

IDAHO OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION:

The Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER) was established by Executive Order # 2007-15 on October 19, 2007. This order placed the OER within the Office of the Governor.

The duties, powers, and authorities of the Office of Energy Resources include advising the Governor, the Legislature and other public officials in matters related to the Idaho's energy requirements, supply, transmission, and energy efficiency efforts. Additional responsibilities include coordinating and cooperating with federal, regional, state, and local jurisdictions on issues concerning the State's energy considerations. The OER is also responsible for accepting and utilizing funds from various state, federal, and other sources to accomplish purposes outlined within the Executive Order referenced above. The OER performs its duties in accordance with statutory requirements and in conformity with the 2007 Idaho Energy Plan.

MISSION:

The Office of Energy Resources serves the people of Idaho by ensuring that energy is used wisely and that adequate supplies are available to sustain the State's economy and resulting quality of life.

VISION:

The Office of Energy Resources through planning, cooperation, and coordination will foster an environment necessary to develop Idaho's energy resources and help insure the State's energy security.

KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS:

- Legislation can alter or significantly impact the functions and operations of the Office of Energy Resources.
- The Office serves the Governor, therefore the duties and responsibilities are subject to change, as the Governor requires.
- Federal, State, and regional energy issues are very dynamic and constantly evolving, necessitating a constant monitoring and the need to adjust plans accordingly.
- Revenues necessary to operate the OER are intricately connected to the economy of the nation and state.
- Fluctuations in state revenue may warrant the development of expenditure plan alternatives.

- Additions or reductions in federal appropriations or program mandates are unpredictable yet dramatically impact the operations of the OER.

GOAL #1: Coordinate the State's efforts related to critical infrastructure projects (transmission, pipelines, and generation) that are deemed necessary to insure Idaho's energy security.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Serve as lead agency for Idaho on projects that access federal land.

Strategies:

- A. Review and assist in the development of Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) that establish Idaho as a Cooperating Agency for projects seeking access to federal land within the State's borders.
 - B. Monitor issues and assist in the development of appropriate responses to NEPA/EIS considerations related to energy projects that cross federal land.
 - C. Facilitate the creation of Idaho's response to issues surrounding proposed transmission and pipeline projects.
2. Assist the Governor, legislature, and local units of government as needed on issues involving critical energy infrastructure.

Strategies:

- A. Present updates on energy infrastructure projects to relevant legislative committees, local leaders, and the Governor.
 - B. Respond to inquiries from legislators and local governmental leaders as an honest broker on issues related to energy infrastructure development.
 - C. Make necessary public appearances at association meetings to discuss energy resource development considerations.
 - D. Anticipate areas of conflict or concern associated with federal, regional, state, or local policies that can impact critical energy infrastructure projects.
 - E. Seek opportunities to assist in the resolution of conflicts associated with critical energy infrastructure projects.
3. Facilitate opportunities to improve and enhance relationships between project developers and state agencies for the purpose of encouraging a streamlined and efficient application and permitting process.

Strategies:

- A. Coordinate meetings with project developers and relevant agencies early in the development phase to assist both agencies and developers in their effort understand the state's roles, involvement, and general concerns.

- B. Seek collaborative opportunities to streamline processes associated with agency involvement in energy resource development.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

GOAL #2: Encourage and promote the development of Idaho's Energy Resources through the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance (ISEA) while striving to achieve a statewide energy portfolio that includes 25% renewable resources by the year 2025.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Establish collaborative relationships between the Council, Board, and Task Force Members for the purpose of developing a coordinated approach to promoting the cost effective development of Idaho's energy resources.

Strategies:

- A. Coordinate meetings as needed with Task Force Chairs and Board members to review directives and progress.
 - B. Involve Task Force members in the development and presentation of reports to the Board and Council.
 - C. Clearly articulate mission and objectives of ISEA and the dynamic relationships of the Task Forces, Board, and Council.
2. Create baseline assessments of Idaho's energy resources that serve to both educate the public and promote future development.

Strategies:

- A. Encourage the creation of task force reports that provide an overview of energy resource development.
 - B. Utilize task force reports as educational tools to assess the opportunities and barriers related to energy resource development.
 - C. Utilize task force reports to identify directions for potential policy considerations.
3. Promote the ISEA as a significant and strategic organizational structure to foster appropriate and timely development of Idaho's energy resources.

Strategies:

- A. Establish and maintain appropriate MOU's with essential partners committed to advancing ISEA efforts.
- B. Develop a solid web-based presence through the OER's website that enhances access to ISEA processes and work product.
- C. Identify how ISEA driven projects and reports support the 2007 Idaho Energy Plan.

- D. Establish and update a communication plan that promotes and clearly articulates the role, function, and progress of the ISEA.
- E. Add or delete task forces as needed to adjust to Idaho's evolving energy picture.
- F. Utilize the ISEA to quickly respond to emerging energy issues at the federal, state, and local levels.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

GOAL #3: Support efforts to develop regional energy resources that provide benefits to Idaho through enhanced opportunities for economic growth and stability.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Foster relationships with in-state partners to identify and explore the development of regional energy resources.

