

**2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items**

<b>Border Issues</b>					
<b>Discussion Topic</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Project Team</b>	<b>Initial Project Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>
Topic 1	<b>1</b>	In February 2011, Prime Minister Harper and President Obama announced a shared vision for perimeter security and economic competitiveness and established a bilateral Regulatory Cooperation Council to reduce red tape for businesses. The joint declaration on perimeter security and economic competitiveness set up a joint 'Beyond the Border' working group tasked with developing a joint action plan to be announced in Fall 2011. PNWER supports the priorities identified by President Obama and Prime Minister to encourage more effective border management and economic competitiveness, including improved information sharing among agencies, joint planning on investment in infrastructure and technology at ports of entry, integrated cross-border law enforcement, and joint work on critical infrastructure.			PNWER hosted a roundtable with Ambassador Jacobson in Seattle to further discuss recommendations. PNWER also held a roundtable in Vancouver BC with Sue Saarnio from the US Embassy
Topic 1	<b>2</b>	PNWER should continue to act as a 'Provocateur' and ask questions about why border processes that do not increase security are done at the border, keeping agents from spending time on high-risk people and goods. Push for partnerships for security, and innovative ways to improve safety and security which reduce transaction costs.			PNWER Submitted a letter to the CBP Northern Border EIS signed from Officers opposing the The building of fences or other barriers on the border and recommended developing a joint security strategy with Canada.
Topic 2	<b>3</b>	PNWER will offer to host a meeting in the region to announce the Beyond the Border Action plan this fall.			

**2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items**

Topic 3	4	Encourage stakeholders, jurisdictions, partners to collect data on value of increase of border efficiency, and importance of cross border trade to the region.			PNWER is partnering with WWU to examine the cost benefit of implementing several pilots including E-Cert, single window and common visa applications
<i>Border Solutions</i>	5	Border solutions - prioritized and accepted report from Border Solutions Council, and endorsed subcommittees to finalize pilot projects - 1) Single Window, 2) E-Certification for livestock, 3) Tourism pilot on expediting visas between Canada and US,			PNWER is continuing to push for specific pilots during meetings in Ottawa
		Recommend op-ed's, organize strategy to encourage communication plan in US communities to promote Perimeter Security Action Plan			PNWER is working with private sector members to develop op-eds related to the beyond the border action plan

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Border Solutions Council					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Updated
Topic 1	1	Re-constitute Border Solutions Council and update Charter	PNWER		PNWER will host a border solutions roundtable during the Winter Meeting in Victoria
Topic 1	2	Established committee to work on all details regarding Ag E-Certification Pilot Project	Cross-Border Livestock Health group		PNWER will meet with Canadian Cattleman's association in Ottawa to further develop the concept of operations
Topic 2	3	Single Window - for all export/import between US - Canada - build alliances to push this pilot forward			
Topic 3	4	Tourism pilot - recommend a limited pilot to test an expedited process for travelers from (identify best country) who already have a visa to Canada (or US) to get one in the other country (US or Canada)		Darrell Bryan	PNWER will host a meeting with tourism officials in Victoria to further discuss this recommendation
	5	Encourage DHS to re-institute the ferry and airport fee advisory council	PNWER		
	6	Establish sub-committees to prioritize pilots, work with PNWER to plan Washington DC conference in November 2011 with Woodrow Wilson Center			PNWER will address this during the roudtable at the Winter Meeting

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Cross Border Livestock Health Conference					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status
Topic 1	1	Work with stakeholders to prepare in advance and build a common understanding of the tools (vaccination) and strategies that can be used to respond to an FMD outbreak in both Canada and the US.	CFIA- Dr. Jag Dhanda	CFIA - Dr. Jane Rooney, Dr. Tom Smylie	
Topic 1	2	Work to support science and risk-based approaches to allow the safe resumption of bilateral and international trade after the eradication of a FAD. Develop and deliver common messaging to encourage proactive adoption of regulations that require science-based recognition of disease-free status of countries and zones, consistent with OIE guidelines. Delivery messaging as part of PNWER engagement in WSHDC and Ottawa. Identify other key venues to deliver messaging	CAHC - Ron Barker, AAFC - Alan Schlater,	AB Agriculture -Peter Kuperis	
Topic 2	3	Explore potential public-private funding sources, identify fiscal benefits to governments and encourage CFIA and USDA to design their IT systems in such a way that they are compatible. Recognising that paperwork requirements impose significant costs on cattle buyers and sellers on both sides of the border, while subjecting animals to unnecessarily stressful welfare conditions, we urge both countries to move towards electronic certification for cattle on a much more aggressive timeline than is currently being considered.	AgriBeef - Aaron Canart, BC Cattle Feeders - Michael Nicolaisen, Alberta Beef Producers - Larry Delver, CLGA - Rick McDonald	CCA - Louis Desautels	PNWER will meet with Canadian Cattleman's Association in Ottawa to further develop concept of operations for pilot

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Disaster Resilience: Energy Assurance					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status
Topic 1	1	PNWER will assist in facilitating the distribution/sharing of state and local energy assurance plans between all states/provinces in the PNWER region.	WA, OR, ID, Salem, Portland EA leads		PNWER shared the WA energy plan in Sept.
Topic 1	2	Set up a periodic conference call (2-3 times per year) to continue to share information and best practices across the region on activities related to energy sector disaster planning and coordination.	WA, OR, ID, Salem, Portland EA leads		PNWER will set up a call in early 2012 after the DOE western region energy exercise in Phoenix in Dec. PNWER will host a workshop in Jan. 2012 at microsoft focused on long term recovery after a major earthquake

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Energy Storage Technologies					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	1. Need model document that shows how these various technologies can be used – model framework that could be build on for specific circumstances; can then devise an “alternative rate case” model that could then be included in the regulatory review. Let the storage technology “bid in” for the role.			PNWER will host a energy storage summit in Victoria during the Winter Meeting
Topic 1	2	2. Is there a need for more “test beds” – are the venue available to do the field testing for this technology? Would be prudent to establish a group that is focusing on energy storage and what the requirements would be for that role.			

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Energy II (Renewable Energy)					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
	1	Prepare a PNWER letter (copied to the NW delegation) to Secretary of the Interior requesting cooperation and expediency in permitting and siting of transmission lines on Federal Lands – with note that this supports the Administration’s energy policy;			
	2	Prepare a draft resolution for State legislatures instructing their respective NW Congressional delegation members to request that the Secretary of the Interior cooperate and promote efficiency in permitting and siting of transmission lines on Federal lands.			
	3	PNWER letter to states, agencies and legislature to establish permitting timelines with a bias for action in the permitting process.			
	4	<p>4) Provide recommendations to Bonneville Power Administration to:</p> <p>Concentrate on near term successful transmission upgrades - south to CA, north to BC (strengthen northern interties), focusing on those projects which already have existing right of ways, such as the Juan de Fuca Cable and others;</p> <p>Encourage private investment, and trans-border investment for transmission;</p> <p>Implement programs that can “soak up” spring night time surplus – create incentives to transfer load;</p> <p>Allow a “one time” off-ramp for previous wind interconnection application permits - allow developers to get security deposit back, create more transmission capacity, and clear queue for future development.</p>			
	5	PNWER to compose letters to owners of linear Rights of Way (eg utilities, pipeline companies, railroads, and agencies controlling highways) requesting cooperation with such utilities and independent transmission developers that are seeking Rights of Way for new transmission lines.			
		PNWER to seek funding to commission a “state-of-the-art” review of commercially available transmission technologies to determine their applicability to region, with regard to enhancement of energy security, and compatibility with digitalization of operation and control of the grid (“Smart Grid” compatibility).			
		Submit a study request to Western Energy Coordination Council (WECC) to determine the environmental and economic cost if foundational transmission projects are not permitted in time or not completed.			

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Health Care					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	PNWER recognizes that obesity is a growing and significant issue in the PNWER region effecting the health of residents and threatening future prosperity. PNWER health care working group with the support of the executive will urge partner jurisdictions on a priority basis to develop strategies to address prevention, focusing on school programs and policies, food industry, urban planning and transportation and ensure affordable access to effective treatment. An inventory of current initiatives in PNWER jurisdictions will be developed and shared with PNWER members in addition to relevant evidence being posted on working group website. .	members and support to be sought through private and public partners for inventory development	John Sproule,working group chair	IHE is working on compiling an inventory of current obesity related initiatives in our region.

