

Meeting of the Energy Planning & Inventory Commission
November 11, 2024

The inaugural meeting Energy Planning & Inventory Commission (EPIC) was held virtually via Zoom on Monday, November 11, 2024.

I. Call to Order

Rodney Andrews, EPIC Executive Committee member and Director of the University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research, called the meeting to order.

II. Attendance

The following members of EPIC were present: Rodney Andrews, Todd Case, Keith Murt, Talina Matthews, Mark Gooch, Eston Glover, Caryl Pfeiffer, Jeffrey Brock, John Crockett, Ed Holmes, Wes Cate, Ashli Watts, Rebecca Goodman, Brian Weisker, and Suzanne Miles.

III. Review of Commission Structure

Rodney Andrews provided a review of the overall Commission function, structure, and budgetary status.

IV. Selection of EPIC Chair, Vice-Chair, Executive Committee Members

Rodney Andrews mentioned the need to select an EPIC Chair, Vice Chair, and two members of the Executive Committee. Dr. Andrews reminds members of the Commission of the language in the statute that states the following: “Other than being a customer of retail electric service, no member of the executive committee shall have any current employment, contractual, or other direct financial relationship with any utility at the time of their appointment or during their service on the executive committee.”

Wes Cate asked a question about whether his selling commodities to utilities would preclude him from serving on the Executive Committee.

Several EPIC members discuss the composition of the Executive Committee and overall Commission leadership. There were numerous questions about the role and responsibilities of the Executive Committee members as well as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission.

Rebecca Goodman suggested tabling the nominations for Executive Committee until EPIC ascertains some legal clarification about who can serve. Mark Gooch seconded the motion. There was no opposition.

Suzanne Miles asked whether we should ask legal counsel input from the Kentucky House of Representatives and Kentucky Senate.

Todd Case suggested tabling the Chair and Vice Chair nominations until after talking with legal counsel until we receive that legal clarification. Mark Gooch seconded the motion. There was no opposition.

V. Meeting Frequency

Rodney Andrews stated that his office would be reaching out about a 2025 meeting schedule. EPIC is supposed to meet quarterly. The schedule will be resolved by the next meeting.

Rebecca Goodman suggested sending out a regular schedule to EPIC members ahead of time. Dr. Andrews stated that this will be the plan.

Ed Holmes asked if EPIC would meet virtually. Dr. Andrews said meetings can be either in-person or virtual or a mixture thereof.

VI. Discussion of Draft Bylaws

Rodney Andrews stated that this is charge of the Executive Committee. Dr. Andrews asked that if any EPIC member has bylaws that they find effective to please share with him.

Jeff Noel volunteered to allow legal counsel from the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development to help draft bylaws for EPIC.

VII. Executive Director Job Summary

Rodney Andrews stated that EPIC is empowered to hire an Executive Director for the Commission. They will be a UK employee and will report to the EPIC Board. Dr. Andrews stated he sent a draft of the job summary to EPIC and is seeking comments over the next two weeks. Dr. Andrews emphasized this is a job summary and not a complete job description.

Ashli Watts asked if this was intended to be a full-time position. Dr. Andrews stated that his belief is that this would be a full-time job.

Jeff Brock asked about education and qualifications as well as salary range. Dr. Andrews asked EPIC members to send in suggestions on education and qualifications. He said he would work with UK Human Resources, the EPIC Board, and EPIC Executive Committee on salary range.

VIII. Plan to Address the Energy Complex Assessment Report Requirement

Rodney Andrews noted that the legislation charged EPIC with developing an Energy Complex Assessment. He mentioned that since it took a while for appointments to EPIC, he suggested developing an Energy Complex Assessment Work Plan.

Rebecca Goodman asked if EPIC would like to use Kentucky Energy Profile Report. Dr. Andrews said he would certainly like to use that.

Rebecca Goodman proposes we develop an Energy Complex Assessment Work Plan. I also propose we use the Energy Security Plan. Caryl Pfeiffer seconded that motion. There was no opposition.

IX. Other Business

Talina Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting.