Advanced Conversion Technologies Task Force Meeting  
Draft Minutes  
Friday, March 28, 2014  
University of Wyoming Energy Innovation Center  
Laramie, Wyoming

ACTTF Members Present: Paul Lang (Chair), Tom Lockhart (Vice-Chair), Carl Bauer, Jim Anderson, Jeane Hull, Tom Botts, Rob Hurless, Cindy Crane

ACTTF Members Absent: Rob Wallace, David Emery

SER Staff in Attendance: Mark Northam, Diana Hulme, Mary Byrnes, Abby Scott, Trish Steger

Others Attending: Wendy Lowe (Peabody Coal)

Agenda:
1) Approval of Agenda  
2) Approval of Minutes from the November 15, 2013 meeting  
3) Updates on projects – Diana Hulme  
4) Discussion of Integrated Test Center – Rob Hurless  
5) Clean Coal Research Fund Symposium – August 21, 2014 - Update  
6) New business – Directions for next meeting  
7) Adjourn

Summary of Action Items from Meeting:
1. Approval of Agenda - Jeane Hull moved to amend the agenda by moving discussion of the Integrated Test Center from the Energy Resource Council meeting agenda to the Advanced Conversion Technology Task Force (Task Force) meeting. Carl Bauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2013 - A motion to accept the minutes as presented from the November 15, 2013 meeting was made by Vice-Chairman Tom Lockhart and seconded by Jeane Hull. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Updates on projects – Diana Hulme – No action taken.
4. Discussion of Integrated Test Center – Rob Hurless – No action taken. The Task Force will communicate potential issues with the X-prize contest to Rob on an individual basis and will work to move forward on the siting workshop to be held in mid-May.
7. Adjourn
MEETING DETAILS:

1. Approval of Agenda
   Summary: The Task Force voted to add a discussion of the Integrated Test Center from the Energy Resources Council agenda to the Advanced Conversion Technology Task Force meeting agenda.

   Action Taken: Jeane Hull moved to approve the change in agenda. Carl Bauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Minutes from November 15, 2013
   Summary: Chairman Paul Lang called the Task Force Meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

   Action Taken: A motion to accept the minutes from the November 15, 2013 meeting was made by Vice-Chairman Tom Lockhart and seconded by Jeane Hull. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Updates on projects – Diana Hulme
   Summary: Diana Hulme updated the Task Force on the progress of ongoing projects. Only one 2010 project remains to be completed and all projects from 2011 and 2012 are on target for completion by early 2016.

   Action Taken: No action taken.

4. Discussion of Integrated Test Center – Rob Hurless
   Summary: Rob Hurless provided an update to the Task Force on two issues:
   1.) The 2012 $9 million legislative appropriation to the Wyoming governor's office for supporting the construction and operation of a commercial-scale minerals-to-value-added products facility in Wyoming. The 2012 legislation (House Enrolled Act 25) named the Task Force to receive grant applications and advise the governor on the viability of projects. In the 2013 legislative session, Senate Enrolled Act 86 amended the language to no longer have grant applications submitted to the Task Force, but the Task Force may still be asked for advice from the governor. Rob said that Governor Mead is still deciding on a process to allocate the $9 million and that he may ask to bring the Task Force into that process.

   2.) A $15 million appropriation in the 2014 legislative session under section 334 of the state budget bill to the Wyoming governor's office for design, construction and operation of an Integrated Test Center (ITC) to study the capture, sequestration and management of carbon emissions from a Wyoming coal fired power plant. Allocation of test bay space in the ITC would be determined in a manner of the X Prize Foundation. The X Prize is a focused contest with specific rules for competition that would, in Wyoming's case, challenge researchers to 1) improve efficiency of carbon capture, and 2) develop a beneficial use of CO₂ at utility scale. The Joint Appropriations Committee would also like to see additional test bays beyond the contest test bays, which will be executed under yet to be determined Wyoming law. In the legislation, the Task Force is assigned several activities, including:
• Establishment of a cooperative effort with SER for construction, management and operations of the ITC
• Sign off on facility design to accomplish stated objectives
• Stop progress on the project

The Task Force is to report the objectives, timelines and deliverables of the ITC effort to an appointed legislative select committee on or before May 15, 2014. In addition, on or before August 31, 2014, the Task Force is to provide recommendations for further legislative action necessary to secure projects for the ITC that have the potential to deliver public benefit to the state of Wyoming. The Task Force should also allow time for review of their recommendations by the Wyoming attorney general’s office prior to the August 31, 2014 report date to the select committee.

Comments: Rob referred the Task Force to a handout showing a summary of budget amendment section 334 regarding the proposed ITC. Rob discussed immediate next steps, including discussions with the Wyoming Attorney General’s office, the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, exploration of potential power generation plants in Wyoming that might host the contest, and potentially convening a workshop of stakeholders and interests.

Task Force members will work with Rob in an ad hoc manner to move forward with planning a siting workshop for industry and other stakeholders to be held in mid-May. The Task Force discussed potential issues the utility industry may have with participating in large-scale testing of new technologies. The Task Force discussed the need for an immunity clause within the legislation to protect utilities participating in the contest. Several Task Force members voiced concerns that utilities will be unwilling to participate without indemnification.

The Task Force also discussed the additional burden placed on them in trying to meet a May 15th reporting deadline as stated in the legislation. The group agreed to brainstorm potential roadblocks and issues that they see associated with the contest and get that information to Rob on an individual basis.

Action Taken: No action taken. Task Force will communicate potential issues with the contest to Rob on an individual basis and will work to move forward on the siting workshop to be held in mid-May.

5. Clean Coal Research Fund Symposium – August 21, 2014
Summary: Diana Hulme reported to the Task Force that the 2014 Clean Coal Symposium will host approximately 14 presenters. The agenda is still being set. Diana will contact Carl Bauer and Paul Lang at a later date to touch base on their potential role in the symposium.

Action Taken: No action taken. Diana will follow up with Carl and Paul.

6. New business – Directions for next meeting
Summary: The next meeting will be held Friday, May 23, 2014 in Laramie.
Action Taken: No action taken.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Lockhart, seconded by Jeane Hull, and passed unanimously. 

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Paul Lang               Tom Lockhart
Chairman                Vice-Chairman