

Tennessee State Energy Policy Council Meeting

Date: January 4th, 2024 | Time: 10:00am CT /11:00am ET | Location: Virtual

Time	Topic
10:00am CT 11:00am ET	Welcome, Introductions, & Intent
10:15am-11:00am CT 11:15am-12:00pm ET	Update on Current/Ongoing Individual Councilmember Work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current energy-related work• What keeps you up at night?
11:00am-11:15am CT 12:00pm-12:15pm ET	Break
11:15am-12:00pm CT 12:15pm-1:00pm ET	General Discussion – Promoting Energy Security for Tennessee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Defining “Energy Security” for TN• How should SEPC go about informing/educating policymakers?• What areas need most attention?• Determine next steps
12:00pm-12:30pm CT 1:00pm-1:30pm ET	Lunch
12:30pm-1:30pm CT 1:30pm-2:30pm ET	General Discussion – Strategizing Stakeholder Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of current funding efforts• Review of alignment with Nuclear Advisory Council• Natural Gas Needs Assessment Update• Engagement Strategy (who/when/how)• Coordinated messaging and councilmember assignments
1:30pm-2:00pm CT 2:30pm-3:00pm ET	Closing Discussion & Adjourn

Notes for Review Prior to Meeting

Use the following prompts as thought starters for Thursday's discussion. Please review and come prepared to discuss and modify based on your perspective.

Promoting Energy Security in Tennessee

Goal: Create a high-level method by which to provide policymakers with a general understanding of energy issues the state faces currently. Additionally, determine methods to help educate and encourage fact-based policy decisions that position the state to ensure a secure energy system that continues to support growth and prosperity.

Motivation:

- Energy security has become a critical issue for both Tennessee and the nation.
- Tennessee is a net energy importer which limits policy options and puts the state at the mercy of outside forces.
- Energy will become more and more important as it increasingly penetrates all facets of life and work.
- The state has unique comparative advantages that could help promote energy security and economic development.
- State policy should focus on energy production and use as well as all facets of the supply chain and underlying workforce as a means of jointly enhancing energy security and economic development.

Specific Issues to Consider:

- Power Generation
 - Promote SMRs as a means of increasing energy output and resiliency.
- Energy Use
 - Increase efforts to diversify the state's energy portfolio to meet the needs of all consumer sectors, including transportation.
- Infrastructure & Energy Distribution
 - Most of this capacity is privately held and/or subject to federal oversight, limiting available state actions.
 - Promote privately held energy systems (residential, commercial, and government) that can be effective when centralized power distribution is disrupted.
 - Encourage energy storage to provide resiliency.
- Raw Materials
 - Tennessee has limited capacity to produce power using fossil fuels.
 - Exploit "mining" of rare earth minerals from coal waste to yield supplies for both national and state supply chains (batteries).
- Research & Development
 - Support private and university R&D efforts around nuclear reactors, especially SMRs.
- Energy Efficiency

- More energy is wasted in Tennessee than is used.
- Promoting energy efficiency can save both residential and commercial consumers unnecessary costs while increasing the effective supply of energy, thus reducing imported energy and lowering stress placed on distribution network.
- Business Supply Chain
 - Encourage industrial and business development around both national and state-based energy supply chains which will see growth in the future.
 - Emphasize the unique nuclear energy supply chain in Tennessee (see attached report)
- Workforce Development
 - Encourage training, certificate and degree programs in critical occupations necessary to support essential facets of energy security (i.e., nuclear workers).
 - Consider promoting policies to make Tennessee the “go-to” state for security training personnel (i.e., nuclear guards, cybersecurity experts, etc).
 - Provide executive education programs for leaders in the energy sector and support sectors focusing on energy facility management and security.

Stakeholder Engagement

- The latest version of our SEPC Executive Briefings package is included in this package. Please review and come to the meeting prepared to make adjustments/updates as needed.
- Please consider the information above and come prepared with your thoughts on key stakeholders and who from the Council should engage with them.
- Additionally, the current Council member matrix is attached. We are going to make another push to get all of our vacant slots filled so please come prepared with recommendations, justifications, and contact information to help expedite the process.