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Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 5:40 PM

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Subject: Governors' Accord Planning Meeting

Attachments: Meeting Agenda Governors' Energy Accord (09-21-15).docx; Draft Governor's Energy Accord (09-21-15).docx

Colleagues,

We look forward to our meeting among states on Monday (September 21) beginning at 9AM ET to discuss the Governors' Accord for a New Energy Future.

Attached is Monday's meeting agenda, a call-in number for folks who cannot join in person, a current draft of the Accord and a list of possible future action items for discussion.

Best,
Cliff



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Governors' Accord for a New Energy Future
Planning Meeting

September 21, 2015
9:00 am -2:00 pm Eastern

Hall of States
444 North Capitol Street NW
Room 231

Call In Number: 866-541-0576
Passcode: 159486

- I. Brief introductions and goals for the meeting (9:00-9:15)
- II. Status report on the Accord (9:15-9:30)
 - a. Background and purpose
 - b. Development and engagement process to date
 - c. Current status
- III. Review and finalization of Accord (9:30-10:30)
- Break (10:30-10:45)
- IV. Post-release work plan* (10:45-11:45)
 - a. Priority areas of shared focus
 - b. Implementation structure for shared priorities
 - c. Recruitment of additional states

** Please consider what shared activities post-release of the Accord would benefit your state's energy efforts. Examples of potential actions are listed on the next page.*

Working lunch (provided)

- V. Accord announcement and launch (11:45-1:00)
 - a. Timing
 - b. Venue/Structure/Process
 - c. Key messages for the announcement
 - d. Finalizing announcement content and details
- VI. Review next steps and schedule moving forward (1:00-1:30)
- VII. Adjourn

Examples of potential shared priorities and activities once Governor's Accord is launched:

1. Advocate for **modernization of the nation's electrical grid**. Identify and support federal policies and investments to improve transmission and distribution infrastructure that further state energy goals, and help each other build our own in-state capacity to improve our energy grids.
2. Advance policies, investments and programs that will **accelerate the uptake of energy efficiency** in Accord states.
3. Explore the role of **states in energy markets** to determine if state government actions can expedite the integration of new, clean technologies into our energy systems (or at least reduce barriers from new technology integration).
4. **Quantify economic benefits and opportunities** from states' clean energy and infrastructure investments. Using standard economic tools and with the right technical partner, Accord states could pursue state-level modeling of specific infrastructure and clean energy investments to project impacts to employment, GDP and household income.
5. Advocate for **better coordination among Federal energy programs** to better support states' energy strategies, for example better aligning HUD and DOE programs to enable energy efficiency upgrades in affordable housing.
6. Shape **Federal support and technical assistance to states** to better support states' own energy pathways toward the Accord's common principles.

GOVERNORS' ACCORD FOR A NEW ENERGY FUTURE

American prosperity has always depended on embracing new ideas and technologies. By deploying cleaner and more efficient energy solutions, we can make our national economy more productive and resilient. These technologies help to diversify energy sources that power our economy and reduce dependence on foreign energy sources while securing abundant, domestically produced electricity. Embracing these new energy solutions also modernizes our infrastructure and transportation systems, decreases air pollution, and supports the growth of innovative American companies.

Current challenges also demand these new energy solutions. Increased intensity and frequency of floods, droughts, wildfires and sea-level rise threaten communities, industries, agricultural production and trillions of dollars of assets. This new reality demands that we diversify our energy portfolios and build more durable, safe and resilient infrastructure. Embracing new energy solutions allows us to expand our economy while protecting the health of our communities and natural resources. These changes will help secure a safe and prosperous future for our country.

We recognize that now is the time to embrace a bold vision of the nation's energy future, and to do so, states are once again poised to lead. We join together, despite unique opportunities and challenges in each state, to embrace a shared vision of this future:

Our states will diversify energy generation and expand clean energy sources

Expanding energy efficiency and clean energy in a cost-effective way contributes to our states' economies, reduces air pollution and avoids energy waste. While fossil fuels help to power our economies, building our energy systems in ways that reduce dependence on fossil fuel will make our economies stronger, more efficient, and stable. Promoting energy savings through efficiency programs is the fastest, most reliable and often cheapest way to meet our energy needs. Technologies that capture solar, wind and geothermal power have become viable and cost-effective to integrate into energy generation portfolios. These technologies are already providing energy to millions of Americans while reducing energy waste and air pollution. With the falling costs of renewable energy options, and rapid advances in efficiency throughout the entire energy system, states can diversify their energy portfolios for economic and environmental benefits.

Our states will modernize energy infrastructure.

Modern distribution and transmission grids are required to integrate more renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies into our energy systems. Utilities need to update electrical systems to be adequately "intelligent" in order to integrate many types of energy sources in a safe and cost-effective way, and manage electricity flexibly and efficiently. Enhancing energy grids also enables the integration of new technologies that allow consumers greater control over their own energy use.

Our states will encourage clean transportation options.

Hundreds of thousands of electric vehicles are driving on American roads, and fuels such as natural gas, biofuel and hydrogen are increasingly available to power vehicles. Supporting automakers' and fueling companies' market expansion for these new vehicles and fuels expands consumer choice, lessens dependence on petroleum and reduces pollution. Supporting needed infrastructure development and incentives where appropriate will encourage expanded use of these new technologies.

Our states will develop comprehensive energy plans to manage this energy transition.

Comprehensive energy plans will set our states on pathways to meet these ambitious objectives. These plans must be customized to the challenges and opportunities faced by each of our states. At the same time, these plans will incorporate shared best practices and lessons-learned from these new technologies, state energy policies, consumer programs, and workforce training. Our states will craft and update these long-term energy plans, and then report progress guided by benchmarks that include energy diversification, reduced energy waste, improved air and water and economic performance.

Our states will work together to make these transformational policy changes.

Our states are already transforming energy and transportation to be cleaner, more efficient, and more resilient. Many of these actions taking place in each state can be replicated in other states and scaled across regions. Examples include setting renewable and energy efficiency standards, adopting low-emission vehicle and low-carbon fuel standards, and diversifying energy portfolios to integrate efficiency and renewable energy into a state's energy mix. Building on current efforts, our states will help each other reach shared energy and transportation objectives. This collaboration will be advanced through periodic meetings and technical convenings of our states.

Our states will help secure a stronger national energy future.

Given the unique energy portfolio and regulatory framework of each state, Governors are uniquely positioned to drive lasting improvements to our country's energy system. Federal agencies such as the United States Department of Energy have technical expertise and funding that can help these state actions. In order to provide effective support, federal agencies must work closely with states to tailor technical support and funding to the needs of each state. Strong partnerships among our states and between the states and the federal government will improve our country in the decades to come.