

SCOMM

124:5

COMMITTEE TAPE LOG

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
TRADE & TOURISM

DATE: March 21, 2002

TIME: 1:11 pm

SUBJECT: Overview: Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER)

MEMBERS:

McGuire
LM

Green
JG

James
JJ

Morgan
CM

Masek
BM

Rokeberg
MR

Dyson
FD

Crawford
HC

Guess
GG

[illegible]

SPEAKER	TAPE #	SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION
SP	2022	Comment on B.C. Race in PNWER
FD	2122	Recreational vehicle Tax comment.
		Canadian Government forces residents to pay excise tax
		"What or how can we work together to get Canadian Gov't. to get ride of such tax."
BP	2215	Comment on Question
FD	2277	Reply and suggest a resolution to try and pass
BP	2320	Comment on suggestion
LM	2394	RESOLUTION comment
FD	2410	Asked for help from PNWER on wording.
LM	2429	Comment on issues common with YAKON.
NR	2460	Commented on FAA issues regarding what pilot may carry on board aircraft.
FD	2526	Commented on general aviation
NR	2582	General Comment
BP	2659	Comment on Criminal code
NR	2755	Question on AK membership in PNWER
LM	2766	RESPONSE
FD	2781	General Comment
BP	2794	Reply on crime deterrents
FD	2849	General Comment
NR	2894	General Comment
MM	2900	Back to the resolution issue.
FD	2929	Asked for help on drafting.
NR	2950	Letter?
LM	2958	Yes, will right letter to Minister of Natl. Rev.
LM	2907	Adjourned 1:59 pm



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**-Save the Date-
June 9-12, 2002**

PNWER Annual Summer Meeting 2002 The Resort at the Mountain Welches, Oregon

-The Resort at The Mountain
68010 East Fairway Avenue
Welches, Oregon 97067
Tel: (503) 622-3101 or (800) 669-7666
[Http://www.theresort.com](http://www.theresort.com)
40 miles east of Portland Airport
30-45 minutes drive from the airport

The Resort at The Mountain is the premier Northwest golf & ski resort located in the Highlands of Oregon just an hour east of Portland at the western base of Mt. Hood.



**For Lodging, Please Call the Resort:
(503) 622-3101 or (800) 669-7666**

The Resort offers several fun and relaxing overnight packages to choose from. There's something for everyone!

For conference info please call PNWER office.
Pacific NorthWest Economic Region
World Trade Center West
2200, Alaskan Way, Suite 460
Seattle, WA 98121
Tel: (206) 443-7723
<http://pnwer.org/summer02.htm>

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Summer Meeting 2002

June 09-12 at The Resort at The Mountain, Welches, Oregon

Registration Form

Name (for badge) _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Daytime Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Fax: _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Postal Code _____

Email: _____

Registration Information

NOTE: Registration fees **do not** include hotel accommodations – you must make room reservations directly with the hotel.* All fees are in US Funds.

Registration covers Sunday evening reception through Wednesday morning.

	Before May 09, 2002	After May 09, 2002	
Full Registration, June 09-12	\$275.00 (USD)	\$295.00 (USD)	\$ _____
Spouse or guest (each)	\$150.00 (USD)	\$150.00 (USD)	X _____ Total (USD) \$ _____
			TOTAL: (USD) \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD

- ☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to "PNWER", or
☐ Please invoice me at the address above, or
☐ Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature (as on card) _____ Amount _____

IMPORTANT: Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodations.

The Resort at the Mountain is located at 68010 East Fairway Avenue, Welches, Oregon 97067

For reservations call 1-800-669-ROOM (7666). Or go to <http://www.theresort.com>.

To receive the conference rate, please make your reservations prior to May 09, 2002 and mention you are with the Pacific NW Economic Region Conference

* One and two bedroom are available at various rates

PLEASE fax or email the completed form with the registration fee to: Fax:
(206) 443-7703 / Email: matt@pnwer.org

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 460, Seattle, WA 98121

Tel: (206) 443-7723 / Internet: www.pnwer.org

PNWER Annual Meeting 2002
Resort at the Mountain, Welches, OR
June 9-12, 2002
DRAFT AGENDA
Preliminary Working Group Topics

Sunday – June 9

9am-2pm PNWER Executive Committee Meeting

2:30pm-5:30pm PNWER Working Groups

Telecommunications

- Introductions
- New mechanisms to provide incentives for investment in high bandwidth connectivity for rural communities
- Assessing risks of cyber disruptions
Examining interdependencies – Many of our critical infrastructure components are controlled by secure control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems. If these systems go down it leads to cascading effects.

Tourism

- Introductions
- Olympic Games and Regional Tourism Collaboration on the Whistler 2010 Bid: *What can we learn from Salt Lake City and Calgary toward making the 2010 bid a success for the entire region?*
Whistler Bid Committee -Update on the strategy and plan for the 2010 Olympic Games
Salt Lake City Olympic Committee-Lessons Learned
Calgary Olympic Committee-Lessons Learned and advice for Vancouver
- Regional Collaboration on the 2003 – 2005 Lewis & Clark Bi-Centennial

7pm Opening Reception

Monday – June 10

8am Opening Breakfast

9am-12 noon PNWER Working Groups

Workforce for the 21st Century – *Two of the largest infrastructure projects in North America are being undertaken within PNWER in the next several years – the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline project, and the Alberta oil sands development. What are the projections and profiles of workforce needs for these projects? Are regional institutions informed and looking at these needs?*

Monday – June 10 (Continued)

Environment

Water Quality Credit Trading – *Can market forces be introduced to provide incentives for water quality enhancement in our watersheds?*

- **Lower Boise River Water Quality Trading Project**

Transportation

- TEA-21 Reauthorization: *Reauthorization of the borders and corridors program with the addition of the new gateways program*
Harry Caldwell
- Cruise Ship Security:
- Cross-Border Finance: *A report from the IMTC group and a discussion of cross-border planning to joint financing of projects. These projects include approach roads and technology systems for NEXUS and commercial traffic.*

12 noon-2pm Luncheon- Office of Homeland Security (invited) Speaker TBA

2-5pm PNWER Working Groups

Forestry - (To Be Determined)

Agriculture

- Limiting Risk in a Climate of Uncertainty: *Each state has a different policy to ensure that warehouses and conditioners are bonded so that farmers are protected. Farmers in the state of Washington have been hurt by warehouses that have gone under or been unable to purchase surety bonds. Idaho has commodity indemnity funds, rather than surety bonds. Oregon passed a model bill this session to provide relief for farmers who have been impacted by closing warehouses. Can regional cooperation reduce these risks?*
- GMOs & Open Pollinators: *Issues concerning GMOs and open pollinators spreading outside of their intended area.*
- Invasive Species: *Issues concerning non-native species invading the Pacific NorthWest. Should the PNWER states and provinces have more communication about these invasive species particularly as they can impact international quarantines of agricultural and nursery products?*
Pat Takasugi, Idaho Agriculture Director – Idaho's model program dealing with invasive species based on watersheds going beyond the state's borders
- New High Tech Irrigation and Productivity Technology: *Farmers in Eastern Oregon have been able to use new technology that allows them to improve production while using one third of their previous water consumption.*
- GPS and Satellite Technology – *Boeing Company Resource 21 – a spectral technology assisting farmers in increasing yields.*
- CFOs (confined feeding operations): *Legislation and regulations, environment issues, etc.*
- Point of Origin Labeling: *Voluntary or mandatory?*
- Other Issues:
 - US Farm Bill
 - Subsidies (freight and trucking subsidies)
 - Security and bio-terrorist Risks to Agriculture post September 11

Monday – June 10 (2-5pm Working Groups - Continued)

Sustainable Development

- E-Waste Recycling
Hewlett Packard Computer Recycling Program
 - *Regional Models of Corporate Sustainability – How have private companies been able to improve their bottom line while at the same time become better stewards of the environment?*

7pm *Dinner Reception*

Tuesday – June 11

7:30-9am Private Sector Council Breakfast
 Delegate Council (Public Sector) Breakfast

9am-12 noon PNWER Working Groups

Financing cross-border infrastructure:

Trade

Border Issues

Implementing the Ridge-Manley Smart Border 30 point Agreement.

Can new technologies be implemented to facilitate greater ease of movement and security at rural border crossings?

Report from Perimeter Security Task Force

12 noon–2pm Luncheon-Speaker TBA

2-5pm PNWER Working Groups

Port Issues- Security, Dredging the Columbia

Health Care- Innovative Solutions to rising healthcare costs

How can states and provinces reduce health care costs by better management

Energy

Evening Closing Event to be held at the Timberline Lodge Buses will depart Resort at the Mountain at 6:30pm for Timberline (Mt. Hood)

Inauguration of new PNWER President

Wednesday - June 12

8-10am PNWER Executive Committee Breakfast
Resolutions from Working Groups to be heard for adoption – Open to all delegates

Blue Cascades *Interdependencies Scenario*

PNWER will be organizing this exercise, co-sponsored by the US Navy Northwest Region, FEMA Region 10 and the Canadian Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIEP). The exercise will be based on a scenario developed in concert with stakeholders in the Pacific Northwest and will reflect regional concerns. It will focus on linkages between and among infrastructures that could make the region vulnerable to cascading impacts in the event of an attack or disruption and/or could complicate a speedy recovery.

Participants will discuss the impacts of disruptions on the infrastructures that they represent. BLUE CASCADES will also provide a setting to become more informed about other infrastructures and to learn about the potential for unanticipated effects. This meeting is vital for private industry, cities, communities, elected officials, emergency preparedness, health and transportation officials to learn about and how to prepare for a potential disruption of the infrastructures on which you depend.

All PNWER delegates are encouraged to attend.

10am-12pm
Orientation on Interdependencies

12pm-2pm
Luncheon Speaker: Office of Homeland Security, TBA

2pm-4pm
Exercise: Scenario Progression

4pm Hotwash

5pm Meeting Adjourned

5pm-6pm Light Reception



Pacific North West Economic Region

PNWER Profile

The Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory, public/private partnership composed of legislators, governments, and businesses in the Northwest states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the Western Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and the Yukon Territory.

PNWER is the only regional planning and facilitation organization set up in statute by the border states and provinces to deal with transboundary policy and planning in the Pacific Northwest. Established by the state and provincial legislators in 1991, PNWER promotes greater regional cooperation by government and business to enhance the region's global competitiveness, while striving to maintain and/or improve the environment. If it were a nation, PNWER would rank 12th among the world's leading industrial economies, with a combined population of more than 19 million and an annual gross regional product of over \$671 billion (USD).

All state and provincial legislators in the region are members of PNWER, as are the Governors and Premiers. In addition, private sector members, counties, economic development commissions, industry associations and similar entities may join PNWER by paying dues on a sliding scale determined by their size. The general membership of PNWER meets once a year.

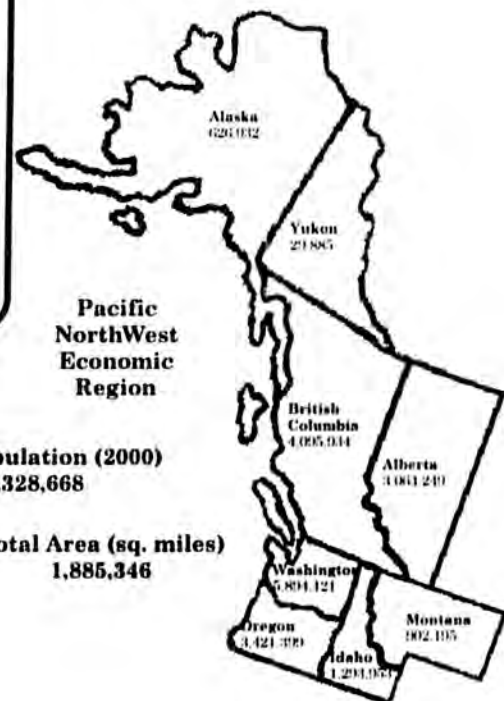
FORGING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

In order to accomplish the goals of regional cooperation and economic growth while maintaining environmental quality, PNWER has forged a unique collaboration between the public and private sector. PNWER has designated nine targeted sectors of business and industry that are strong within the PNWER jurisdictions and developed proactive working groups for each sector. Each working group is lead by a legislative, public sector, and private sector co-chair. The working groups have initiated legislation, sponsored teleconferences, industry forums, and produced research papers, all toward the mutual benefit of the eight jurisdictions.

PNWER LEADERSHIP

President	Representative Jeff Morris, Washington
Vice President Canada	Barry Penner, MLA, British Columbia
Vice President Canada	Cynthia Tucker, MLA, Yukon
Vice President U.S.	Representative Fred Dyson, Alaska
Vice President U.S.	Representative Greg Smith, Oregon
Executive Director	Matt Morrison

*"If it were a nation,
PNWER would rank
12th among the
world's leading
industrial economies,
with a combined
population of more
than 19 million and
an annual gross
regional product of
over \$671 billion."*



Total Population (2000)
19,328,668

Total Area (sq. miles)
1,885,346

PNWER Working Groups

Agriculture	Environmental Technology
Energy	Border Crossing
Forest Products	Telecommunications
Tourism	Trade
Transportation	Sustainable Development
	Dispute Resolution



Pacific North West Economic Region

PNWER Executive Committee 2002

Representative Jeff Morris
State of Washington
President

Barry Penner, MLA
British Columbia
Vice President Canada

Cynthia Tucker, MLA
Yukon Territory
Vice President Canada

Representative Fred Dyson
State of Alaska
Vice President U.S.