Strategies:

- A. Identify potential partners such as utilities and the Idaho National Lab who recognize the potential associated with the development of regional energy resources.
 - B. When necessary establish MOU's identifying the role and function of participating parties.
 - C. Facilitate meetings and coordinate efforts to educate potential stakeholders and advance the development of regional energy resources.
 - D. Work with potential partners to identify and promote Idaho energy resources that can contribute to the overall development of regional resources.
2. Foster relationships with out-of-state parties interested in developing regional energy resources.

Strategies:

- A. Identify potential partners such as neighboring states and Canadian provinces who recognize the potential associated with the development of regional energy resources.
 - B. When necessary establish MOU's identifying the role and function of participating parties.
 - C. Facilitate meetings and coordinate efforts to educate potential stakeholders and advance the development of regional energy resources.
 - D. Work to integrate Idaho's energy resource potential into the overall regional planning considerations.
3. Work within the Western Governor's Association (WGA) structure to seek opportunities to include Idaho resources in regional energy development planning.

Strategies:

- A. Participate in conference calls and planning meetings that seek to identify and market energy resources located within the WGA footprint.
- B. Encourage the inclusion of Idaho based resources in the planning and development of regional energy development projects.
- C. Encourage a balanced approach to energy resource development in the region that incorporates environmental, species, and private property considerations.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

GOAL #4: Develop and administer energy efficiency programs that demonstrate opportunities for government to lead by example.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Promote cost-effective energy efficiency in public buildings that ultimately result in taxpayer savings.

Strategies:

- A. As funding emerges, develop programs that target public buildings for energy efficiency deployment.
 - B. Utilize the OER website to promote the benefits of energy efficiency.
 - C. Through the OER website, promote projects deployed in public buildings to demonstrate the value of energy efficiency.
 - D. Partner with utilities and other stakeholders to promote incentives that help improve the cost effectiveness of energy efficiency measures.
 - E. Participate in conferences and workshops as necessary to promote energy efficiency in public buildings.
2. Encourage the measurement of savings in public buildings to promote and educate the deployment of additional energy efficiency measures across all customer classes.

Strategies:

- A. As funding emerges, encourage the utilization of funds to include the deployment of measurement devices and software that provide data related to actual energy savings and its dollar value.
 - B. Utilize the OER website to promote the amount of energy savings measured through projects initiated by the state.
 - C. Partner with utilities to quantify and report the amount and value of energy efficiency measures deployed.
3. Promote and encourage the utilization of low-interest loan programs for the deployment of energy efficiency measures.

Strategies:

- A. Utilize OER website to promote low-interest loan programs for residential, small business, commercial, and agricultural use.
- B. Promote low-interest loan program at appropriate speaking engagements and conferences.
- C. Provide necessary staff assistance to potential low-interest loan applicants.
- D. Promote the amount of energy saved through the utilization of low-interest loan programs.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

GOAL #5: Support efforts to keep Idaho in compliance with state and federal policies related to energy resource issues.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Promote and encourage prompt compliance with newly adopted state and federal policies.

Strategies:

- A. Identify barriers such as existing statutes or rules that may require adaptations.
 - B. Identify timelines for compliance.
2. Avoid duplication of efforts toward compliance by facilitating communication among stakeholders.

Strategies:

- A. Coordinate with internal stakeholders (state agencies and offices) and external stakeholders to assess risks and considerations associated with newly adopted policies.
 - B. Identify potential costs/impacts associated with compliance and assess jurisdictional allocations.
3. Encourage efforts to provide input that could help facilitate the development of energy policies that positively impact the state and its citizens.

Strategies:

- A. Participate in relevant regional organizational structures that provide appropriate forums for advancing beneficial energy policy considerations.
- B. Communicate with local, state, and federal officials regarding future energy policy considerations.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

GOAL #6: Work with energy providers, utilities, and others to encourage the development of additional energy resources (renewable, conventional, and non-conventional resources) necessary to serve Idaho's needs.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Promote cost effective energy resource development through interaction with stakeholders.

Strategies:

- A. Participate in public forums and panels to help educate stakeholders on issues essential to critical energy resource development.
 - B. Seek funding sources necessary to assist in the development of critical energy infrastructure.
 - C. Utilize the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance to assist in identifying opportunities to promote the state's energy resources.
2. Work collaboratively with stakeholders to identify appropriate paths forward to insure critical infrastructure is developed.

Strategies:

- A. Participate in utility integrated resource planning as warranted.
- B. Identify and recommend appropriate changes to state statute when barriers to development of critical infrastructure exist in Idaho Code.
- C. Utilize the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance to assist in identifying paths forward toward developing cost effective energy resources.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: