

EMPOWER NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES
AUGUST 18, 2011, 9:35 A.M.
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSMISSION COMMITTEE
ROUGH RIDER ROOM, STATE CAPITOL
SENATOR RICH WARDNER, CHAIRMAN

ALAN ANDERSON – COMMISSIONER, ND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Al Anderson, Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce. As Commissioner of Commerce, I also have the pleasure of serving as the chairman of the EmPower North Dakota Commission.

- Brief Overview of EmPower ND
 - The EmPower ND Commission (referred to as the Energy Policy Commission in statute) was established by the legislature in 2007. Its members are appointed by the Governor and it is made up of representatives from all of North Dakota's energy industries. Its role is to make recommendations concerning the state's energy policy.
 - As it started its work in 2007, it used the existing EmPower North Dakota energy policy established by the Governor as its starting point.
 - The EmPower ND Commission reports to the Energy Development & Transmission Committee, which decides which recommended legislation is brought forward to the legislative session.
 - EmPower ND general principles:
 - Growing all energy industries
 - Base decisions on sound science and sound economics
 - Research and development of new technologies
 - Incentives preferred over mandates
 - Building upon fair regulatory and friendly business climate
 - Environmentally responsible manner
- EmPower ND approach over the upcoming months
 - EmPower ND Commission will continue to learn about the energy industries in the state and the issues that they are facing
 - The EmPower ND Commission will focus more on larger issues that impact all energy industries. These topics include:
 - Workforce
 - Federal Regulation
 - Infrastructure
 - Research & development
 - Energy Conference to be held in Bismarck on November 2nd. This conference will focus on bringing all parties together to address the key challenges.
 - *Committee members are invited to participate in this conference*
- The Energy Development & Transmission Committee can expect a report from the EmPower ND Commission next summer with the Commission's recommendations.

- We are also willing to provide updates throughout the interim, including an update on the current status of the goals.
- Committee members are also welcome to attend EmPower ND Commission meetings. The next meeting will be held September 7th in Stanley.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Energy Development and Transmission Committee, thank you for allowing me the time to visit with you today. That concludes my testimony and I am happy to entertain any questions.