Representative Greg Smith
State of Oregon
Vice President U.S.

Hon. Halvar C. Jonson
Province of Alberta

Rob Renner MLA
Province of Alberta

Representative Max Black
State of Idaho
PNWER Immediate Past President

Senator Glenn Roush
State of Montana

Senator Tim Sheldon
State of Washington

Hon. Scott Kent
Minister, Yukon Territory

Senator Alan Bluechel
State of Washington (retired)

Hon. David Coutts
Past President PNWER

Don Dalik
Fasken, Martineau &

Dean Haagenson
Contractors Northwest

James Baumgartner
Black Helterline, LLP

Bob Sailer
Judd & Sailer, PLLC

Tim Schultz
*Alberta Society of Engineering
Technologists*

Matt Morrison
Executive Director, PNWER

PNWER Delegate Council 2002

Representative Jeff Morris
President, PNWER
Barry Penner, MLA
Vice President Canada, PNWER
Cynthia Tucker, MLA
Vice President Canada, PNWER
Representative Fred Dyson
Vice President U.S., PNWER
Representative Greg Smith
Vice President U.S., PNWER

Alaska
Governor Tony Knowles
Representative Fred Dyson
Representative John Davies
Alternates:
Representative Jeannette James
Representative Ethan Berkowitz

Alberta
Premier Ralph Klien
Hon. Halvar Jonson
Hon. David Coutts
Rob Renner, MLA
Debby Carlson, MLA
Alternates:
Drew Hutton, MLA

British Columbia
Premier Gordon Campbell
Barry Penner, MLA
Bill Belsey, MLA
Bill Bennett, MLA
Brenda Locke, MLA
Reni Masi, MLA

Idaho
Governor Dirk Kempthorne
Representative Max Black
Representative Elaine Smith
Senator Ric Branch
Senator Clint Stennett

Montana
Governor Judy Martz
Senator Dorothy Berry
Senator Glenn Roush
Representative Kim Gillan

Oregon
Governor John Kitzhaber
Senator Bev Clarno
Representative Greg Smith
Representative Tom Butler
Representative Bob Jensen
Representative Gary Hansen
Alternates:
Senator Susan Castillo
Senator Verne Duncan

Washington
Governor Gary Locke
Senator Tim Sheldon
Senator Jim Horn
Representative Jeff Morris
Representative Luke Esser
Alternates:
Senator Paul Shin
Senator Dan McDonald
Representative Aaron Reardon
Representative Joyce Mulliken

Yukon Territory
Premier Pat Duncan
Hon. Scott Kent
Cynthia Tucker, MLA

PNWER Private Sector Board 2002

Co-Chairs: Tim Schultz, *Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists*, Bob Sailer, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*

Alaska
To be designated

Alberta
Allan Lowe, *Alberta Roadbuilders Association*
Bernie Marko, *Beaver Regional Waste Management*
Ken Moholity, *Alberta Grain Commission*
Tim Schultz, *Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists*

British Columbia
Don Dalik, *Fasken, Martineau & DuMoulin, LLP*
Tim Draper, *Telus*
Wayne Soper, *West Coast Energy*
Kevin Hyde, *Keen Engineering Co., Ltd.*

Idaho
Dean Haagenson, *Contractors Northwest*
Evan Hayes, *Idaho Grain Producers*
Dar Olberding, *Idaho Grain Producers*

Montana
Jim Smitham, *Montana Power Company*

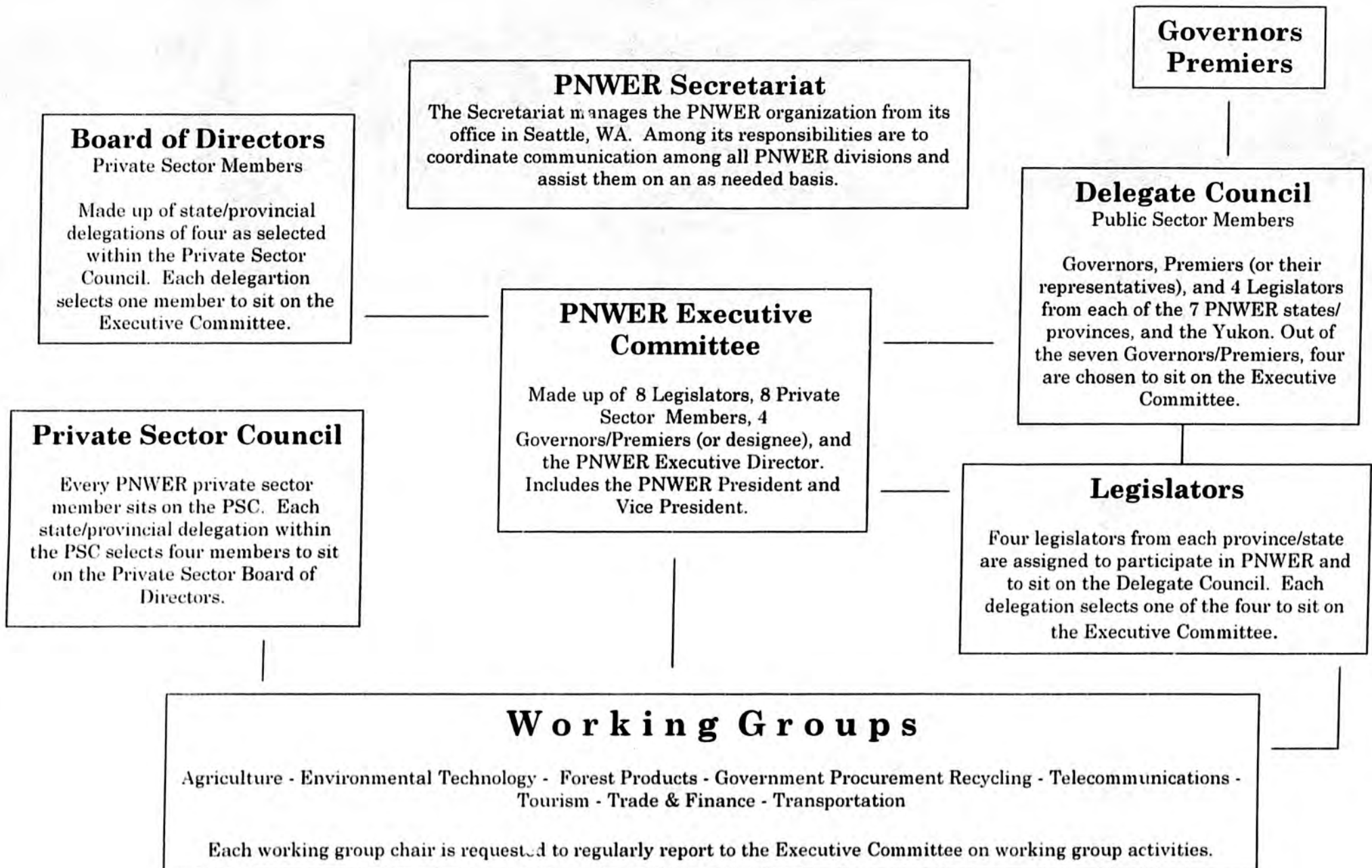
Oregon
James Baumgartner, *Black Helterline, LLP*
Charles Hall
Tom Lowles, *Key Bank*
Capt. James Townley Jr., *Columbia River Steamship*

Washington
Mike Brennan, *Bellingham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce*
Wally Hyer, *AT&T Wireless Services*
Bob Sailer, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*
Jan Romerdahl, *US Bank*

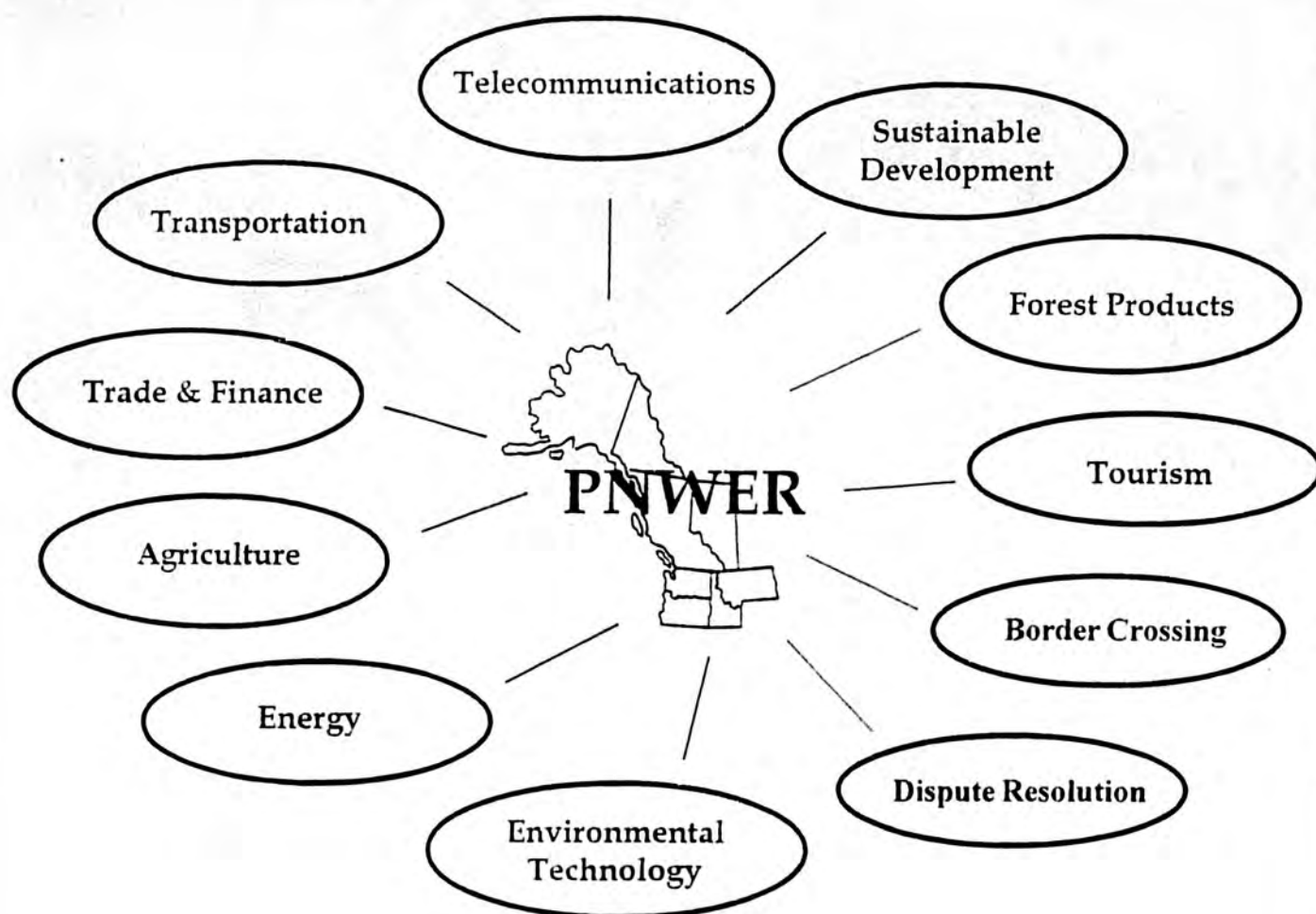
Alternates:
Greg Boos, *Chang & Boos*
Hugh Judd, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*

Yukon
To be designated

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Governance Structure



Pacific North West Economic Region



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PNWER Working Groups

The Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) is a public/private partnership. It operates through eleven working groups, each dedicated to a different sector of the regional economy. Current working groups include: Agriculture, Environmental Technology, Forest Products, Energy, Border Crossing, Sustainable Development, Telecommunications, Tourism, Trade & Finance, Transportation, and Dispute Resolution.

Each working group is lead by a legislative, public sector, and private sector co-chair. The working groups have initiated legislation, sponsored teleconferences, industry forums, and produced research papers, all toward the mutual benefit of the eight jurisdictions.

PNWER, 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 460, Seattle, WA 98121
Phone: (206) 443-7723, Fax: (206) 443-7703, Internet: www.pnwer.org



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

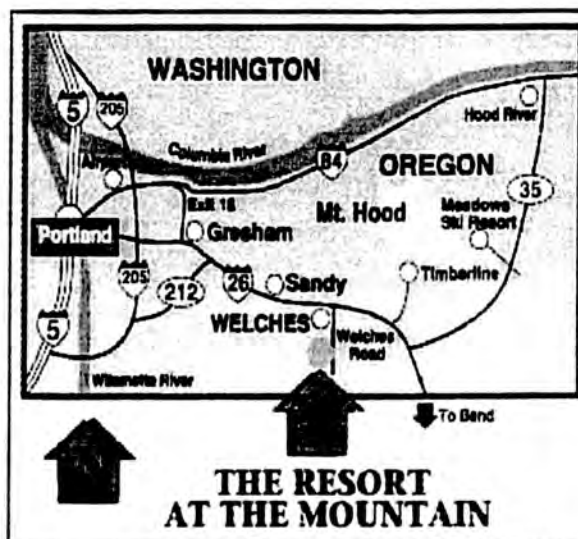
**-Save the Date-
June 12, 2002**

Infrastructure Interdependencies Exercise *"Blue Cascades"*

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region will hold Blue Cascades, an infrastructure interdependencies-focused tabletop exercise immediately following the PNWER Annual Meeting in Welches, Oregon on June 12th, 2002 at the Resort at The Mountain

-The Resort at The Mountain
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Welches, Oregon 97067
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[Http://www.theresort.com](http://www.theresort.com)
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2001

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REGIONAL REPORT

States Join to Prepare for Disasters

By ROBERT GAVIN

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

STATES ARE joining forces to prepare for the regional impact of potential disasters.

In the Northwest, a group of five states and three Canadian provinces two weeks ago launched an initiative to develop a regional protection, preparedness and response plan for dealing with emergencies under the auspices of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, a Seattle-based organization of government and business officials.

And today, the Energy Department is meeting to discuss security with officials of 12 strategically located states that have high concentrations of "critical infrastructure" on which other states depend.

'Horrible Circumstances'

"We need to start thinking much bigger, about much more horrible circumstances," says Tamara Doherty, acting director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Northwest region, based near Seattle.

Ms. Doherty met with the Northwest officials in Spokane, Wash., on Nov. 30 to discuss their initiative. She views it as a model for other states and regions to bridge the gaps in an emergency-management system that traditionally has relied on the federal government and individual states.

"Because of the interdependencies, you have to look beyond a single state and think on a regional basis," says Paula Sealingi, former director of the U.S. Energy Department's Office of Critical Infra-

structure Protection and now a consultant who advises government and industry on infrastructure security.

States have long cooperated in disaster assistance—39 states have reciprocal agreements with their neighbors, according to FEMA—but the terrorist attacks are prompting a closer examination of how intricately states are tied by, and how much they depend on, wires, pipes and computer networks. At today's meeting in Washington, D.C., the Energy Department will impress upon state officials the interdependency of infrastructure—in other words how a disruption in natural-gas supplies can disrupt the production of electricity which in turn can shut down computer networks and bring an entire region to a halt. This phenomenon is known as "cascading failure."

The goal is to help these 12 states—and eventually all—identify the most sensitive segments of their infrastructure, and put in place plans to protect and restore systems, which, if they fail, are most likely to spark cascading failures. For example, a telecommunications switching station that handles Internet traffic might require extensive security because power plants and pipelines are computer-operated through Internet connections.

"What you have is a complex system of systems on which the U.S. depends," says Sam Varnado, head of the Energy Department's energy infrastructure assurance program. "Everything's hooked to everything. You've got to understand what happens when a pipeline crosses the [state] border."

In the Northwest, political and busi-

ness leaders are trying to understand just that. Officials from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the Canadian provinces Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon Territory will spend the next four months working with industries that own much of the critical infrastructure that crisscrosses the region. They will inventory dams, transmission facilities, pipelines and the like, assessing vulnerabilities, security and the adequacy of response plans. In addition, government and industry officials will assess how an attack on one sector might bring cascading failures across other sectors.

In March, the officials will reconvene to compile the information to begin developing a regional plan for protecting critical infrastructure and responding to disasters. Among the possibilities: using the data to build a computer model so, for example, emergency-management officials in Oregon could project the impact in their state of a pipeline explosion in Montana, and prepare accordingly.

Ripple Effect

Jeff Morris, a Washington state legislator and president of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, says the recent western energy crisis, which saw power shortages in California drive up electricity costs throughout the West, has also helped underscore how events in one state can ripple through an interconnected region.

"We have a transmission system that we can barely keep up under commercial pressure," Mr. Morris says. "let alone a terrorist attack."



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

PARTNERSHIP FOR REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY

The Problem

The Pacific Northwest depends on a vast network of complex, automated, interdependent systems that produce and distribute energy and enable all manner of communications. These highly-sophisticated and largely private infrastructures in turn determine the availability of food, water, health care, even basic emergency services. The linkage of key infrastructures with Canada's is another central attribute of the Northwest's critical infrastructure.

In short, critical infrastructures underpin civilization. And they are highly vulnerable. An attack targeted at vulnerable nodes of the web of critical infrastructures could trigger cascading impacts which would paralyze the entire Pacific Northwest for weeks, if not months.

Anticipatory planning with a wide cross section of public and private infrastructure owners and managers is the only way to mitigate such an emergency.

Addressing the Problem

A unique regional and cross-border organization, the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER), has convened key organizations to proactively address the region's infrastructure vulnerabilities.

As a statutory public/private partnership formed by the legislatures of the Northwest states of Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Canadian Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon Territory in 1991, PNWER has taken the first steps in facilitating workable solutions to regional infrastructure vulnerability.

"The Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security" was launched on November 30, 2001 in Spokane, Washington. At the meeting, key private stakeholders representing the electric power sector, liquid fuel producers, pipeline carriers and telecommunication system operators met together with the federal, state and provincial officials responsible for emergency management and public safety. These stakeholders, along with elected officials from each state and province, identified opportunities for acting proactively over the short and near term to strengthen their vulnerable and interdependent infrastructures.

The results of this ground-breaking organizational meeting are described in the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security Report 2001. Subsequent work by PNWER staff in consultation with select November 30 participants, has resulted in a four phase, multi-year work plan that will advance goals identified by the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security.

Moving to Solutions

The Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security program is designed to help the Northwest region bridge the gaps in an emergency-management system that traditionally has relied on the federal government and individual states. It is envisioned as a prototype which will be replicable in other parts of the country, and will fit into new national initiatives, both U.S. and Canadian.

The Implementation Phase, February 2002-September 2003, will begin with a two-part infrastructure interdependencies exercise called "Blue Cascades" being developed for 250 participants, to be held this spring in Seattle. An Advisory Group is being formed from stakeholders to help guide the program.

As the program continues, the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security will provide specific tools for disaster resistance planning, including:

- an inventory of existing protocols and guidelines
- defining a common "language" or format for vulnerability assessments
- continuation of training and exercises
- modular courses focussing on operational challenges of infrastructure security for telecast /web access throughout the region.

The Operations Phase, October 2003 - TBD, will further these activities, as PNWER coordinates a critical path analysis to further refine interdependencies, determine where the crucial nodes for each technology are located and where they overlap. This will help the region determine which priority assets must be protected and how to mitigate the effects and quickly recover from a natural disaster or terrorist act. In the Implementation Phase, a critical infrastructure data resource will also be developed, and both recovery protocols and critical community facilities data resource will be operational, ready to provide current information to emergency response teams.

Regional groups will hold state and province-wide meetings on a regular basis to further the collaborative process. This multi-year effort will develop the tools for planning responses on a regional basis, and will be readily scalable to other parts of the country. After completion of the Operations Phase, a review of experiences and lessons learned will be prepared. Materials produced during this Review Phase will serve as a basis for follow-on activities and be used as a model for other regions in North America.

**Select Committee on Community
Security Committee**

HJM 4023

Brief Description: Supporting the development of an action plan for regional infrastructure security.

Sponsors: Representatives Morris, Barlean, Schual-Berke, Kessler, Conway, Schmidt, Lysen, Wood, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Upthegrove, Edwards, Kenney, Anderson and Kagi.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Expresses the Washington State Legislature's support for a binational regional exercise in the Pacific Northwest to develop an action plan for regional infrastructure security.

Hearing Date: 2/5/02

Staff: Caroleen Dineen (786-7156).

Background:

In 1991 the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Agreement was enacted in Washington. At that time the state agreed to participate in PNWER, a regional organization focused on promoting regional collaboration and enhancing regional competitiveness in international and domestic markets. Policy areas within PNWER's consideration include international trade, economic development, human resources, environment and natural resources, energy, and education. Substantive actions of PNWER may take the form of uniform legislation and other policy initiatives endorsed by participating entities.

Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon are members of PNWER. The organization's structure consists of a delegate council and an executive committee. Legislators are appointed by participating states and provinces to serve on these committees. PNWER also has working groups for various policy areas.

The state Military Department (Military Department) and the Adjutant General, its director, administer the state's "all hazard" comprehensive emergency management plan. The plan

includes an analysis of the natural, technological, or human-caused hazards that could affect the state. The Adjutant General must verify local emergency management plans for consistency with the state plan and may make agreements with federal agencies regarding plans for federally owned areas.

Summary of Bill:

The Legislature expresses its support to the President of the United States and the United States Congress for a binational exercise addressing infrastructure interdependencies to be held in the Pacific Northwest in order to develop an action plan for regional infrastructure security. The Legislature supports this exercise being conducted under the auspices of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER). The Legislature also recognizes:

- PNWER's efforts to develop a multi-state, binational Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security of public and private stakeholders to address interdependency issues and work toward an action plan for a "disaster resistant" region;
- Canada's federal Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness' agreement to support a binational exercise addressing the infrastructure interdependencies between border states and provinces; and
- the United States Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and the Homeland Security Department's interest in conducting a binational regional exercise with Canada.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4023

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Barlean, Schual-Berke, Kessler, Conway, Schmidt, Lysen, Wood, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Upthegrove, Edwards, Kenney, Anderson and Kagi

Read first time 01/23/2002. Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Community Security.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO GOVERNOR TOM RIDGE,
5 DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives
7 of the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
8 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, The State of Washington's economy is dependent upon
10 numerous critical infrastructures, many of which are owned and
11 operated by the private sector; and

12 WHEREAS, These critical infrastructures are highly complex and
13 interdependent, such that disruptions by natural disaster or by
14 terrorist attack may lead to cascading and escalating effects on
15 other critical infrastructures; and

16 WHEREAS, Bonneville Power Administration, which provides the
17 backbone of our state's electrical power system, has led the nation
18 in emergency preparedness and risk assessment; and

19 WHEREAS, Over eighty percent of our natural gas supply is
20 imported from Canada, and our electrical grid system is highly
21 integrated with BC Hydro; and

22 WHEREAS, The Pacific Northwest Economic Region has launched the
23 first multistate, binational Partnership for Regional Infrastructure
24 Security, bringing over one hundred twenty public and private

1 stakeholders to address interdependency issues and work toward an
2 action plan for a "disaster resistant" region; and

3 WHEREAS, The Canadian federal Office of Critical Infrastructure
4 Protection and Emergency Preparedness has agreed to support a
5 binational exercise addressing the interdependencies between border
6 states and provinces; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States Office of Critical Infrastructure
8 Protection and the Homeland Security Department have announced their
9 interest in doing a binational regional exercise with Canada;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully communicate their
11 support of such an exercise being held in the Pacific Northwest
12 under the auspices of PNWER to develop an action plan for regional
13 infrastructure security.

14 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
15 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
16 States, Governor Tom Ridge, Director of the Office of Homeland
17 Security, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
18 the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
19 State of Washington.

20
--- END ---

**Select Committee on Community
Security Committee**

HB 2853

Brief Description: Requiring the emergency management council to identify critical infrastructure in the state.

Sponsors: Representatives Morris, Hurst, Schmidt, Barlean, Buck, Simpson, Schual-Berke, Cooper, Haigh, Benson, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Anderson, Chase, Upthegrove, Linville and Rockefeller.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Emergency Management Council to identify critical infrastructure within the state and prioritize infrastructure in need of protection.
- Requires the Emergency Management Council to facilitate efforts to develop regional plans for management and restoration of critical functions.

Hearing Date: 2/5/02

Staff: Caroleen Dineen (786-7156).

Background:

The state Military Department (Military Department) administers a comprehensive program of emergency management in the state. The Adjutant General, who serves as director of the Military Department, is required to develop an "all hazard" comprehensive emergency management plan including an analysis of the natural, technological, or human-caused hazards that could affect the state. With the Governor's approval, the Adjutant General may agree with federal officials on an emergency management plan for federally owned areas within the state.

Each county, city, and town must establish a local organization or join a joint local organization for emergency management. Each local organization must submit an emergency management plan to the Adjutant General for recommendations and verification of consistency with the state plan.

The Emergency Management Council (Council) is a 17-member council appointed by the Governor to advise the Governor and the Adjutant General on state and local emergency management matters. The Council includes representatives of at least the following:

- city and county governments;
- sheriffs and police chiefs;
- Washington State Patrol;
- Military Department;
- Department of Ecology;
- state and local fire chiefs;
- seismic safety experts;
- state and local emergency management directors;
- search and rescue volunteers;
- medical professions who have expertise in emergency medical care;
- building officials; and
- private industry members who are knowledgeable in emergency and hazardous materials management.

Among other duties, the Council must ensure the Governor receives an annual assessment of state-wide emergency preparedness that considers numerous factors.

