



Energy Resources Council Draft Minutes

November 21, 2025

7:30 AM - 1:30 PM

ATTENDANCE

Energy Resources Council (ERC)

Chairman Cindy Crane, Dave Emery, Charlene Russell, Rep. Scott Heiner, Sen. Ed Cooper, Bill Miller, Peter Gottfried

UW Board of Trustees (BOT)

Chairman Kermit Brown, Paul Ulrich, David Fall, John McKinley, Laura Schmidt-Pizzato, Jim Mathis, Brad Bonner, Brad LaCroix, Michelle Sullivan

Ex. Officio and Liaisons

President Ed Seidel

School of Energy Resources (SER) and UW

Holly Krutka, Scott Quillinan, Kristi Russow, Christine Reed, Lon Whitman, Fred McLaughlin, Kami Danaei, Kyle Summerfield, Matt Fry, Erin Phillips, Mike Smith, Teddi Freedman, Carrie Ver Burg, Eugene Holubnyak, Trina Igelsrud Pfeiffer, Autumn Eakin, Jerry Evans, James Amato (online), Larissa Rutz (online), Kimi Takaki (online), Marie Dudgeon (online), David Lucke (online), Martha Reisch (online), Ayla Carncross (online), Esther Wagner (online), Pat McLean (online), Angela Ver Ploeg, Frankie Vogt (online), Charles Nye, Cole Swisher (online), Tiffany Bishop (online), Resham Thapa (online), Kaleb Peterson (online), Heather Chandler (online), Rachel Toner (online)

Guests

Ken Burnes (online)

JOINT SESSION WITH BOT

Call to Order Joint Session

Chairman Crane called the meeting to order at 7:29 AM.

Welcome Remarks

Chairman Crane welcomed the group, highlighting Wyoming's need to adapt to the changing energy landscape and SER's central role in that effort. She provided a summary of the academic and research activities and achievements to date. She also thanked Dr. Krutka for her leadership and the growth accomplished during her tenure.

Chairman Brown commended SER, stating that the organization is fulfilling its original mandate effectively.

Reports/Discussion

Dr. Krutka presented a summary of SER's achievements, citing the implementation of project specialist positions and state match funding as critical factors in the organization's continued growth.

Closing Remarks

Chairman Crane and Chairman Brown adjourned the joint session at 8:14 AM and moved to the joint executive session.

Joint Executive Session

ERC REGULAR MEETING: ITEMS BY DETAIL

Call to Order

Chairman Crane called the regular session to order at 9:13 AM.

Approval of Agenda

Motion - Chairman Crane made a motion to approve agenda as written. Rep. Heiner seconded the motion.

The motion was approved without objection.

Approval of August 2025 Minutes

Motion - David Emery made a motion to approve the August 2025 minutes. Charlene Russell seconded the motion.

The motion was approved without objection.

SER Executive Director Report - Holly Krutka

Dr. Krutka provided an overview of the budget requests slated for the Legislative Joint Appropriations Committee and those included in the Governor's recommended budget. Additionally, Dr. Krutka presented the results of the SER culture survey.

Dr. Krutka requested authorization from the ERC for SER to accelerate the spending schedule of remaining \$17M in exception funding allocated to the Carbon Engineering Solvent Extraction Plant. This adjustment aims to maintain the project timeline while additional funds are sought during the 2026 budget session to offset rising equipment costs and inflation.

Motion - Peter Gottfried made a motion to approve the spending authority request for the remaining funding of the \$17M allocated for the Carbon Engineering Solvent Extract Plant engineering and construction. David Emery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Deans/Directors Reports and Motions

Full copies of the following SER reports are available in the November ERC Folio or upon request.

Questions for non-presenting Directors

- Center for Energy Regulation and Policy Analysis (CERPA) - Matt Fry
- Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute (EORI) - Lon Whitman
- Hydrogen Energy Research Center (H₂ERC) - Eugene Holubnyak

Mr. Holubnyak noted that inflation is impacting the Steam Methane Reforming Project and cautioned that additional funding may be required to meet project objectives.

Presenting Dean/Director Reports

- Research - Scott Quillinan and Erin Phillips
- Center for Economic Geology Research (CEGR) - Fred McLaughlin
- Center for Carbon Capture and Conversion (CCCC) - Trina Igelsrud Pfeiffer
- 3D Visualization Center (3D Viz) - Kyle Summerfield
- Outreach - Christine Reed
- Academics - Kami Danaei

SER Financial Report - Carrie Ver Burg and Holly Krutka

New Business

Energy Resources Council Code of Conduct

In accordance with a task assigned by Chairman Crane in August 2025, the Council reviewed a newly drafted Code of Conduct and Conflict-of-Interest document for adoption.

Motion - David Emery made a motion to approve the Code of Conduct as written. Bill Miller seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Crane requested that the Conflict-of-Interest form be tabled until the next meeting.

ERC Meeting Reporting Format Inquiry

Mr. Quillinan inquired about the Council's satisfaction with the current reporting format. To streamline reporting and broaden the scope of featured achievements, Mr. Quillinan asked the ERC to consider alternating report-outs between different SER centers. This would include rotating updates from Research, CEGR, and CCCC rather than having those groups report at every meeting.

David Emery noted that the bulk of the spending occurs in CEGR and CCCC, therefore it makes sense to continue consistent reporting at each ERC meeting. It was suggested that the schedule could resume deep dive presentations or include a second presentation during the Thursday activities preceding the ERC meetings.

Leadership Transitions

SER Internal Leadership

David Emery provided an overview of the proposed transition and timeline for SER leadership following the departure of Dr. Krutka.

Key dates included:

- Nov. 21, 2025 - Dr. Krutka's final day in the office
- Nov. 24, 2025 - Mr. Scott Quillinan to assume the role of Acting Executive Director; Dr. Erin Phillips to assume the role of Acting Senior Director of Research.
- Dec. 10, 2025 - Dr. Krutka to present the budget requests at the Joint Appropriations Committee meeting alongside Mr. Quillinan, and final day as a UW employee.

SER Executive Director Search

Dave Emery will chair a search committee comprised of UW Trustees, community members, and state stakeholders. With assistance from search firm Spencer Stuart, the committee will vet candidates through a multi-stage interview process. The final selection will be presented by the ERC to the UW President and BOT for official approval.

ERC Leadership

Chairman Crane announced that she is stepping down as chairman but will remain on the council. Dave Emery has agreed to step in as Chairman following a formal vote from the ERC.

Executive Session

Motion - Dave Emery made a motion to move to an executive session. Sen. Cooper seconded the motion.

The motion was approved without objection.

The ERC moved to an Executive Session at 12:53 PM.

The Regular Session was called back to order at 2:07 PM.

Motion - A motion to appoint Scott Quillinan as Acting Executive Director of SER, subject to agreement on compensation, was made by Sen. Cooper. Charlene Russell seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

In consideration of Chairman Crane's announcement that she would be stepping down as ERC Chairman but remaining on the ERC, Sen. Cooper nominated David Emery as the new Chairman.

Motion - Sen. Cooper made a motion to affirm David Emery as the new Chairman of the ERC. Charlene Russell seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion - Sen. Cooper moved to adjourn the regular session. David Emery seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM.

TASKS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Update the proposed Conflict-of-Interest form for review and adoption at the next ERC meeting.

NEXT MEETING DETAILS

April 1-2, 2026, in Laramie, Wyoming

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Cindy Crane
Chairman

Ed Cooper
Vice Chairman