of energy-efficient upgrades relative to new owners who may prefer not to have the upgrades; and
- Whether there is information available for a solution to the dilemma of possible property tax increases as noted in the previous bullet and whether renewable energy systems on homes are supposed to increase homeowners' property tax liability.

Discussion ensued among Vice Chair Kirkpatrick, Mr. Shaw, and Ms. Helton regarding the following issues:

- Value of “green mortgages” for homes listed in the Multiple Listing Service;
 - Foreclosure situations to ensure consumer protections are in place if solar energy system loans are considered a lien and a first priority payment to investors of the loans;
 - The terms and interest rates of the solar energy loans relative to energy savings over the length of the loan; and
 - Safeguards for the State of Nevada, because property taxes are a major funding source for the State and other governmental municipalities.
- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick opined she would support commercial solar programs initially and expressed concern that once funding is sourced for solar projects in the State, the consumers must be protected through checks and balances to ensure that qualified contractors are hired for the installations of solar energy systems.
 - Louise Helton responded that consumer protections are in place with: (1) NV Energy being required to approve any installation of solar energy systems; (2) a permit requirement by the local municipality for the project; and (3) a C-2 licensed contractor for the installation, at the minimum. In summary, Ms. Helton recapitulated there are two layers of consumer protection, in addition to the local municipality that issued the permit and handles all the inspections for the project, which are: (1) the licensed contractor's qualifications can be checked with the State Contractors' Board; and (2) NV Energy handles the final approval after the project is installed.
 - Vice Chair Kirkpatrick remarked it is important to have these discussions on the record so the public knows the legislative intent of legislators' actions.

There was a discussion between Senator Ford and Mr. Shaw regarding Senator Ford's question about the difference between a PACE loan for a solar energy system and other energy efficiency improvement loans from other financing institutions. Mr. Shaw explained a PACE loan is guaranteed by the property itself and is paid through property taxes.

Additionally, Senator Ford inquired about PACE's situation in Nevada to accomplish implementing its solar energy system program and what PACE needs the Nevada Legislature to do to enable a path forward for PACE to be involved in the State. Responding to Senator Ford, Mr. Shaw reiterated Ms. Helton's earlier testimony regarding the three recommendations for the Legislative Committee on Energy to consider.

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hardy and Mr. Shaw regarding Assemblyman Hardy's question about an administrative services fee being assessed by PACE that would be remitted to Nevada's Department of Taxation or a county or other entity. Additionally, Assemblyman Hardy asked whether the consumer acquiring a PACE loan for a solar installation can engage in an open competitive bid for a contractor or whether the PACE program designates the qualifying contractors.

Responding to Assemblyman Hardy's inquiries, Mr. Shaw said Nevada's Department of Taxation should have the authority through State legislation to charge an administrative fee to the PACE entity administering the loans. Regarding selection of a contractor, Mr. Shaw said consumers for solar energy system installations are allowed to use any contractor available to them, preferably a C-2 or greater licensed contractor would be selected.

PRESENTATION ON LOW-INCOME SOLAR POLICIES IN OTHER STATES

- Stanley Greschner, Vice President, Government Relations and Market Development, GRID Alternatives, shared that GRID is a nonprofit solar contractor. He said his presentation would address expanding Nevada's commitment to and investments in creating a robust clean energy economy that is more accessible to all customer segments, including low-income communities and families.

Highlights discussed during Mr. Greschner's slide presentation ([Exhibit M](#)):

- History of GRID;
- The growing impact of GRID having installed more than 4,200 systems;
- Existing low-income programs, noting each program is unique to the state and circumstances;
- Comprehensive low-income energy solutions through SASH (Single-Family Affordable Solar Homes) and MASH (Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing) programs;

- Challenges to low-income solar programs;
- Successful low-income solar programs; and
- Other stakeholders involved in discussions regarding low-income solar programs.
- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick interjected her concern that Nevada may be limited financially to participate in low-income solar efficiency programs.
- Mr. Greschner offered as the State discusses commitments to growing its clean energy economy to include more solar, it needs to make sure that the low-income segment of the economy is part of the conversations, and when policies are created, ensure the program's design is "inclusive" and not "exclusive" to certain customer segments.
- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick pointed out Nevada had a vigorous low-income energy efficiency program and retrofitted approximately 12,000 homes in 2009 to make them energy efficient.
- Mr. Greschner shared that other states have expanded similar programs to integrate solar energy with other energy efficiency measures.

PRESENTATION ON EXPANDING NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEVADA AND ITS ROLE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Debra Gallo, Director, Government and State Regulatory Affairs, Southwest Gas Corporation, stated her presentation would cover natural gas infrastructure expansion and its role in economic development. She began her testimony by providing a brief background about Southwest Gas Corporation, noting the Company is engaged in the purchasing, distribution, and transportation of natural gas to approximately 1.9 million residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Arizona, California, and Nevada. Additionally, Ms. Gallo pointed out there are some notable communities in Nevada that do not have feasible access to natural gas—Apex area of Las Vegas; the City of Mesquite; certain areas within Elko County; Pahrump; and Virginia City—which is necessary to attract new and diverse businesses.

Ms. Gallo shared natural gas is a clean, domestically abundant, safe, reliable, and cost-effective energy source. She pointed out the service territory and interstate pipeline system of Southwest Gas Corporation on the map of Nevada in the third slide ([Exhibit N](#)) of her presentation. Additionally, Ms. Gallo discussed how Nevada compares to other states, noting most of the interstate natural gas pipelines are located in production areas that are concentrated mostly in the central and eastern sections of the United States.

Highlights of Ms. Gallo's continued presentation included:

- Nevada's natural gas infrastructure and expansion activity;
 - Natural gas opportunities missing in Nevada's economy;
 - The issue of traditional utility line extension tariff regulations relating to infrastructure expansion; and
 - A proposed solution.
- Senator Ford expressed his appreciation to Ms. Gallo for pointing out missed opportunities for Nevada because of the lack of natural gas in areas where various industries were interested in relocating. He asked Ms. Gallo whether she had any empirical evidence of particular companies that would have located to the State if natural gas had been available in the areas of interest to the companies.

Responding to Senator Ford, Ms. Gallo said the City of Mesquite compiled a spreadsheet of the type of industries that would have located to the City had natural gas been available. Assemblyman Bobzien interjected that the information in the spreadsheet would be helpful information for the Legislative Committee on Energy. Ms. Gallo she would provide the spreadsheet to the Committee.

- Assemblyman Bobzien offered a follow-up comment about the State of Nevada working with local governments to help with their economic development opportunities and challenges.
- Assemblyman Hardy commented he is familiar with the Mesquite area and its potential for attracting industries if natural gas were available. He noted there are companies that require natural gas which are interested in locating along the Interstate 15 corridor of the Mesquite area, as well as in the apex of the greater Las Vegas area.

PRESENTATION BY SEMPRA U.S. GAS & POWER, LLC, ON ITS ACTIVITIES IN NEVADA

- Scott Furgerson, Vice President, Construction and Operations, Sempra U.S. Gas & Power, LLC, provided introductory comments and began his testimony discussing the background of Sempra Energy, how the Company became involved with solar projects in southern Nevada's Eldorado Valley, and its activities in the Eldorado Valley. (Please see [Exhibit O](#).)

Highlights of Mr. Furgerson's testimony:

- Eldorado Valley involvement began in 2000 when Sempra permitted a 500-megawatt natural gas combined cycle power plant. Because of this permit,

Boulder City, Nevada, asked the Company to develop 10 MW of solar power, which resulted in the Company's foray into solar generation.

- Sempra U.S. Gas & Power's first solar project in southern Nevada was a 10-megawatt system referred to as Copper Mountain Solar 1. Shortly after the first project, an additional 48 MW were added with the subsequent energy sold to the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
- Phase 1 of Copper Mountain Solar 2, a 92 MW plant, was completed at the end of 2012. Phase 2 will have 48 additional MW and construction will start in August of 2014 and continue through most of 2015.
- Copper Mountain Solar 3 broke ground in early 2014, which when completed will be one of the larger utility scale solar plants in the United States with 250 MW. Copper Mountain Solar 3's construction will continue through 2014 and 2015 with completion scheduled for early 2016.

Closing his testimony, Mr. Furgerson expressed Sempra Energy's appreciation to the Committee for the State's energy policies and its regulatory climate that has provided the Company its opportunity in Nevada.

- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick complimented Sempra Energy for being a trendsetter across the nation with its involvement in the State of Nevada and the Company's impact on energy legislation in the State.
- Larry Folks, Regional Vice President, Renewables Development, Sempra U.S. Gas & Power, LLC, expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to speak about the Company's solar platform in Nevada. Mr. Folks addressed the following matters during his testimony:
 - The fourth solar energy phase, called Copper Mountain Solar 4, is in the planning stage. It will consist of 92 MW and will be located between Copper Mountain Solar 1 and Copper Mountain Solar 2.
 - Discussions are continuing with other parties that control sites in the Eldorado Valley for additional phases that could be added to the solar complex at Copper Mountain.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Folks shared Sempra Energy is working on lithium-ion battery storage projects in both California and Hawaii. He said, in addition to solar and energy storage, the Company looks forward, as Nevada crafts its energy future, to participating in technologies in the State, whether they are wind or gas-fired generation.