Summary of Bill:

The Council is required to identify infrastructure within the state that is critical to regional economic stability and security. The Council's identification of critical infrastructure must be done in cooperation with the public and the private sectors. The Council must assess the vulnerability of various critical infrastructures and prioritize infrastructures most in need of protection. The Council must report its conclusions and recommendations to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2002. The Council is also required to facilitate and participate in efforts to develop regional plans for management and restoration of critical functions, which may require coordination with other states, federal agencies, and neighboring nations.

Legislative intent is included to recognize the state's dependence on reliable functioning of complex infrastructure, including energy, water, transportation, and communications systems. Legislative intent also recognizes the government's responsibility to participate in and facilitate the development of a regional approach for protecting critical infrastructure.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

HOUSE BILL 2853

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Hurst, Schmidt, Barlean, Buck, Simpson, Schual-Berke, Cooper, Haigh, Benson, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Anderson, Chase, Upthegrove, Linville and Rockefeller

Read first time 01/30/2002. Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Community Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to emergencies involving critical infrastructure
2 arising from terrorist acts; adding a new section to chapter 38.52 RCW;
3 and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. After the tragic events of September 11,
6 2001, the legislature recognizes that the state's and the region's
7 security, economic prosperity, and social well-being depend on the
8 reliable functioning of increasingly complex infrastructures. The
9 legislature further recognizes that it is the government's
10 responsibility to participate in and facilitate the development of a
11 regional approach to protecting this state's and the region's critical
12 infrastructures. Because of mutual dependence and the increasing
13 interconnectedness of infrastructures for energy systems, water
14 systems, transportation systems, and communications systems, these
15 infrastructures may be vulnerable in ways not yet recognized. Many of
16 these facilities are privately owned and operated. In developing a
17 coordinated regional approach to protecting critical infrastructures,
18 it is important to include a broad set of viewpoints and expertise from
19 both the public and private sector.

1 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 38.52 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The emergency management council must identify infrastructure
4 in Washington in cooperation with both the public and private sector
5 that is critical to regional economic stability and security. As part
6 of its effort to identify critical infrastructure, the council must
7 develop methods to assess the vulnerability of the various critical
8 infrastructures and to prioritize those infrastructures most in need of
9 protection. The council will report its conclusions and
10 recommendations to the governor and the appropriate committees of the
11 legislature by December 1, 2002.

12 (2) The emergency management council must facilitate and
13 participate in efforts to develop regional plans for management and
14 restoration of critical functions. Participation may require
15 coordination with other states, federal agencies, and neighboring
16 nations.

--- END ---

**Select Committee on Community
Security Committee**

HB 2646

Brief Description: Exempting certain documents from public inspection and copying.

Sponsors: Representatives O'Brien, Ballasiotes, Kirby, Fisher, Jarrett, Schmidt, Edwards, Haigh and Lisk.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Exempts from public disclosure certain documents related to vital public services when a reasonable potential exists for the information to be of material aid to a person planning or intending sabotage interruption or damage to these services or to use the information to commit a criminal act.

Hearing Date: 2/5/02

Staff: Caroleen Dineen (786-7156).

Background:

The State Explosives Act (Explosives Act) defines "terrorist act" as an act that is intended to:

- intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
- influence the policy of a branch or level of government by intimidation or coercion;
- affect the conduct of a branch of government by intimidation or coercion; or
- retaliate against a branch or level of government for a policy or conduct of the government.

The Public Disclosure Act (PDA) requires agencies to make available for public inspection and copying all public records, unless the information falls within a specific exemption. The PDA is liberally construed, and its exemptions narrowly construed, to promote a public policy of keeping the public informed. The current exemptions are specific and focus generally on issues of personal privacy, personal safety, or vital governmental interests.

In 2001 the PDA was amended to exempt from public disclosure those portions of records containing specific and unique vulnerability assessments and specific and unique response plans

intended to prevent or mitigate criminal terrorist acts, the disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of threatening public safety. The 2001 amendment references the definition of "terrorist act" in the Explosives Act.

Summary of Bill:

Exempt from public disclosure are site plans, technical information, information contained in emergency preparedness plans, including engineering diagrams and drawings, equipment operating manuals, procedures and instructions relating to the use, location, and function of equipment that is vital to the continued functioning of essential public services, and procedures and instructions relating to planned service interruptions. This exemption applies where there is a reasonable potential that the information would be of material aid to a person planning or intending sabotage interruption or damage to vital public services, or planning or intending to use the information in the commission of a criminal act.

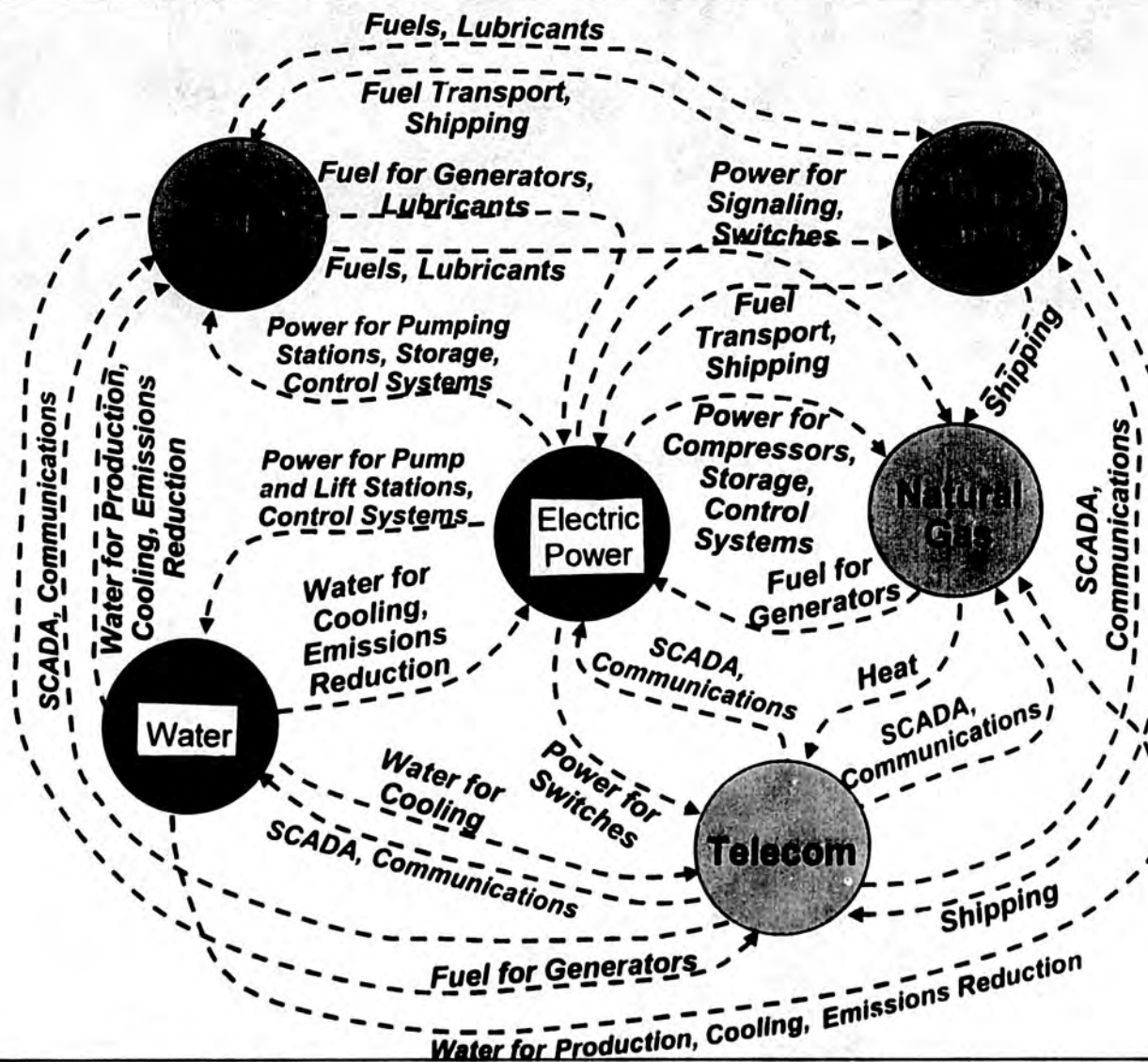
"Vital public services" is defined to include utility services (electric, natural gas, water, and sewer), transportation, communications, police, fire fighting, and other government services or facilities that are necessary to the public in the conduct of their daily lives and employment.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

A "System of Systems" Perspective Needed for Analyzing Infrastructure Interdependencies



Alaska State Legislature

Rep. Lesli McGuire, Chair
Rep. Joe Green, Vice Chair
Rep. Fred Dyson
Rep. Jeanette James
Rep. Beverly Masek
Rep. Carl Morgan
Rep. Norm Rokeberg
Rep. Harry Crawford
Rep. Gretchen Guess



Session
State Capitol Building, Rm 418
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-2995
Fax (907) 465-6592

Interim
716 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 430
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone (907) 269-0220
Fax (907) 269-0163

House Special Committee Economic Development, Trade & Tourism

AGENDA
Thursday, March 21, 2002
1:00 P.M.

Thursday, March 21

Overview: Berry Penner, MLA, British Columbia, Vice President Canada PNWER
Matt Morrison, Executive Direct, PNWER
Will be addressing our committee and answering questions about our relationship with the various members of the region.

*The
Pacific
NorthWest
Economic
Region*

*Information
Manual*



Second Edition**

****Includes structural revisions based on the recommendations from the PNWER Special Committee and Executive Committees as mandated by the Executive Committee in June 1998.**

This manual is designed to give a brief outline of the structure and function of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) and how it operates. As a statutory public/private partnership, PNWER is unique in its design and purpose. Not only does it serve to facilitate cooperation and coordination among 5 U.S. states and 2 Canadian provinces and the Yukon, it also promotes communication between the public and private sector within these jurisdictions. This document provides a brief explanation of the PNWER governance structure and the relationships between the various bodies that accomplish the ongoing work of the organization. PNWER achieves its goals through the work of the following bodies:

- Executive Committee
- Delegate Council
- Private Sector Council (PSC)
- Private Sector Board of Directors
- Secretariat
- Working Groups

Each of these PNWER entities is briefly explained in this manual and a structural chart sums up how these bodies interact with one another.

Note: Please refer any questions or comments to the PNWER Secretariat, World Trade Center West, 2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 460, Seattle, WA 98121. Phone: 206-443-7723 Fax: 206-443-7703.

PNWER FOUNDATION

The articles of ratification were passed in 1991 by similar statutes in the four states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Alaska passed these same articles by action of its legislative council. British Columbia adopted them by ministerial action, and Alberta passed them by government resolution. Amendments were passed in 1994, adding the governors and premiers, and updating other positions of the statutes.

PNWER MISSION STATEMENT

To increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region.

To coordinate provincial and state policies throughout the region; to identify and promote "models of success;" and to serve as a conduit to exchange information.

PNWER Mission Statement Goals

Promote greater regional collaboration

Enhance the competitiveness of the region in both domestic and international markets

Leverage regional influence in Ottawa and Washington D.C.

Achieve continued economic growth while maintaining the region's natural beauty and environment

PNWER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Participants

The PNWER Executive Committee consists of one legislator from each PNWER jurisdiction, one private sector board member chair from each jurisdiction, four governors/premiers (or their designee), and the PNWER Executive Director. This includes the PNWER President and First and Second Vice Presidents, whom, according to PNWER statutes, must be elected legislators.

The private sector board members chairs and the executive director were added in 1999 to the Executive Committee as ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

Responsibilities

The Executive Committee is the decision-making body of PNWER. It is responsible for reviewing all PNWER activities. In addition, the Executive Committee has the sole responsibility for electing the PNWER President and the two Vice Presidents. The PNWER President and the First Vice President must be from different nations as required by PNWER statutes (i.e. if the President is from Canada, then the First Vice President must be from the United States and vice versa).

Decision-Making

As in many international organizations, the basis of decision-making in the Executive Committee is by consensus, and within PNWER, both the official and ex-officio members of the Executive Committee define the consensus. The method of consensus in international organizations guards against infringing on the sovereignty of participating nations. However, the Executive Committee recognizes that with regards to approving working group plans, as long as three or more states or provinces support the proposed ideas, the working group has the approval of the Executive Committee. This allows for a state or province to have the option of withholding its participation in a specific working group plan if necessary. Although the Executive Committee is the decision-making body of PNWER, it remains accountable to state and provincial laws as a statutory organization. As a result, the underlying statutes of PNWER cannot be amended without following appropriate state/provincial legislative procedures.

Executive Advisory Team

The Executive Advisory team consists of members from the Executive Committee (both official and ex-officio) as appointed by the PNWER President. This group serves as year-round contacts for the Secretariat with regards to financial and urgent concerns. They also have the responsibility to review PNWER budgets, audits, provide advice, and serve as liaisons to the rest of PNWER. Decisions made by the executive Advisory Team are to be ratified at each Executive Committee meeting. The Advisory Team usually includes the two Vice Presidents and the Private Sector Chairman.

PNWER DELEGATE COUNCIL

The Delegate Council is the founding entity of PNWER. The Delegate Council consists of the governors/premiers (or their representatives) from each of the state/provinces, as well as four legislators (and four alternates) from each state/province. The Delegate Council is encouraged to hold meetings of the delegates and alternates within each jurisdiction to discuss implementing legislative policy forwarded by PNWER working groups.

The Delegate Council is responsible for coordinating the agendas from the public sectors of each jurisdiction, promoting participation in each working group, as well as ensuring that the PNWER organization continues to adhere to its original mission and regulations as outlined in PNWER's founding statutes.

The Delegate Council encourages bilateral and regional interaction between legislative members. The Council is by design bipartisan, and Delegate Council members are chosen by all four party caucuses in the states, and the Canadian provinces are encouraged to include opposition party delegates in their delegations.

PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL (PSC)

Every PNWER private sector member sits on the PSC; this includes business, the non-elective public sector, NGOs, and other non-profit organizations. Each state/provincial delegation within the PSC selects four members from its jurisdiction to sit on the Private Sector Board of Directors. Each jurisdiction then selects one of their four to serve as the chair of their private sector jurisdiction, and the chair will then sit on the Executive Committee. In addition, from among the chairs of each jurisdiction, one is selected via consensus of the PSC to serve as PSC Chair. The PSC Chair may then appoint any PSC vice-chairs from the Board members as needed.

The purpose of the PSC is to provide a forum for the private sector to meet and discuss issues of concern and communicate these through the working groups and the Private Sector Board of Directors to the PNWER Executive Committee. Furthermore, each state/province delegation is encouraged to hold meetings as needed in their own jurisdiction and promote business leadership within all aspects of PNWER.

PRIVATE SECTOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Private Sector Board of Directors is made up of four members from each state/provincial jurisdiction as selected within the PSC (process described above). The Board is responsible for administering the concerns of the Private Sector Council, developing action plans as to how these concerns can be addressed and resolved, and recruiting new PSC members. In addition, the board is responsible for ensuring and promoting private sector participation in each working group, and developing activities which provide deliverables for Private Sector Council membership.

PNWER SECRETARIAT

The PNWER Secretariat manages the PNWER organization from its office in Seattle, Washington. It consists of an Executive Director, Program Managers who oversee specific working groups, and other support staff. The Secretariat is the administrative arm for the President, Vice Presidents and the Executive Committee, and serves as the fiscal manager for the PNWER organization. Among its responsibilities are to coordinate communication among all PNWER divisions and assist them in their various activities.

PNWER WORKING GROUPS

PNWER currently has nine working groups: Agriculture, Environmental Technology, Forest Products, Government Procurement, Recycling, Telecommunications, Tourism, Trade & Finance, and Transportation. In 1991, PNWER originated with six working groups, and have since retired one and added four. Working groups are initiated and/or terminated by the Executive Committee. Working groups or task forces may also be developed around a specific project as opposed to an entire sector.

Each working group meets at the PNWER conferences and may also meet outside of PNWER conferences according to the discretion of the working group chairs.

Participants

There are two types of participation within the working groups. First, official working group members are those individuals with a paid PNWER membership and who regularly participate in working group meetings and projects. Second, anyone may observe PNWER working group meetings, and participate in the meetings, according to flexible parameters developed by the working group chairs.

Working Group Chairs

Each working group selects its own chair and two vice-chairs to guide the development and organization of the working group. These three positions should represent one each of the following: the private sector, the legislative sector, and the government sector. Each chair and vice-chair must be formal members of PNWER. While state/province representation among the three chairmen is decided by the working group, PNWER encourages multi-state/province representation among chairs. Once selected, the working group must submit the chairs' names to the Executive Committee for review. The term of appointment for each working group chair shall be two years, with no limit on the number of terms.

Working groups shall operate by consensus, but the chair and vice-chairs must identify what parameters define consensus. If a working group becomes too large, it is up to the discretion of the working group chair to form sub-groups based upon the interest of the participants. Working group chairs are also encouraged to form a core group of members with representation from all jurisdictions so as to better manage the group.

The chair of each working group is requested to report to, and entitled to appear before, the Executive Committee during their meeting at the PNWER conferences. If unable to attend, the chair may select a vice-chair to attend in his/her place. The chair or vice-chair may also

seek advice from, or report to, the Executive Committee between meetings via contacting the Secretariat.

Should it become evident that a chair or vice-chair is neglecting their responsibilities within the context outlined above, the Executive Committee, in conjunction with the working group involved, has the right to remove that person from their working group position.

Working Group Work Plans

Working groups are responsible for developing their own work plans as guided by the chair and vice-chairs. Issues of interest or concern may come from the Executive Committee or from the working group itself. Working groups may be utilized as a forum for addressing contentious issues so long as participants in the discussion remain committed to an amiable and respectful environment, and recognize that by doing so, everyone is in a position to benefit from the sharing of perspectives. Work plans must be submitted to the Executive Committee and Secretariat for review on an annual basis.

While the content of the work plans is defined by the working group itself, the following initiatives may not be implemented without the prior approval of the Executive Committee: 1) anything that requires any financial commitment by PNWER 2) anything that commits extraordinary PNWER resources, including secretariat time or funding. Any press release/public statement requires approval by the PNWER President and Executive Director.

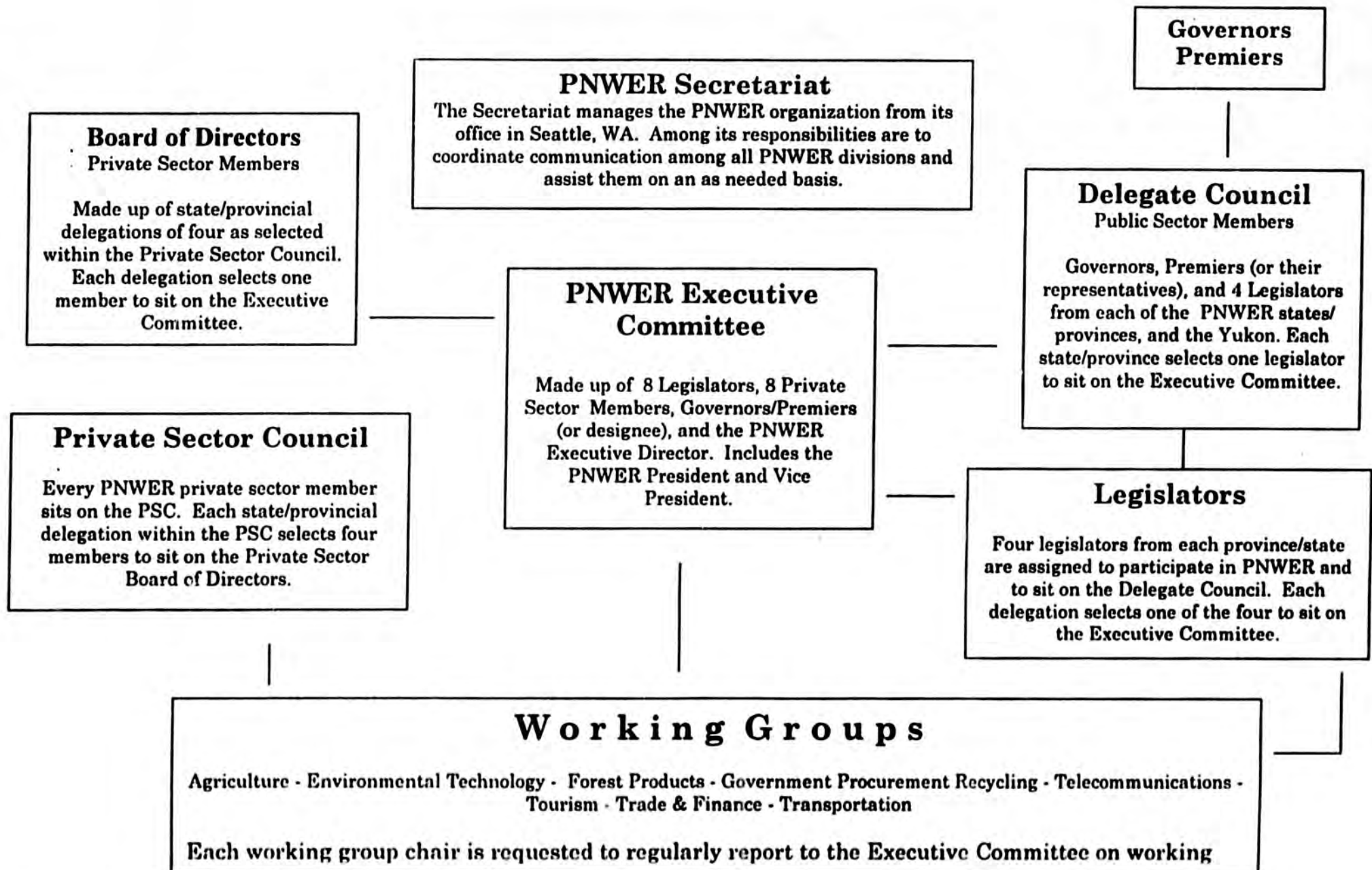
Working Group Meeting Agendas – suggested revisions in 1999

Working groups are responsible for developing their own meeting agendas and procedures for prioritization of agenda items. Agendas must be submitted to the Executive Committee and Secretariat by the chairs 30 days prior to the meeting date. The Working Group Chair, in consultation with the Executive Director and the President, may decide that the working group is not prepared to hold a session in an upcoming PNWER meeting.

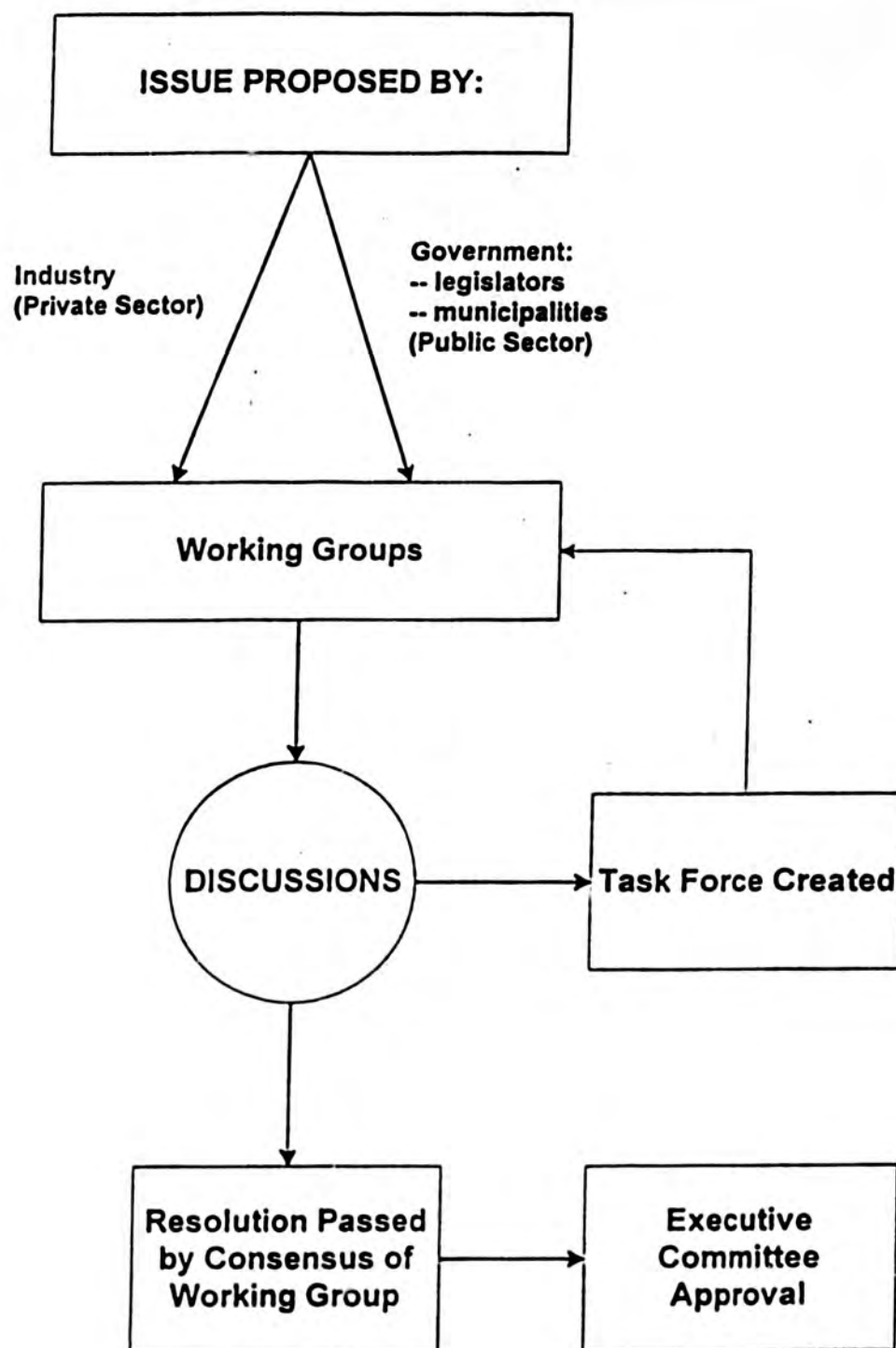
Working Group Sponsors

The working group chairman and vice-chairmen have the authority to negotiate with and engage sponsors for their activities; all sponsorships should be reported to the Secretariat. Sponsorship in a non-monetary form may be traded for PNWER membership dues upon approval from the President and Executive Director. The Executive Committee reserves the right to limit sponsorship from any specific organization.

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Governance Structure



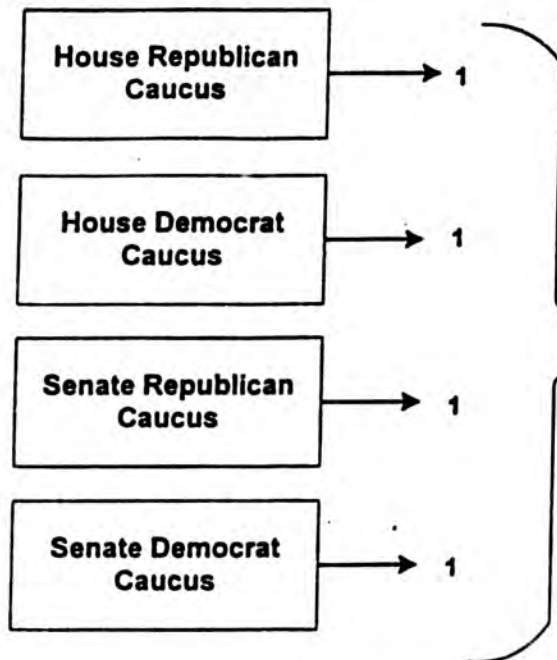
HOW A PNWER RESOLUTION IS PASSED



HOW PNWER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE SELECTED

PUBLIC SECTOR COUNCIL

EACH STATE



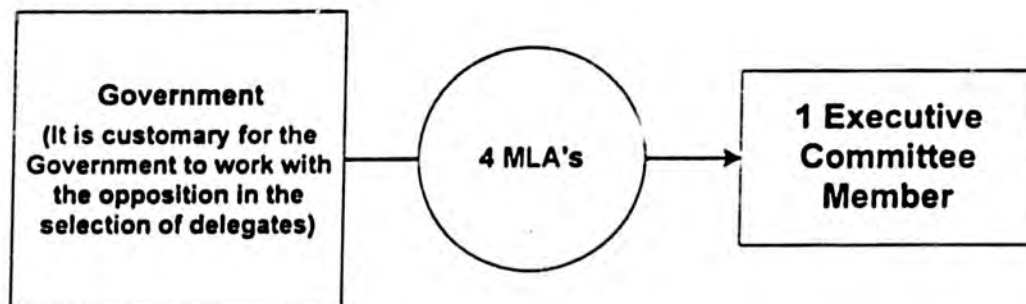
SELECT

1 Executive
Committee
Member

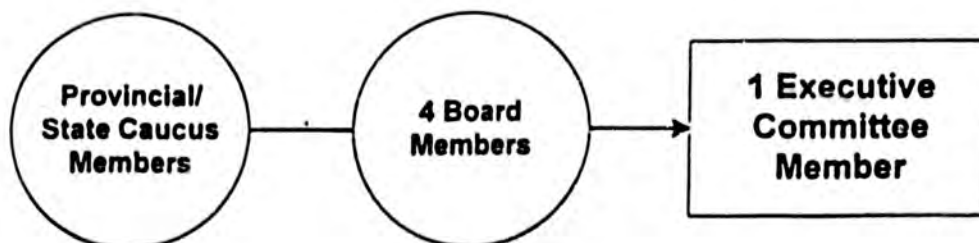
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- 8 Legislators
- 8 Private Sector Members
- 4 Governors/Premiers (or designee)
- PNWER Executive Director

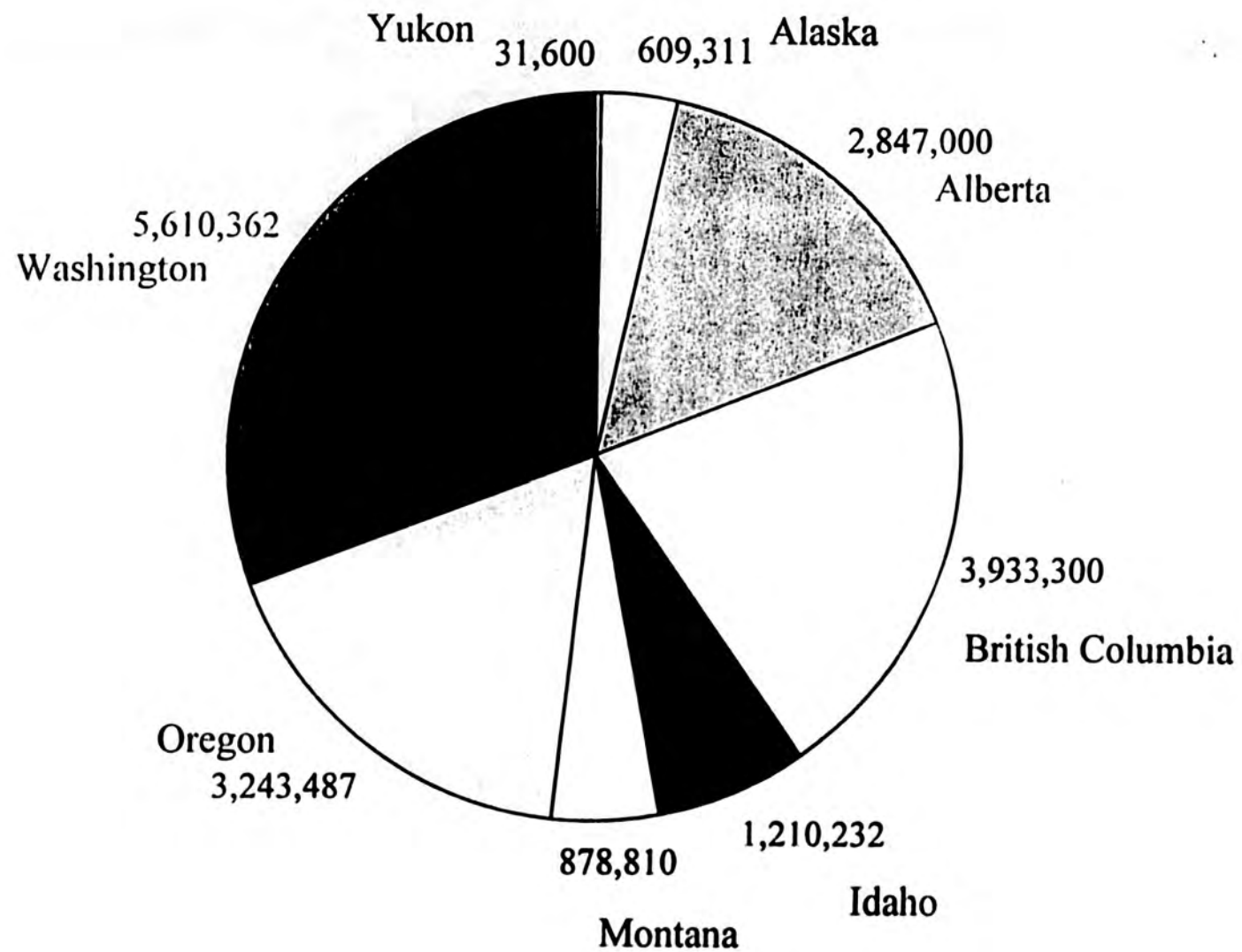
EACH PROVINCE



PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL



PNWER POPULATION BY STATE/PROVINCE





Pacific North West Economic Region

PNWER Profile

The Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory, public/private partnership composed of legislators, governments, and businesses in the Northwest states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the Western Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and the Yukon Territory.

PNWER is the only regional planning and facilitation organization set up in statute by the border states and provinces to deal with transboundary policy and planning in the Pacific Northwest. Established by the state and provincial legislators in 1991, PNWER promotes greater regional cooperation by governments and business to enhance the region's global competitiveness, while striving to maintain and/or improve the environment. If it were a nation, PNWER would rank 12th among the world's leading industrial economies, with a combined population of more than 19 million and an annual gross regional product of over \$671 billion (USD).

All state and provincial legislators in the region are members of PNWER, as are the Governors and Premiers. In addition, private sector members, counties, economic development commissions, industry associations and similar entities may join PNWER by paying dues on a sliding scale determined by their size. The general membership of PNWER meets once a year.

FORGING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

In order to accomplish the goals of regional cooperation and economic growth while maintaining environmental quality, PNWER has forged a unique collaboration between the public and private sector. PNWER has designated nine targeted sectors of business and industry that are strong within the PNWER jurisdictions and developed proactive working groups for each sector. Each working group is lead by a legislative, public sector, and private sector co-chair. The working groups have initiated legislation, sponsored teleconferences, industry forums, and produced research papers, all toward the mutual benefit of the eight jurisdictions.

PNWER LEADERSHIP

President	Representative Jeff Morris, Washington
Vice President Canada	Barry Penner, MLA, British Columbia
Vice President Canada	Cynthia Tucker, MLA, Yukon
Vice President U.S.	Representative Fred Dyson, Alaska
Vice President U.S.	Representative Greg Smith, Oregon
Executive Director	Matt Morrison

*"If it were a nation,
PNWER would rank
12th among the
world's leading
industrial economies,
with a combined
population of more
than 19 million and
an annual gross
regional product of
over \$671 billion."*



Total Population (2000)
19,328,668

Total Area (sq. miles)
1,885,346

PNWER Working Groups

Agriculture	Environmental Technology
Energy	Border Crossing
Forest Products	Telecommunications
Tourism	Trade
Transportation	Sustainable Development
	Dispute Resolution



Pacific North West Economic Region

PNWER Executive Committee 2002

Representative Jeff Morris
State of Washington
President

Barry Penner, MLA
British Columbia
Vice President Canada

Cynthia Tucker, MLA
Yukon Territory
Vice President Canada

Representative Fred Dyson
State of Alaska
Vice President U.S.

Representative Greg Smith
State of Oregon
Vice President U.S.

Hon. Halvar C. Jonson
Province of Alberta

Rob Renner MLA
Province of Alberta

Representative Max Black
State of Idaho
PNWER Immediate Past President

Senator Glenn Roush
State of Montana

Senator Tim Sheldon
State of Washington

Hon. Scott Kent
Minister, Yukon Territory

Senator Alan Bluechel
State of Washington (retired)

Hon. David Coutts
Past President PNWER

Don Dalik
*Fasken, Martineau &
DuMoulin, LLP*

Dean Haagenon
Contractors Northwest

James Baumgartner
Black Heltterline, LLP

Bob Sailer
Judd & Sailer, PLLC

Tim Schultz
*Alberta Society of Engineering
Technologists*

Matt Morrison
Executive Director, PNWER

PNWER Delegate Council 2002

Representative Jeff Morris
President, PNWER
Barry Penner, MLA
Vice President Canada, PNWER
Cynthia Tucker, MLA
Vice President Canada, PNWER
Representative Fred Dyson
Vice President U.S., PNWER
Representative Greg Smith
Vice President U.S., PNWER

Alaska
Governor Tony Knowles
Representative Fred Dyson
Representative John Davies
Alternates:
Representative Jeannette James
Representative Ethan Berkowitz

Alberta
Premier Ralph Klien
Hon. Halvar Jonson
Hon. David Coutts
Rob Renner, MLA
Debby Carlson, MLA
Alternates:
Drew Hutton, MLA

British Columbia
Premier Gordon Campbell
Barry Penner, MLA
Bill Belsey, MLA
Bill Bennett, MLA
Brenda Locke, MLA
Reni Masi, MLA

Idaho
Governor Dirk Kempthorne
Representative Max Black
Senator Bert Marley
Senator Ric Branch
Senator Clint Stennett

Montana
Governor Judy Martz
Senator Dorothy Barry
Senator Glenn Roush
Representative Kim Gillan
Representative Steve Vick

Oregon
Governor John Kitzhaber
Senator Bev Clarno
Representative Greg Smith
Representative Tom Butler
Representative Bob Jensen
Representative Gary Hansen
Alternates:
Senator Susan Castillo
Senator Verne Duncan

Washington
Governor Gary Locke
Senator Tim Sheldon
Senator Jim Horn
Representative Jeff Morris
Representative Luke Esser
Alternates:
Senator Paul Shin
Senator Dan McDonald
Representative Aaron Reardon
Representative Joyce Mulliken

Yukon Territory
Premier Pat Duncan
Hon. Scott Kent
Cynthia Tucker, MLA

PNWER Private Sector Board 2002

Co-Chairs: Tim Schultz, *Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists*, Bob Sailer, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*

Alaska
To be designated

Alberta
Allan Lowe, *Alberta Roadbuilders Association*
Bernie Marko, *Beaver Regional Waste Management*
Ken Moholity, *Alberta Grain Commission*
Tim Schultz, *Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists*

British Columbia
Don Dalik, *Fasken, Martineau & DuMoulin, LLP*
Tim Draper, *Telus*
Wayne Soper, *West Coast Energy*
Kevin Hyde, *Keen Engineering Co., Ltd*

Idaho
Dean Haagenon, *Contractors Northwest*
Evan Hayes, *Idaho Grain Producers*
Dar Olberding, *Idaho Grain Producers*

Montana
Jim Smitham, *Montana Power Company*

Oregon
James Baumgartner, *Black Heltterline, LLP*
Charles Hall
Tom Lowles, *Key Bank*
Capt. James Townley Jr., *Columbia River Steamship*

Washington
Mike Brennan, *Bellingham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce*
Wally Hyer, *AT&T Wireless Services*
Bob Sailer, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*
Jan Romerdahl, *US Bank*

Alternates:
Greg Boos, *Chang & Boos*
Hugh Judd, *Judd & Sailer, PLLC*

Yukon
To be designated

Oregon

In 1989, the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement went into effect, phasing out all tariffs and many non-tariff barriers to trade. Beginning in 1994, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) opened the Mexican market to Canada and the United States. Two-way trade in goods, services and income between Canada and the United States totalled \$434 billion in 1999, the largest bilateral exchange in the world.