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Innovation					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	Adoption of Draft Purpose Statement (See Attached Document)	Sen. Kastama, Dave Zepponi		Purposed Statement was approved and endorsed by the the Executive Board
Topic 1	2	Identify Work Group Members to lead and following up on the PurposeStatement	Dave Zepponi, PNWER		PNWER has hosted a series of conf. calls with members to further develop the purpose statement
Topic 2	3	Develop PNWER Virtual Community (ex. Linked-In Group)	Sen. Kastama, Dave Zepponi		A linked-in group has been established.
Topic 3	4	Create Official Innovation Working Group members/ governance structure	Sen. Kastama, Dave Zepponi		PNWER has hosted a series of conf. calls with members to further develop the purpose statement
	5	Review Procedures for Selecting Key Deliverables	Sen. Kastama, Dave Zepponi		Ongoing
	6	Develop Process/Strategy & Confirm Supporting Resources	Sen. Kastama, Dave Zepponi		Ongoing

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Invasive Species					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	Assist PNWER in acting as a formalized regional structure for communication and developing messages to increase message consistency and effectiveness	Amy Ferriter, ID; Lisa DeBruyckere, OR; Gail Wallin, BC; Eric Hansen, MT; Blaine Parker, Intertribal Fish Commision	Lisa DeBruyckere, OR	1-Jan-11
Topic 2	1	Form a PNWER Invasive Species Council Steering Committee with representation from all PNWER Jurisdictions for implementing action plan for working group; including chairs for implementing the Action Plan	Wendy Brown, WA; Amy Ferriter, ID; Gail Wallin, BC		
Topic 2	2	Engage groups who have not been involved in PNWER invasive Species, including organizations such as the Pacific Coast Collaborative and the Associated Tribes of Northwest Indians; Develop a committations plan	Wendy Brown, WA; Lisa DeBruyckere, OR; Blaine Parker, Intertribal Fish Commision; Linda Wilson, BC; Tammy Davis, AK	Wendy Brown, WA (proposed)	1-Jan-11
Topic 2	3	Produce white paper describing economic importance of invasive species in the PNWER region	Lisa DeBruyckere, OR; Galin Wallin, BC; Megan Levy, PNWER		1-Mar-12
Topic 2	4	Continue the PNWER Invasive Species Conference model for the future of the working group	Gail Wallin, BC; Chet Nuefeld, SK	Eric Anderson, ID; Mark Sytsma, OR	Start Feb 2012
Topic 2	7	Develop educational piece for regional legislators to educate about the economic and societal impacts of invasive species.	Amy Ferriter, ID; Lisa DeBruyckere, OR; Linda Wilson, BC	Amy Ferriter, ID	1-Jan-11
Topic 2	8	Integrate activities of the invasive species working group into other PNWER working groups and activities	Amy Ferriter, ID; Megan Levy, PNWER	Amy Ferriter, ID	

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Natural Resource Development: Mining					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
	1	Prepare resource map illustrating producing mines and advanced mineral projects within the PNWER jurisdiction along with transportation and key infrastructure (rail, air, road, port, electrical) corridors (existing & proposed).		Saskatchewan	
	2	Share information on the collaboration on NW power line with BC and Alaska.		Fred Dyson	
	3	Develop overview of capital investment and employment of exploration & mining in the PNWER region.		Pam Schwann	
	4	Labor market workforce - PNWER region; requirements for labor market workforce; who is doing the training and where? Develop proposal for study and refer to University Presidents.		Pam Schwann & Bob McDonald	
	5	Share information about devolution on the PNWER Website		Harvey Brooks	
	6	TO BE DISCUSSED BY WORKING GROUP in 2012: -Listing of research projects related to utilization of coal. -Branding - investment attraction. -Opportunities for value-added. -Tracking return on investment of incentive programs.			