Discussion ensued among Assemblyman Hardy, Mr. Folks, and Mr. Furgerson regarding the production of lithium batteries relative to Nevada's abundance of lithium deposits. Mr. Folks and Mr. Furgerson responded that the Company is involved in energy storage not the production of lithium batteries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rick Johnson, homeowner, Las Vegas, commented that he purchased a solar system in 2013 and that he recently received a letter from NV Energy announcing that some of his power bill fees would increase. He opined the power transferred through NV Energy's meter does not represent the power being delivered by NV Energy. Mr. Johnson suggested that homes with solar generation systems have two meters, one for transferring NV Energy's power and the other would transfer the power generated from the rooftop solar system. In summary, Mr. Johnson stressed consumers buying solar systems should not have fees placed on their power bills for direct energy their systems are generating.
- Vice Chair Kirkpatrick commented Nevada Assemblyman Jason M. Frierson phoned her regarding the same letter Mr. Johnson received. She asked Mr. Johnson for a copy of the letter from NV Energy, so she can have LCB's Constituent Services Unit (CSU) assist in getting clarification on the matter expressed in the letter.
- Senator Ford stated he also received calls from some of his constituents regarding the same letter, and he engaged LCB's CSU to investigate the information in the letter. He also noted NV Energy has been contacted regarding the matter.
- Ray Bacon, Executive Director, Nevada Manufacturers Association, spoke to the importance of natural gas being available to northern Nevada's industries as well as other areas for industry in the State.
- Christian Gerlach, representing Nevadan's Against Fracking and Save Nevada's Water: Ban Fracking in Nevada, reminded the Committee that at its April 7, 2014, meeting held in Las Vegas, he delivered 9,000 petition signatures from individuals across the State opposed to fracking in Nevada. He expressed concerns about the shortage of water in the State and the need for better monitoring of water resources and drafting of regulations by the responsible divisions in the State. Mr. Gerlach also commented that natural gas and methane, chemically speaking, burn cleaner than coal, oil, and all other fuels currently available. Concluding his remarks, he voiced support for expanding solar energy production in the State.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Nadeau
Senior Research Secretary

Marji Paslov Thomas
Principal Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Kelvin Atkinson, Chair

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit A is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda,” provided by Marji Paslov Thomas, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

Exhibit B is a Microsoft PowerPoint slide presentation titled “Green Building Tax Incentive Program: LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design,” provided by Kevin Hill, Energy Efficiency Program Manager, Office of Energy, Office of the Governor.

Exhibit C is a document titled “Nevada Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency Project White Paper on Alignment of Economic Development and Energy Policies,” provided by Chris Lynch, Director, Business Environmental Program (BEP), University of Nevada, Reno (UNR).

Exhibit D is a white paper titled *Assessment and Recommendations: Alignment of Nevada Economic Development Policy and Energy Policy*, provided by Chris Lynch, Director, Business Environmental Program (BEP), UNR.

Exhibit E is a white paper titled *Development of a Nevada Energy Policy Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Model: A Decision Support Tool*, provided by Chris Lynch, Director, Business Environmental Program (BEP), UNR.

Exhibit F is a slide presentation titled “EnergyFit Nevada: A program of HomeFree Nevada,” provided by Lauren Boitel, Executive Director, EnergyFit Nevada.

Exhibit G is a white paper titled *Renewable Energy Powers Silver State as a Clean Energy Industry Hub*, provided by Lydia Ball, Executive Director, Clean Energy Project (CEP).

Exhibit H is a presentation titled “Renewable Energy Powers the Silver State as a Clean Energy Industry Hub,” provided by Lydia Ball, Executive Director, CEP.

Exhibit I is a slide presentation titled “Nevada: Distributive Solar Industry Rooftop Solar, Steps to Putting Nevada First,” provided by Monica Brett, Grant Administrator, Energy Education Partner, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Exhibit J is a white paper titled *Roadmap for Rooftop Solar in Southern Nevada by 2020*, provided by Monica Brett, Grant Administrator, Energy Education Partner, DOE.

Exhibit K is the prepared remarks for Louise Helton, Vice President and Founder, 1 Sun Solar Companies, provided by Ms. Helton.

Exhibit L is a 156 page report known as LASER (<http://innovation.luskin.ucla.edu/sites/default/files/EDF%20Book%20Final.pdf>) and titled *Los Angeles Solar and Efficiency Report (LASER): Atlas of Investment Potential for LA County*, provided by Louise Helton, Vice President and Founder, 1 Sun Solar Companies.

[Exhibit M](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “GRID Alternatives,” provide by Stanley Greschner, Vice President, Government Relations and Market Development, GRID Alternatives.

[Exhibit N](#) is a slide presentation titled “Natural Gas Infrastructure Expansion and Economic Development,” provided by Debra Gallo, Director, Government and State Regulatory Affairs, Southwest Gas Corporation.

[Exhibit O](#) is a presentation titled “Semptra U.S. Gas & Power: Copper Mountain,” provided by Scott Furgerson, Vice President, Construction and Operations, Semptra U.S. Gas & Power, LLC.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits and other materials distributed at the meeting are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.