



Legislative Energy Commission

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Executive Director Updates

June 30, 2015

Session wrap-up

A full 2015 legislative summary is attached. In January, the LEC issued its report on propane conversion strategies, with recommendations for the legislature to aid users of propane gas. Two policy options from this report became law this year:

- A method to prepurchase propane through Minnesota's energy assistance program, making federal dollars go farther at no net cost to the state.
- Allowing natural gas utilities to spread a portion of the costs of expansion across their customer base, to facilitate extending cheaper natural gas heating to more rural areas.

During the session, LEC staff presented to the House and Senate energy policy committees, conducted research, and provided one-on-one support for legislators working on energy policy issues.

Information and analysis for legislators

Over the summer, LEC staff will be preparing research summaries on diverse topics, including the carbon impact of biomass energy and the history of community-based energy development in Minnesota. Staff is available as a resource to any legislator who would like research on energy policy or assistance with difficult energy questions.

Minnesota's 2025 Energy Action Plan

Minnesota has received a two-year, \$300,000 U.S. Dept. of Energy grant for energy planning to the year 2025. The grant was awarded to the State Energy Office at the Dept. of Commerce, which is partnering with the LEC on a project to develop action plans to scale up key energy technologies and strategies over the next 10 years. We will be working with a diverse stakeholder advisory committee as well as the Great Plains Institute; LHB, Inc.; and Rocky Mountain Institute. The LEC is contributing cost match to the project in the form of staff time. More information is attached.

Upcoming LEC meetings

Meeting times and room numbers are TBD. Meetings are anticipated to be held in the State Office Building (100 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155).

Wednesday, July 29

Monday, September 21

Monday, October 19

Wednesday, November 18

Monday, December 14

**For more information or to provide input on any of the above, contact
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