Canada is the Beaver State's leading export market. In 1999, they traded \$4.35 billion worth of goods, up 11 per cent over 1998 and 142 per cent over the total in 1989, the first year of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. The exchange created thousands of jobs on both sides of the border.

Oregon sells Canada trucks... The state's leading category of exports to Canada was transportation equipment, which grew by over \$100 million in the last year to reach \$623 million. Trucks accounted for over 80 per cent of transportation exports (\$528 million) and motor vehicle parts and engines for 3 per cent (\$21 million).

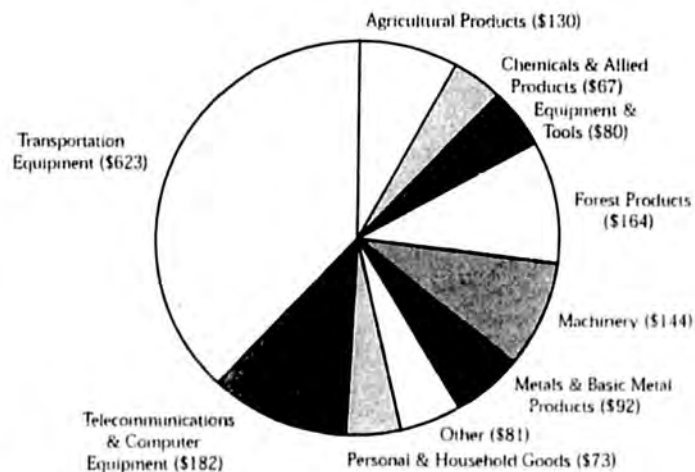
High-tech equipment... Oregon sold Canada \$86 million worth of computers and \$51 million in electronic tubes and semi-conductors. Its machinery exports totalled \$144 million and its exports of other equipment and tools added up to \$80 million, including \$12 million in electrical property measuring instruments.

Farm products... Oregon's exports of agricultural goods to Canada totalled \$130 million, including \$5 million in seafood.

Forest products... The Beaver State exported \$164 million worth of forest

Oregon's Merchandise Exports to Canada

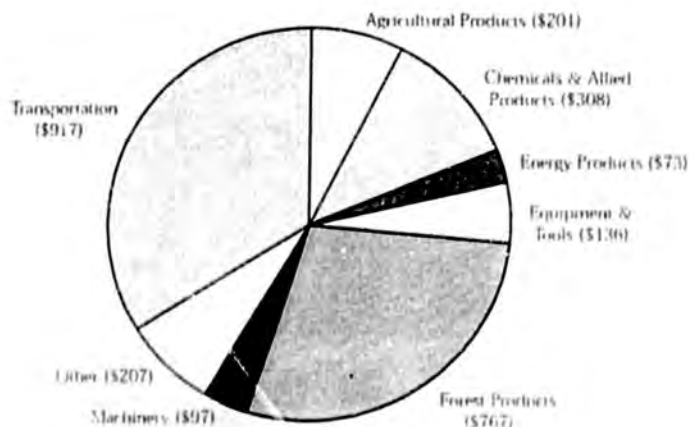
1999, in millions of U.S. dollars



Total exports to Canada: \$1.64 billion

Oregon's Merchandise Imports from Canada

1999, in millions of U.S. dollars



Total imports from Canada: \$2.71 billion

*Figures have been rounded, and may not add up to the total.

products, including \$40 million in paper and paperboard, \$31 million in lumber and \$37 million in plywood.

And a variety of other goods. Oregon's exports to Canada also included \$10 million in outerwear, \$36 million in steel plate and strip, \$67 million worth of chemicals and allied products and \$13 million in stationery and office supplies.

Canada keeps Oregon's consumers and businesses moving. Oregon imported \$917 million worth of transportation equipment, including \$700 million in trucks and \$98 million in motor vehicle parts and engines.

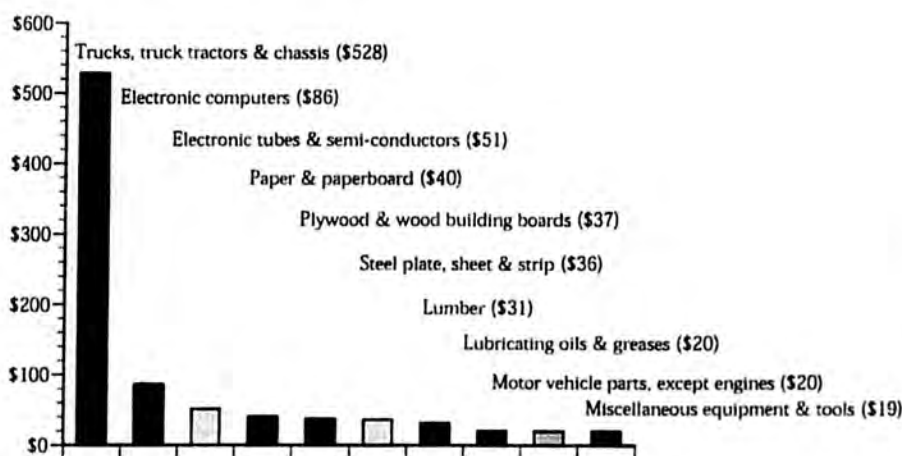
Canada also supplies farm and forest products. Oregon bought \$201 million worth of agricultural products, led by \$49 million in meat and \$18 million in oils, fats and derivatives. Its forest product imports totalled \$767 million, including \$242 million in softwood lumber, \$122 million in veneer and \$57 million in pulp.

Bon Voyage... Tourism adds millions to the exchange. In 1999, 322,200 Canadians visited Oregon for one or more nights and spent \$59 million, while 239,400 residents of Oregon spent \$79 million in Canada.

July 2000

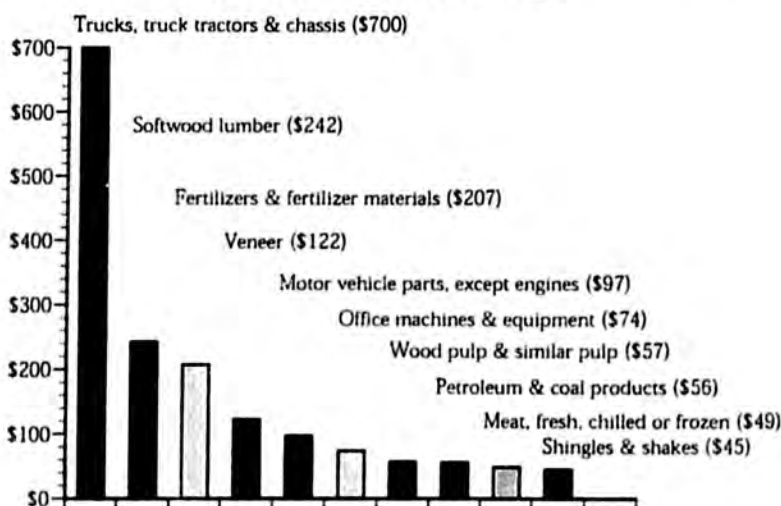
Oregon's Leading Exports to Canada

1999, in millions of U.S. dollars



Oregon's Leading Imports from Canada

1999, in millions of U.S. dollars



For more information on Canada's trade with Oregon, please contact:

Consulate General of Canada
 412 Plaza 600
 Stewart and Sixth Streets
 Seattle, WA 98101-1286
 Tel: (206) 443-1777
 Fax: (206) 443-9662

All figures are in U.S. dollars. Merchandise trade and tourism figures are from Statistics Canada, converted at the rate of US\$1.00=C\$1.4858.

Canada

Canadian Embassy / Ambassade du Canada
 501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20001
<http://www.canadianembassy.org>



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**Save the Date
May 22nd, 2002**

**Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security
Infrastructure Interdependencies Exercise
"Blue Cascades"**

**Infrastructure Interdependencies Exercise
"Blue Cascades"**

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region will hold Blue Cascades, an infrastructure interdependencies-focused tabletop exercise in Seattle, Washington on May 22nd, 2002 at the Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

For more conference info, please call our office at:

PNWER

World Trade Center West
2200 Alaskan Way, Suite 460
Seattle, WA 98121
Tel: (206) 443-7723

Fax: (206) 443-7703 Internet: www.pnwer.org

Date: May 22nd, 2002

Time: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center
17620 Pacific Highway South
Seattle, WA 98188-4001
Tel: (206) 244-4800



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

January 18, 2002

Infrastructure Interdependencies Exercise “BLUE CASCADES” Overview

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) will hold BLUE CASCADES, an infrastructure interdependencies-focused tabletop exercise in the spring of 2002. This exercise will be the second in a series of activities that are elements of a unique initiative — the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security — launched by PNWER in late 2001. (The first activity was the Partnership kick-off meeting on Nov. 30 in Spokane, Washington, attended by over 120 private and public sector organizations from the five states and three provinces that comprise PNWER.)

Background

More than other areas of the country, the Pacific Northwest is interdependent with our neighbor Canada: The two countries have a vital trade relationship, interconnected infrastructure and common border issues; for example, more than 80% of the region's natural gas supply flows south from Canada to the U.S.

On November 30, the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) sponsored the first bi-national, multi-state regional meeting of both public and private stakeholders in North America. The meeting, called the 'Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security' successfully began a process whose goal is to develop a cooperative preparedness strategy using a risk-based approach to enhance the security of critical systems region-wide.

Discussions based on both geography and infrastructure similarities and interdependencies were held. PNWER's challenge now is to build on the momentum generated on November 30, to encourage each state and province to engage the private sector stakeholders in similar forums and exercises, and to move toward a regional 'disaster resistant' preparedness plan.

Blue Cascades is the second phase of a larger, multi-year effort to help the region determine which assets must be protected and how to enhance recovery and mitigate the effects of disruptions, be they natural disasters or terrorist acts. It will be important for the Partnership to provide resources for disaster resistance planning, including defining a basis for a common "language" or format for vulnerability assessments in the region so that the next step can be taken in creating a critical path analysis to clarify interdependencies, and determine where the crucial nodes for each technology are located and where they overlap.

In the case of any large-scale emergency, response will require very close communication with border officials and our Canadian infrastructure partners. Working out these scenarios in advance and developing clear lines of communication and action plans will greatly enhance the economic security of the Pacific Northwest.

Exercise Focus

Consistent with the concept of the comprehensive preparedness plan stated above, the tabletop exercise will be both multi-jurisdictional and cross-border in scope. BLUE CASCADES will focus on the linkages between and among infrastructures that could make a region vulnerable to cascading impacts in the event of an attack or disruption, and which could complicate expeditious response and recovery. Critical infrastructures include energy (electric power, oil, natural gas), telecommunications, transportation, water supply systems, banking and finance, emergency services, and government services.

BLUE CASCADES is intended to help the PNWER jurisdictions assess the current state of stakeholders' understanding and preparedness, particularly from the perspective of infrastructure interdependencies. It also will be designed to provide a baseline for identifying their needs, priorities, and resource requirements. This information, along with the lessons learned from the exercise, will help sensitize public and private-sector decision makers to infrastructure security issues and provide the impetus to prioritize and implement activities that will ensure the reliability and security of critical infrastructures in the post-September 11 world.

Purpose

The purpose of BLUE CASCADES is to identify what needs to be done to develop a "disaster resistant" region and to provide a model for holding interdependencies exercises in other locations within the PNWER region, contributing to, and validating implementation of a comprehensive preparedness approach for the eight PNWER member jurisdictions.

Objectives

The exercise will have several objectives:

- ❑ Raise awareness of infrastructure interdependency issues.
- ❑ Identify ways to make infrastructure providers aware of the extent and duration of disruptions.
- ❑ Identify and focus attention on the most important vulnerabilities that result from infrastructure interdependencies.
- ❑ Promote a mutual understanding of infrastructure service restoration priorities, challenges, and time lines, given the nature and scope of the region's infrastructure interdependencies.
- ❑ Identify and highlight roles, responsibilities, and authorities (local, county, state, federal) for responding to and recovering from infrastructure disruptions.
- ❑ Determine ways to foster a more effective interface and information sharing among public and private-sector service providers and local, county, state, and federal officials in developing and implementing infrastructure protection, mitigation, response, and recovery options.
- ❑ Identify preparedness shortfalls.
- ❑ Identify cross-border challenges to U.S. and Canadian abilities to cooperatively prepare for and deal with attacks and disruptions that impact the Pacific Northwest.

