

**Coos County
Economic Action Plan**

Energy Technical Review Committee

Description of our Process and Outcomes

February 6, 2008

The Energy Technical Review Committee met three (3) times during January, 2008. See Addendum 1 for the list of individuals that were invited to participate in the Energy Technical Review Committee process. See Addendums 2, 3, & 4 for the Records of each meeting of the Energy Technical Review Committee.

The Energy TRC began its deliberations by creating five (5) principles or values that it believed created a vision as well as a lens through which to view and assess the quality of each proposed Action Strategy. Those principles included:

- Efficiency--maximize efficiency among producers and consumers of energy.
- Self-sufficiency—the region should strive for self reliance
- Renewability—use renewable fuel sources
- Sustainability—environmental, economic, and social sustainability
- Both centralized and dispersed energy production. (This principle or value has proved controversial, and group differences remain)

In addition, the six (6) metrics that were provided by the Steering Committee were recognized as equally important measures to assess the relative importance and viability of any proposed action. Those included:

- Level of economic impact (number of jobs and wealth created for the County)
- Measurable improvement in the Quality of Life in Coos County
- Sustainability of the Action
- Feasibility or likelihood of success and/or funding
- Degree of innovation
- Base of support and acceptability

The Energy TRC did not focus on creating an energy-based “economic sector” per se, though some actions could potentially create jobs and profitable activities. The Energy TRC focused more on those initiatives and actions that would make the best use of County resources, including the highly valued forest resource, and efficiencies that will be of benefit for other businesses.

The Energy TRC discussed at length and understands the need for a resolution to the problems of transmission capacity, the uncertainties around the topic of wood supply and electrical generating plant efficiency requirements. There may be action already underway on the issue of transmission and wood supply. Energy Facility Siting Evaluation Committee (EFSEC) criteria seemed beyond the scope of this Committee, but the Committee recognized that co-location, co-generation and activities such as district

heating can potentially improve generating plant efficiency and increase local economic benefits. This concept is reflected in the Committee's priority recommendations.

The Energy TRC also focused its actions on supply-side and demand-side energy infrastructure. A specific interest in "local" generation and "uses", as in "co-located users" with energy producers that would provide a competitive advantage for businesses looking to move to or expand in Coos County and keep more money circulating in the local economy.

The Energy TRC formulated its action strategy proposals around four categories:

- Legislation
- Production
- Efficiencies
- Education/Information.

The Energy TRC created 48 separate action strategies that were scrutinized using our 11 lenses. Through its deliberations the Energy TRC has to date selected 9 proposed action strategies, two (2) under Legislation; three (3) under Production; two (2) under Efficiencies and two (2) under Education/Information. We realize this number of action strategies may be more than what the Steering Committee has expected or wanted. We also realize that we have more work ahead to identify justifications for why a certain action is worthy; a timeline for implementation; the players to make it happen and how success can be measured.

Addendum 5 is the compilation of all 48 action strategies that were brainstormed by the Energy TRC broken into the four categories. Addendum 6 is the description of the 9 highest ranked action strategies, also broken into the four categories.