

Olympia and D.C. External Affairs Update

Board of Commissioners Update
March 9, 2009

Discussion Today

- Status of legislative activity
- Bills of interest
- D.C. happenings
- Consultant update
- Questions

External Affairs Legislative Activity

- Beginning ninth week of legislative session
- Just over the half-way mark!
- About 1600 bills and resolutions still pending
- Monitoring about 160 bills
- March 12 cut-off date this week
 - Bills must pass either the Senate or the House to remain alive (bills necessary to implement the budget are exempt)
- After cut-off, action returns to committees where the House will hear Senate bills and vice versa

Bills of Interest

- **Amendments to Initiative I-937 (RCW 19.285)**
 - SB 5840 (Marr) bill may be discussed in caucuses today, with a possible floor vote on Tuesday
 - Expected to pass the Senate and encounter challenges in the House
 - May see attempts to attach other legislation to the bill
 - District remains concerned about the proposed new tier to the RPS – 21% by 2020
- **Climate Bills**
 - House and Senate both working on new drafts of their climate change bills – stay tuned
- **Whitewater Boating Liability**
 - Staff had productive meeting with representative from the trial lawyers
 - Tentative agreement on language, but no final “ok” from trial lawyers
 - Asking Senator Parlette to proceed with the amendment due to short time frame (March 12 cutoff)

D.C. Happenings

- NHA Executive Fly-in
 - 90,000mw of existing hydro
 - 90,000mw potential of new hydro
 - Hydro is an enabler of other renewables
 - Treat hydro the same as other renewables
- Federal Cap and Trade
- Federal RPS
- Stimulus

Consultant Update

- 2009 objectives
 - Federal Stimulus Program
 - State Legislature
 - Climate Change
 - RPS/RES
 - Natural Resources
 - Hatchery Investments
 - New Administration
 - New Agency Heads

Consultant Update

- Advisor Team
 - Strategies 360
 - Dave Arbaugh and Associates
 - Thompson Smitch
 - Washington Two Advocates
 - Dan Adamson – Davis Wright Tremaine

Consultant Update

- Costs
 - 2008 Advisor Budget
 - \$861k
 - 2009 Advisor Budget
 - \$590k
 - 31% reduction

Questions?
