

Minutes
Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee
April 6, 2011

The Surface Transportation Board's Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) convened at the Surface Transportation Board (STB) offices in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, April 6, 2011. Stevan Bobb and William Berg, co-chairs, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. The meeting agenda and copies of referenced documents presented during the meeting are attached separately to the e-mail distributing these minutes.

Attendance:

Surface Transportation Board:

Daniel R. Elliott III, Chairman
Francis P. Mulvey, Vice Chairman
Scott Zimmerman, Designated Federal Officer

RETAC Members:

Bill Berg, Co-chairman
Stevan Bobb, Co-chairman

Susan Arigoni	Daryl Haack	Daniel Sabin
Bruce Blanton	Robert Hulick	Ed McKechnie
Rob Gabbard	John Hull	Betsy Monseu
Sameer Gaur	Mark Huston	Joe Osborne
John Gray	Dan Kuehn	Kent Smith
Scott Greene	Henry Rupert	Darrell Wallace

Chairman Elliott and Vice Chairman Mulvey welcomed the Committee. Chairman Elliott commented on the possibility of a Government shutdown and the higher visibility of energy issues due to recent events in the Middle East and Japan. He also informed the Committee of the Board's openness to suggestions for discussion reinforcing the RETAC role as a vehicle to raise and discuss key issues. He concluded with a request that the Committee develop more focused projects. Vice Chairman Mulvey reinforced the energy focus of the Administration and the need to discuss transportation requirements for all segments of the energy market.

Scott Zimmerman reinforced the potential for a government shutdown and provided general guidelines regarding RETAC activities if such an event occurs.

Messer's Bobb and Berg welcomed the Committee as well and encouraged dialogue with the guest presenters. In addition, they reminded the Committee that specific topics of interest are welcome as additional agenda items.

Minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting were approved.

Robert Hulick reported that the Committee fund totaled \$1,751.52.

Quin Shea, Executive Director-Environment for the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), reviewed the potential impact of proposed EPA activities impact regulations on coal transportation and usage in power generation and transportation. His comments were in reference to the attached presentation, The Utility Challenge: Transitioning the U.S. Generation Fleet. Following his comments, Mr. Shea addressed questions from the RETAC members.

Diane Kearney representing U. S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reviewed coal usage projections from the Annual Energy Outlook Early Release. Her comments referenced the attached presentation. Following her comments, Ms. Kearney addressed questions from the RETAC members.

Melissa Porter, Transportation Counsel, Senate Committee on Commerce, Service and Transportation, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security provided a verbal report. Ms. Porter outlined topics of interest before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Service and Transportation. Topics included Surface Transportation Policy – National Policy, Freight Bill – Freight Policy, Infrastructure Bank – Innovative Financing, Pipeline Safety Bill, Shortline Infrastructure Tax Credit and STB Reauthorization. Her report was received as information.

Betsey Monseu provided a Performance Measures Subcommittee report, copy attached.

Roundtable discussions were held for the following topics:

- Best Practices White Paper – Agreed to have Communications Subcommittee address format and distribution plans.
- Transportation of Ethanol – Requested update at next meeting.
- Rail Performance – BNSF, NS and CSXT members provided updates.

The next meeting of the Committee was set for September 15, 2011, location to be finalized.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.