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Alternative Fuel Vehicles: Natural Gas Vehicles					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 2	1	State/provincial governments should encourage fleet vehicle use of natural gas.			A natural gas vehicles session will be held in Victoria during the Winter Meeting to further address these issues. Vehicles will also be on display outside of the meeting for stakeholders to view in person
Topic 2	2	Examine regulated utility legislation pertaining to natural gas providers, to allow them to advance funds to build refuelling infrastructure for particular commercial customers and then build the repayment cost into their rates charged to those commercial customers.			
Topic 3	3	PNWER jurisdictions should create financial incentives for NGV adoption. Particularly aimed fleets strategically poised to lead market transformation			
Topic 4	4	Governments need to provide clarity to regulators about what role utilities should play in leading the adoption of NGVs			
Topic 5	5	PNWER should consider the creation of a permanent NGV working group			

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Ocean Energy					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
The PNWER Executive Committee recommended that the Ocean Energy Action Items be reviewed and revised by the co-chairs with particular focus on refining action steps for PNWER and other responsible parties. The revised action items for Ocean Energy are to be reviewed by the PNWER Board during Sept. or Oct. Conf. Call					
Topic 1	1	PNWER renew its call for regional jurisdictions and their federal governments to share experiences and expedite implementation of feed in tariffs to create market driven commercial demonstration projects that can generate ocean energy into the power grid.			
Topic 1	2	PNWER address accords within the Pacific Coast Collaborative and the Canada/US Clean Energy Dialogue to provide a mechanism to coordinate and accelerate development of emerging ocean energy solutions.			
Topic 1	3	PNWER work with regional utilities to identify both early stage development project sites and long-term opportunities for ocean energy solutions.			
Topic 1	4	PNWER work with regional jurisdictions and their federal governments to review the wording of regulations and legislations and remove administrative barriers to phased implementation of ocean energy solutions. The goal is to coordinate wording that can encourage demonstration projects that can transition to long-term commercial projects.			
Topic 2	5	PNWER should canvass other jurisdictions for definition of demonstration program that includes a more expansive or useful definition that could be used to leverage a change of definition in PNWER jurisdictions.			
Topic 2	6	PNWER should commission a study about what the economic costs of not supporting ocean energy technology in the region			
Topic 2	7	PNWER should canvas region to see what utilities are interested in ocean energy			
Topic 2	8	PNWER should commission a GIS map of areas with the highest cost of energy, what they are paying and if they have the possibility of using ocean energy.			
Topic 2	9	PNWER should create three separate tracks in the Ocean Energy Working Group - Micro Scale, Small Scale and Large Scale generation.			

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Topic 2	<b>10</b>	PNWER should revive the Ocean Energy Education Program			
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2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Sustainable Development/Environment					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
	1	For the 2012 Summit, hold a one or more sessions regarding the following topics, to be determined by the co-chairs:			
	a	Eco-Districts		Brian Peasley (CH2MHill)	
	b	Cumulative Effects Mgmt.		Bev Yee (Alberta Ministry of Environment)	
	c	Smart-Grid		Landis Kannberg (Pacific Northwest National Labs)	
	d	Eco-Industrial planning		Gary Willson (NewAlta)	

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Trade and Economic Development					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	Provide prioritized recommendations (including regional pilots) to the Regulatory Cooperation Council on improving cross border trade and mobility.	Trade & Economic Dev. and Border Solutions Council	Border Solutions Council	Top three pilots have been identified, these include E-cert, single window and common visa applications. Other pilots will be considered as well
Topic 1	2	Recognizing the New West Partnership as a template, explore potential opportunities for marketing jobs and investment opportunities across the PNWER states and provinces.	Trade and Economic Development working group and Workforce working group		PNWER hosted Canadian Minister of Labour in October 2011 to further discuss opportunities for labor mobility for energy workers in PNWER region
Topic 1	3	Host a roundtable discussion with University presidents on priority issues on trade and economic development	University presidents		

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Transportation					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	<p>During the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, Amtrak Cascades train service carried over 11,000 passengers. Popularity of the Amtrak Cascades and the international exposure received by the region during the Games opened the door for new tourism opportunities. Since that time, Amtrak Cascades two daily trains have brought more than 70,000 passengers into Vancouver, BC in 2010 (an estimated 71% of which are visitors to Canada), basically doubling ridership into Vancouver with the addition of the 2nd daily train. The Canadian Border Services Agency has waived proposed border inspection fees since the 2nd daily train's inception in August 2009, and has agreed to waive these fees until October 31, 2011.</p> <p>PNWER supports the work carried out to date at both the federal, provincial, and state levels and calls on the Canadian federal government to continue to support operation of the 2nd daily Amtrak train beyond the end of the current pilot date of October 31, 2011, and permanently waive border fees as previously proposed by the Canada Border Services Agency for the 2nd daily Amtrak train.</p>		Province of BC (John Les, MLA)	It was announced that the 2nd train will continue indefinitely
Proposed cost recovery for second Amtrak train	2	Reaffirm PNWER support for a permanent waiver of the proposed cost recovery fee for the second Amtrak train, and work with the Canadian Consulate, British Columbia and Washington in partnership to secure.		Bruce Agnew	It was announced that the 2nd train will continue indefinitely

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

<p>Legislative primer for potash, coal, Grain, Wood and other exports</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p>Secure additional resources to develop a legislative primer which will include a matrix on investments be made in Western Canada and Northwest states to handle projected increases of exports in shipment of coal, potash, grain and wood. This would help guide decision-makers in their investment in infrastructure with respect to rail and port facilities. This would be prepared in time for the Saskatchewan meeting in 2012.</p>		<p>Bruce Agnew, Co-Chair &amp; Minister Jim Reiter.</p>	<p>PNWER will host the Transportation Academy during the Winter meeting to further discuss this issue</p>
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2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Water Policy/Columbia River Symposium					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	PNWER Recommends that further efforts be made to include legislative members in the Treaty process in order to keep them informed and engaged.	Water working group		PNWER attended the public comment event in Portland Oregon hosted by the US Sovereign Review team and continued to push this issue.
Topic 1	2	PNWER should assist in providing additional opportunities where appropriate for legislative members, Treaty representatives and regional stakeholders to come together and be informed and engage in dialogue on priority regional issues	Water working group		PNWER has offered to assist legislative committees in setting up briefings by the sovereign review team on specific issues related to the treaty
Topic 2	3	Provide an update to Water policy working group at the 2012 Summit on results of fall workshops on the Bow River	Water working group	David Hill	

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Washington State/Regional Legislative Hearing on Innovation					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status
		Work with TVW to post recording of hearing on PNWER website		PNWER	Link available online

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Women in Natural Resources					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	1	Host a lunch at the 2012 Summit in Saskatoon, including sponsor and speaker panel, to highlight the Women in Natural Resources Session and topic areas	Shawna Argue, Anna Fairclough, Leah Lawrence	Anna Fairclough	

**2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items**

Workforce					
Discussion Topic	Number	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Lead	Status Update
Topic 1	<b>1</b>	<p>Professional Credential Recognition</p> <p>2005: Licensing Reciprocity - Urge licensing bodies to adopt reciprocal professional credential recognition for engineers who have successfully practiced for a set number of years. Assist licensing bodies in preparing amendments to rules or policies to enable reciprocity of licensure.</p> <p>2007: Investigate the extent that the U.S. unemployment system collects workers certification information. Collection of this data would enable the effective and efficient matching of available workers to vacant jobs around the region.</p> <p>2010 (amended 2011): Pursuant to PNWER's 2006 resolution calling on all PNWER jurisdiction licensing bodies for engineers to adopt policies or present amendments to their respective legislative bodies which allows them to waive the requirement for satisfaction of prescriptive credentials in education and examination if the applicant meets specific criteria adopted by each jurisdiction, PNWER continues to encourage Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Montana to join with Idaho in facilitating this resolution and particularly encourages Washington's Board of Licensure to complete its proposed amendments to its rules that would enable licensure of Professional Engineers prior to the 2012 Summit</p>			Ongoing
Topic 1	<b>2</b>	Follow-up with Program Officer Parminder Jassal Gates Foundation on future involvement with the Workforce Working Group - Fulfills 2007 Understanding regional best practices action item	Joy Howland		Conference Call was held and Joy and Eleni will on Demand Side data for workforce
Topic 2	<b>3</b>	Investigate the framework in which labour market and industry supply demand data is collected and utilized in Canada and determine a framework in which it can be replicated in U.S. Jurisdictions and explore pilot project in two states - Washington and Alaska (suggested)	Joy Howland, Eleni Papadakis - Washington State		Ongoing

2011 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Action Items

Topic 3	4	PNWER Jurisdictions should advocate to Federal Delegation for improved mechanisms and processes for facilitating temporary worker mobility between the U.S. and Canada - Coordinate with Border Working group	PNWER		
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