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STANDING COMMITTEES: PUBLIC UTILITIES AND
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EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE: CAPITAL FACILITIES
AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
CAPITOL PRESERVATION BOARD

REVIEWED BY COMMISSIONERS

RIC CAMPBELL  _____

TED BOYER _____

RON ALLEN _____

Richard Campbell
Ron Allen
Ted Boyer
Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
PO Box 45585
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0585

August 16, 2006

Re: Comment on the Conservation Enabling Tariff

Dear Commissioners:

As a legislator, business person, and citizen I support the Conservation Enabling Tariff (CET) that is currently filed with the Public Service Commission. Under this proposal, consumers and utilities will be encouraged and rewarded by a common effort to conserve energy. While I am not conversant with every detail of the CET, I believe that the CET will benefit Utah today and in our energy future by reducing dependence on foreign sources of energy supply and improving our environment.

Current ratemaking policies encourage utilities to promote increased sales in order to be profitable. While that may be good for sales of energy, it does not lead to conservation and is not in the overall best interest of consumers. I strongly support having public policies that cause energy conservation efforts to be in the common interest of consumers and utilities. The CET allows formation of this partnership and leads to wise investment, improved air quality, better resource management, and lower energy costs in the long run.

I realize this proposed change isn't without risks to the utilities and consumers. Ideally, in my mind, we would go further and implement a complete tariff change. But under the circumstances, this rate tariff change will move Utah in the right direction and allow you to assess the program before taking further action. The CET as proposed is a trial program that has "true-up" provisions and allows you to hold the utilities accountable.

Commissioners Richard Campbell, Ron Allen, Ted Boyer
Utah Public Service Commission
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I urge you to approve this proposal, monitor the trial closely, and accelerate cost-effective energy conservation for our citizens. The CET is the kind of action many of us in the Legislature hoped would occur with the passage of the Energy Policy Act earlier this year. We wanted to give you broad policy guidance to consider short- and long-term energy and environmental considerations as you weighed other responsibilities to the consumers and utilities.

I look forward to seeing the results of your deliberations and wish to be helpful as you move forward. If I can provide any further information or input, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ralph Becker

CC:

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