

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON POWER DEREGULATION

February 27, 1997 Hearing Room E

1:00 P.M. Tapes 22 - 23

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Jim Welsh, Chair

Rep. Cynthia Wooten, Vice-Chair

Rep. Randall Edwards

Rep. Jim Hill

Rep. Patti Milne

Rep. Lonnie Roberts

Rep. Ken Strobeck

STAFF PRESENT:

John Larson, Administrator

Julie Neburka, Asst. Administrator

Lynda Sloan, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

PUBLIC PURPOSES

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
Tape 22, A		
001	Chair Welsh	Opens meeting at 1:10 p.m.
<u>PUBLIC PURPOSES</u>		
015	Tom Novick	Representing Renewable Northwest Project, makes opening remarks.
	Rachel	Director of Renewable Northwest Project, presents written testimony concerning public purposes (EXHIBIT A). Discusses renewable energy resources

026	Shimshak	* definition of renewable energy resources: naturally occurring and inexhaustible * benefits of renewables
075	Shimshak	Continues testimony, discussing reasons renewables are at risk and recommendations for legislation (EXHIBIT A, page 3).
<u>ISSUE DISCUSSED</u>		
126	Committee	Discusses with Shimshak views regarding allocation of money for conservation efforts.
196	John Glascock	Oregon Chair of the State Legislative Committee of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), presents written testimony concerning public purposes (EXHIBIT B).
252	Glascock	Continues testimony, discussing conservation, renewable resources, low income energy services (EXHIBIT B, page 2).
306	Glascock	Continues testimony, discussing universal service (EXHIBIT B, page 3).
335	Rep. Hill	Asks if AARP will market power to its membership.
338	Glascock	Says no plans to market power at this time.
350	Chris Taylor	OSPIRG Environmental Advocate, presents written testimony concerning public purposes. Says restructuring should include funding for public purposes (EXHIBIT C).
Tape 23, A		
001	Taylor	Continues testimony; discusses using support for past funding levels for public purposes in a deregulated environment.
<u>ISSUES DISCUSSED</u>		
040	Taylor	Discusses with committee
042		* utility investments in renewable energy sources
060		* revenues generated as result of competitive pricing
084		* OSPIRG definition of renewable power
097	Denise McPhail	Representing Portland General Electric, presents written testimony concerning public purposes (EXHIBIT D). Says PGE supports low-income conservation, development of renewables, and finding ways to help low-income households benefit from competition.
<u>ISSUES DISCUSSED</u>		
135		Discusses with committee
137		* PGE's budget for conservation and renewables

144	McPhail	* marketing packages that include conservation
192		* existing renewables projects
219	McPhail	Resumes testimony, discussing comprehensive review (EXHIBIT D, page 2).
260	McPhail	Continues testimony, discussing renewables and universal electric service fund (EXHIBIT D, page 3).
310	McPhail	Continues testimony, discussing universal access (EXHIBIT D, page 4).
369	Rep. Roberts	Asks if costs for social programs should be reflected in customer bills.
379	McPhail	Says they should as way of demonstrating utility shares values of its customers.
Tape 22, B		
001	Tom Autio	Operations Manager for Clackamas County Weatherization and member of Oregon Energy Coordinators Association, offers testimony concerning public purposes (EXHIBIT G). Discusses * examples of utilities not offering low-income assistance * funding mechanism that controls allocation of funds * letter from U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio.
052	Joan Swanson	Representing Washington County Community Action Organization, presents testimony concerning public purposes (EXHIBIT H). Discusses * all Oregonians sharing benefits of any legislation * consumer choice in power selection * three percent of revenues for conservation and renewables * continued assistance for low-income customers
100	Nancy Culver	Representing Multnomah County Community Action, presents testimony in support of Fair and Clean Energy Coalition bill (EXHIBIT I). Discusses * poverty in Multnomah county * examples of poor clients who depend on energy assistance programs * recommendation that deregulation ensure affordable energy for all
156	Rep. Roberts	Asks if mainstay of support for Fair and Clean Energy Coalition bill is low income assistance.

160	Culver	Says she supports FCEC bill in its entirety.
169	Chair Welsh	Makes announcements about work groups on strawman bill.
220	Chair Welsh	Continues to discuss strawman bill (EXHIBIT J) .
260	George Hutchinson	Political Chair of Rogue Valley Sierra Club and Conservation Chair of Oregon State Sierra Club, presents written testimony expressing concerns about effects of deregulation with regard to the environment (EXHIBIT E) . Discusses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * rates * investments for renewables * pollution * conservation investments
344	Vice-Chair Wooten	Asks where 5 percent figure dedicated to conservation and renewables comes from.
347	Hutchinson	Says comes from study compiled by group of states' governors that assessed renewables, conservation, weatherization set asides in Northwest.
367	Scarlett Miles	Representing both Oregon Action and Blue Panthers, advocates for disabled persons, presents written testimony concerning potential effects of deregulation on low-income energy assistance (EXHIBIT F) .
Tape 23, B		
001	Miles	Continues testimony, describing personal circumstances. Lists series of questions legislators should consider in deregulation legislation.
032	John Fletcher	Executive Director of Community Emergency Resources and Vital Services in Rogue Valley, offers testimony concerning deregulation issues. Discusses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * examples of services agency provides * examples of families displaced by fires due to inappropriate use of appliances in home to stay warm * sees deregulation as inevitable, must retain energy assistance programs as requirement for deregulation; 3 percent is inadequate.
80	Fletcher	Continues testimony, discussing types of clients served. Notes importance of retaining energy assistance programs as requirement of deregulation.
		Supervisor of Low Income Weatherization Program in Lane County and member of Oregon Energy Coordinators Association, presents testimony concerning electric power deregulation issues; discusses

116	Craig Satein	* concerns about investments in community * benefits of some programs, e.g., stabilization of families, demonstration of interest in investment in citizens; maintaining quality of life * support for HB 3232 which is sponsored by Fair and Clean Energy Coalition.
179	Chair Welsh	Asks what he has seen that causes a somewhat negative view of deregulation.
186	Satein	Discusses Comprehensive Review and urges that legislation will address public purposes.
210	Rep. Hill	Asks how he would respond to legislation that would not only retain low-income assistance but expand availability of low-income affordable energy-efficient housing as part of public purposes.
212	Satein	Says such legislation would allow them to move forward more productively.
239	Chair Welsh	Announces Dan Ogden not available to debate Tuesday.
262	Ophelia Arrejo	Speaks in favor of continuing energy assistance as part of deregulation legislation. Explains how energy assistance is important to the working poor, who are generally women.
315	Chair Welsh	Adjourns meeting at 2:47 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Lynda Sloan, John Larson,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - Written testimony, Rachel Shimshak, 5 pp.

B - Written testimony, John Glascock, 4 pp.

C - Written testimony, Chris Taylor, 2 pp.

D - Written testimony, Denise McPhail, 12 pp.

E - Written testimony, George Hutchinson, 3 pp.

F - Written testimony, Scarlett Miles, 1 p.

G - Written testimony, Tom Autio, 1 p.

H - Written testimony, Joan Swanson, 1 p.

I - Written testimony, Nancy Culver, 1 p.

J - Work Group draft bill, Staff, 10 pp.