



## SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & COMMERCE

PUBLIC HEARING

8:00 AM, AUGUST 24, 2010

TEXAS STATE CAPITOL EXTENSION ROOM E1.016 (OVERFLOW ROOM E1.012)

### AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
  
- II. **Interim Charge 1: *Study the implementation of H.B. 4409 enacted by the 81st Legislature pertaining to the financing of insured losses in excess of premium and other revenue of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA). Assess the coverage and affordability of TWIA policies. Review the claims and payments processes and make recommendations to improve the stability of TWIA while enhancing services to clients.***
  1. Agency Perspective
    - a. Mike Geeslin, Commissioner, Texas Department of Insurance
    - b. Jim Oliver, Executive Director, Texas Windstorm Insurance Association
    - c. Dwight Burns, Executive Director, Texas Public Finance Authority
  2. Industry Perspective
    - a. Beaman Floyd, Director, Texas Coalition for Affordable Insurance Solutions
    - b. Jay Thompson, Partner, Thompson Coe Law Firm
    - c. Wally Goodman, Vice President, Borden Insurance Agency
  3. Consumer Perspective
    - a. Deeia Beck, Public Counsel, Office of Public Insurance Counsel
    - b. Otie Zapp, President, Coastal Windstorm Insurance Coalition
  4. Public Testimony (*Please limit remarks to 3 minutes or less and please give any handouts to committee staff*)
  
- III. **Interim Charge 2: *Study options for reducing demand for electricity, including innovative pricing options relating to the use of smart meters, programmable thermostats, and other demand side management and behavioral response strategies. Review current consumer education programs to reduce demand, decrease energy prices, and improve air quality. Consider benefits and costs of alternative energy sources such as geothermal and solar, and current incentives for electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. The study should include recommendations on improving consumer knowledge and usage of these strategies in lowering overall electric usage, promoting energy efficiency, and improving the reliability of the ERCOT grid.***
  1. Introduction
    - a. Barry Smitherman, Chairman, Public Utility Commission
    - b. H.B. "Trip" Doggett, President, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
  2. Consumer Education and Energy Efficiency
    - a. Danny Bivens, Office of Public Utility Counsel
    - b. Kate Robertson, Environmental Defense Fund
    - c. Carl Richie, Vice President of Government Affairs, TXU
    - d. Alan Ahrens, CenterPoint
    - e. Curt Seidlits, Texas Is Hot
  3. Alternative Energy Costs and Benefits
    - a. Steve Wiese, President of Board of Directors, Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association
    - b. John Fainter, President and CEO, Association of Electric Companies of Texas (AECT)
    - c. Rick Gilliam, Vice President-Government Affairs, SunEdison
    - d. Steve Munson, President, GeoPower Texas
    - e. Danny Vines, President, Aspen Power LLC
    - f. Dr. Michael Webber, Assistant Professor, Cockrell School of Engineering, University of Texas at Austin
  4. Smart Grid Technology
    - a. Brewster McCracken, Pecan Street Project
    - b. Jim Greer, Senior Vice President, Asset Management, Oncor
    - c. Patrick James, TXU
    - d. Brent Hodges, Reliant Energy
    - e. Kenny Mercado, CenterPoint
  5. Public Testimony (*Please limit remarks to 3 minutes or less and please give any handouts to committee staff*)
  
- IV. **Recess** (end of hearing)