Intent

BLUE CASCADES will allow participants (players) to discuss the impacts of attacks and disruptions on the infrastructures that they represent. It will also provide a setting to become more informed about other infrastructures and to learn about the potential for cascading effects that could result from interdependencies.

All participants will be encouraged to think out loud and "outside the box". Doing so will maximize the opportunity to discuss issues freely in a no fault setting. The exercise will involve minimal interaction with the facilitators.

Scenario

Scenario development will be the responsibility of a small group of stakeholder volunteers representing key infrastructures and state and local government organizations. The scenario will reflect those threats that the exercise participants are most concerned about — both deliberate and “non-deliberate” (e.g., natural disasters, systems failure, human error). Infrastructure operational information will be solicited from utilities in the region to incorporate into the scenario to make it as realistic as possible. The scenario will be crafted to provide a framework for participants to discuss infrastructure interdependencies and infrastructure protection, mitigation, response, and recovery requirements across government agencies and the private sector. Participants will be asked a series of questions to enable them to explore how a complete disruption or a service curtailment in one infrastructure could cause cascading effects on other infrastructures and how infrastructure interdependencies could exacerbate repair and restoration efforts.

Exercise Structure and Dynamics

The tabletop exercise will be approximately six hours in duration and include a working lunch. To maximize the benefits of the exercise, all participants will be located in the same room. The number of participants and observers will be limited only by the allowed capacity of the room selected. Every attempt will be made to ensure the inclusion of stakeholders who would play a role in a regional emergency.

The principal participants will be organized into approximately 20 infrastructure-specific and functional areas. Observers from other PNWER jurisdictions and relevant external public and private sector organizations will be invited to attend and provide input as needed. The facilitators will control the progression of the scenario, verbally and by using one or two large screens for displaying scenario progression and key issues for discussion. Maps and other visual information aids also will be displayed.

BLUE CASCADES will be divided into three sections: (1) orientation, (2) exercise moves (scenario progression), and (3) a “hot wash” immediately following the end of the exercise. The purpose of the hot wash will be to capture feedback and lessons learned. A follow-on meeting will be held to discuss the feedback and lessons learned in greater detail and to plan next-step activities that will be part of an overall comprehensive preparedness plan for both the area that is the focus of the exercise and the collective eight PNWER jurisdictions.

Work Plan and Budget

Pre-exercise informational workshop

- ☐ Develop agenda, invitation for the workshop. Set up venue, administrative arrangements, arrange for presentations, prepare and deliver briefings.
- ☐ Facilitate workshop.

Table Top Exercise

- ☐ Develop scenario, invitation, background package, questions and presentational materials for exercise. Collect information from infrastructures for injects, provide mps, graphic and other visual aids; develop participant and observer invitation list, send out ad follow-up on invitations.
- ☐ Facilitate exercise and prepare "Lessons Learned" report.
- ☐ Draft Action Plan.

Period of Performance and Estimated Costs

Duration of work: three months.

Cost: \$50,000 (Includes effort of five staff and travel)

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2001

WSJ.com

\$1.01

REGIONAL REPORT

States Join to Prepare for Disasters

By ROBERT GAVIN

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

STATES ARE joining forces to prepare for the regional impact of potential disasters.

In the Northwest, a group of five states and three Canadian provinces two weeks ago launched an initiative to develop a regional protection, preparedness and response plan for dealing with emergencies under the auspices of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, a Seattle-based organization of government and business officials.

And today, the Energy Department is meeting to discuss security with officials of 12 strategically located states that have high concentrations of "critical infrastructure" on which other states depend.

'Horrible Circumstances'

"We need to start thinking much bigger, about much more horrible circumstances," says Tamara Doherty, acting director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Northwest region, based near Seattle.

Ms. Doherty met with the Northwest officials in Spokane, Wash., on Nov. 30 to discuss their initiative. She views it as a model for other states and regions to bridge the gaps in an emergency-management system that traditionally has relied on the federal government and individual states.

"Because of the interdependencies, you have to look beyond a single state and think on a regional basis," says Paula Sealingi, former director of the U.S. Energy Department's Office of Critical Infra-

structure Protection and now a consultant who advises government and industry on infrastructure security.

States have long cooperated in disaster assistance—39 states have reciprocal agreements with their neighbors, according to FEMA—but the terrorist attacks are prompting a closer examination of how intricately states are tied by, and how much they depend on, wires, pipes and computer networks. At today's meeting in Washington, D.C., the Energy Department will impress upon state officials the interdependency of infrastructure—in other words how a disruption in natural-gas supplies can disrupt the production of electricity which in turn can shut down computer networks and bring an entire region to a halt. This phenomenon is known as "cascading failure."

The goal is to help these 12 states—and eventually all—identify the most sensitive segments of their infrastructure, and put in place plans to protect and restore systems, which, if they fail, are most likely to spark cascading failures. For example, a telecommunications switching station that handles Internet traffic might require extensive security because power plants and pipelines are computer-operated through Internet connections.

"What you have is a complex system of systems on which the U.S. depends," says Sam Varnado, head of the Energy Department's energy infrastructure assurance program. "Everything's hooked to everything. You've got to understand what happens when a pipeline crosses the [state] border."

In the Northwest, political and busi-

ness leaders are trying to understand just that. Officials from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the Canadian provinces Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon Territory will spend the next four months working with industries that own much of the critical infrastructure that crisscrosses the region. They will inventory dams, transmission facilities, pipelines and the like, assessing vulnerabilities, security and the adequacy of response plans. In addition, government and industry officials will assess how an attack on one sector might bring cascading failures across other sectors.

In March, the officials will reconvene to compile the information to begin developing a regional plan for protecting critical infrastructure and responding to disasters. Among the possibilities: using the data to build a computer model so, for example, emergency-management officials in Oregon could project the impact in their state of a pipeline explosion in Montana, and prepare accordingly.

Ripple Effect

Jeff Morris, a Washington state legislator and president of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, says the recent western energy crisis, which saw power shortages in California drive up electricity costs throughout the West, has also helped underscore how events in one state can ripple through an interconnected region.

"We have a transmission system that we can barely keep up under commercial pressure," Mr. Morris says, "let alone a terrorist attack."

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Saturday, December 1, 2001

REGION

NW officials nervous about terror

Region's infrastructure vulnerable to attacks, experts say

By Bill Morlin
Staff writer

The infrastructure in the Pacific Northwest, like that elsewhere in North America, is incredibly vulnerable to terrorism, experts said Friday in Spokane.

There's a shopping list in the Northwest for would-be terrorists: gas pipelines, hydroelectric dams, nuclear plants, electric transmission lines, telecommunication facilities, rail and transportation systems and agricultural crops shipped around the world.

Only now are issues such as vulnerability and system recovery being seriously addressed, the experts said at the first international meeting of its kind since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Infrastructure expert Jim Peerenboom of the Argonne National Laboratory said an attack on a natural gas pipeline would cause a ripple effect, eventually affecting people's lives and business.

Electric generators powered with natural gas could face shutdown, and the lack of natural gas and electricity could affect people and industry, he said.

"Telecommunications and (computer) information systems underpin our infrastructure," said Peerenboom, considered one of the nation's foremost experts on the topic.

There are "fundamental gaps in our ability" to identify vulnerabilities to the infrastructure and develop response plans, Peerenboom said.

"We need to develop an understanding of how degrading one infrastructure affects others," he said.

Barry Penner, a member of the British Columbia Legislature, said \$1 billion a day in trade between Canada and the United States is proof that infrastructure security should be of mutual concern.

That should include examining how caring for mass casualties could be affected by an infrastructure damaged by terrorism, Peerenboom said.

The infrastructures of the United States and Canada, particularly dealing with the power grid and natural gas production and transmission, are closely related.

Barry Penner, a member of the British Columbia Legislature, said \$1 billion a day in trade between Canada and the United States is proof that infrastructure security should be of mutual concern.

Security consultant Paula Scalingi said private companies can't afford everything they need for improved security, so they must develop "a risk-based approach."

"Guards, guns and gates aren't the only answers," she said.

"Your creative terrorist is going to find a way around a lot of the protection measures," Scalingi said. Therefore, she said, the emphasis should be placed on mitigating losses, improving response plans and developing "disaster-resistant regions."

Right now, she said, there's plenty to worry about.

"We have significant vulnerabilities in our infrastructure in different parts of the country," said Scalingi. Until October, she was the director of the Department of Energy's Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection.

Tamara Doherty, the acting regional director for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, agreed and said the time was overdue to "develop partnerships between the public and private sector."

Private companies that are part of the infrastructure — telephone and natural gas transmission companies, for example — frequently are reluctant or unwilling to share business information with competitors.

In examining vulnerabilities, companies must discuss proprietary information about their equipment, customers and usage volumes.

Those barriers now must be set aside as the country addresses terrorism-security issues, Doherty said.

The 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, which claimed 168 lives, used to be the model for discussions about the impact a terrorist act has on the infrastructure, Doherty said.

"That was about as big and bad we could think of until Sept. 11," she said. "Now, we need to be thinking much bigger."

"We do need to be thinking of much more horrible circumstances," the FEMA official

said.

And the only way to be prepared, she said, "is to combine our resources, combine our planning and begin working together."

Bill deLaat, director of Canada's Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness, said the Sept. 11 attacks leave those responsible for infrastructures with "a feeling of nervousness."

The speakers were among 150 security experts, government agency officials and political leaders from the United States and Canada gathered for a two-day conference, "Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security." It concludes today with a discussion about security and other issues involving the U.S.-Canadian border.

The Friday morning session was open to the media, but reporters were prevented from attending an afternoon session.

"We don't want to impede any candid discussions," Scalingi said.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, a regional planning organization set up by the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska, and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia and Alberta, and Yukon Territory.

A co-sponsor was the Northwest Power Planning Council, a policy body that oversees electricity needs and production in Washington, Idaho, Montana and Oregon.

■ Bill Morlin can be reached at (509) 459-5444 or by e-mail at billm@spokesman.com.



Oregon Considered

OPB Radio's news magazine airs Tuesday-Friday afternoons at 4:30

Pacific Northwest Leaders Examine Where Region is Vulnerable -

Kristian Foden-Vencil

November 30, 2001

Listen! 

Politicians and business leaders from all over the Northwest are meeting in Spokane, Washington today. Their goal is to identify weak links in the region's power supply and communications systems and to come up with ways to protect them from possible terrorist attacks. The meeting is called the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security and as Kristian Foden-Vencil reports, the governments of the U.S. and Canada have turned to an unusual source to organize the event.

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region is a quasi-governmental group that usually focuses on greasing the wheels of commerce among Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, the Yukon, Alberta, and British Columbia. Following

Oregon Considered

November 30, 2001

Oregon Recession
Deeper Than Predicted

More Oregon Cities
Refuse Ashcroft
Interview Request

Pacific Northwest
Leaders Examine
Where Region is
Vulnerable

Bill Lunch 

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the September attacks, however, board members were approached by the U.S. and Canadian governments to look into the vulnerability of the area's transmission lines, power plants, telecommunication systems, and fuel pipelines. Washington state Representative Jeff Morris, who is also the President of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, says his organization jumped at the chance and have already identified a few problems.

Morris: In particular, we've got an infrastructure system for electricity that's built up by the private sector, so it was built up for efficiency and not redundancy or excess capacity. What that means is that right now we can't bearly keep the electrical system up underneath commercial pressure, let alone purposeful acts of terrorism, domestic or international.

Morris says the Northwest economic group plans to adopt a three phase approach to the problem. First they will assess the various systems and try to identify their weakest links. Second, using super computers they will simulate assorted terrorist attacks and disaster scenarios. Finally, when they have a list of potential problems, the group hopes to deliver a protective recommendations to U.S. and Canadian authorities. Morris says if the group's efforts are successful, emergency managers should be able to predict the local effects of a

Comments?



disaster anywhere in the Pacific Northwest.

Morris: So in essence, if a volcano blows up in British Columbia your emergency management officer in Oregon will be able to say we're going to run out of natural gas in three days or the electrical grid is going to go down in four days and actually know about a disaster before it happens.

The Northwest Power Planning Council is required by law to ensure a reliable and adequate electricity system. The agency's Tom Carrie says the organizations and companies at the meeting seem well informed about their own security. But Carrie says it's essential all sectors be able to share information.

Carrie: The electric industry needs to know how secure the gas fields are in Alberta and in British Columbia, and that's something that will be developed as this planning continues.

Businesswoman Paulus Scalingi used to run the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection for the U.S. Department of Energy. She now runs her own security firm and says the main challenge in protecting the region is that the systems are interdependent.

Scalingi: You have a dependence among these infrastructures, such that if you have an attack or a disruption

you can cause cascading impacts through a region that can literally paralyze it. Looking at what happened to California over this past year gives you an idea of these interdependencies and how important they are.

The Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security will hold meetings throughout the next several months before making any recommendations to the U.S. and Canadian governments.



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