

**MINUTES
of the
SIXTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**November 14-15, 2016
Room 311, State Capitol
Santa Fe**

The sixth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee (STTC) was called to order by Senator Michael Padilla, chair, on November 14, 2016 at 10:05 a.m. in Room 311 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Sen. Michael Padilla, Chair
Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard (11/14)
Rep. Jason C. Harper (11/14)
Rep. Conrad James (11/15)
Rep. Bill McCamley
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill (11/14)
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Rep. Carl Trujillo (11/14)
Rep. John L. Zimmerman

Absent

Rep. James E. Smith, Vice Chair
Sen. William F. Burt
Sen. Daniel A. Ivey-Soto

Advisory Members

Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros (11/14)
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (11/14)
Sen. Richard C. Martinez (11/14)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Nick L. Salazar (11/14)
Rep. Luciano "Lucky" Varela (11/14)

Sen. Jacob R. Candelaria
Sen. Ron Griggs
Rep. Antonio Maestas
Sen. Steven P. Neville
Sen. Mary Kay Papen
Sen. William H. Payne
Sen. Peter Wirth
Rep. Monica Youngblood

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Gordon Meeks, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, LCS
Shawna Casebier, LCS

Minutes Approval

Because the committee will not meet again this year, the minutes for this meeting have not been officially approved by the committee.

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file.

Monday, November 14

Call to Order and Introductions

Senator Padilla welcomed committee members to the sixth meeting of the STTC for the 2016 interim. Members of the committee and the staff were invited to introduce themselves.

Need for High-Speed Internet (Broadband)

Charles Lehman of Community Economics Laboratory emphasized the necessity of greater broadband development for the economic health and development of the state. Referring to his handout, he discussed how a lack of broadband is a barrier to the creation of jobs and that adequate broadband is necessary for all industries across all sectors. He proposed several broadband policy recommendations, including the provision of loans and grants from the state and federal levels; the creation of an infrastructure bank; and qualifying broadband infrastructure projects for funding under the Local Economic Development Act or separately enacted legislation. He advocated a "dig-once" policy to ensure that when trenching is done for other projects, the trenches are made available for the laying of broadband infrastructure, and a "single-truck-roll" policy that utilizes a single permit for suspending lines on utility polls. He also encouraged public-private partnerships to share the risk, funding and work needed to deploy broadband. He noted that some of the policy recommendations may be difficult to implement based on the financial situation in the state and that other recommendations would require legislative action.

Ovidiu Viorica, broadband program manager, Broadband Deficiencies Correction Program (BDCP), Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA), and Eric Moores, broadband project manager, BDCP, PSFA, referring to their handouts, shared with the committee the successes of the BDCP and the goals of the program for 2017 and 2018. Noting that approximately 315 miles of new fiber is being installed and that there has been a 70% increase of access, Mr. Viorica highlighted the coordination with and support of schools, libraries, telehealth and other entities and programs, and that available funding sources are being maximized. Referring to a map of district costs per megabits per second (Mbps), Mr. Viorica noted that some school districts are locked in long-term contracts with higher rates. Newer contracts where there is more competition have lower rates. Additionally, combining the purchasing power of school districts is a successful strategy to bring down the cost of broadband. He said that K-12 broadband infrastructure upgrades encourage broadband progress generally, but investment in broadband infrastructure is a long-term endeavor that requires stability and perseverance.

Dale Alverson, chair, New Mexico Telehealth Alliance, and Terry Boulanger, executive director, New Mexico Telehealth Alliance, addressed the committee on the need for broadband for health care in New Mexico. Dr. Alverson talked about the New Mexico Health Information Exchange (HIE) and how there is a great need for patients' medical records to be consolidated into a health information system and shared to deliver coordinated care and ensure that treating doctors and specialists have access to all of the medical information they need about a patient. The exchange of information helps increase the quality and safety of care, while lowering the cost. Because the data files are huge, adequate broadband is necessary to support the data transfer. The HIE also needs adequate interfaces between the spectrum of electronic health record programs being used and the HIE.

Mr. Boulanger discussed how telehealth can provide access to needed health care services at hospitals and clinics, including school-based clinics, and even directly to patients in their homes, but telehealth needs adequate broadband to be successful. He described the funding available under the federal Healthcare Connect Fund and the work that the Southwest Telehealth Access Grid is doing to assist rural providers in applying for the funds. He noted that the requirement that rural hospitals and clinics provide a 35% cash match to receive funding is a major barrier to more work being done and that a pool of funds from the state could magnify the federal funds and expand broadband coverage greatly.

Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) was cited as a success story of telehealth. Started in 2013, Project ECHO is a collaboration with the University of New Mexico's Center for Telehealth to provide virtual clinics for rural clinicians where case presentations are made and better care plans created, resulting in a continuity of care and better access to services. In regard to the treatment of hepatitis C, through this program, the same outcomes have been achieved as if the patient had been seen in a clinic, and there has been an increase in minority groups being treated. In summary, the panelists emphasized that to get health care to rural areas and achieve better health outcomes, there is a need for broadband.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the impact of long-term contracts on schools' Mbps costs per month and the potential to recover infrastructure costs;
- the requirements of the opioid prescription monitoring bill (Senate Bill 263 (2016)) and telemedicine;
- the importance of Project ECHO to help people and provide cost savings throughout New Mexico;
- the specialities being served by Project ECHO;
- reasons for the large disparity between internet service provider costs by Mbps per month throughout the state;
- the use of telemedicine to address health epidemics in correctional facilities;
- funding for Project ECHO and the impact of budget cuts;
- exit strategies for a private investor in public-private partnerships;

- the lack of coordination and competition between electronic health record vendors and providers to share health record information; and
- mergers of electronic health record vendors and the transfer of health records among vendors.

Wireless Industry in New Mexico

Gerry Keegan, senior director, state legislative affairs, CTIA-The Wireless Association, discussed with the committee the current status of wireless communication in New Mexico and its future. He highlighted the economic contributions of wireless to New Mexico, including providing 4,200 jobs, \$308.68 million in wages and investments totaling \$487 million between 2012 and 2014. He noted that wireless traffic more than doubled between 2014 and 2015, and in New Mexico, 52% of adults and 66% of children live in wireless-only households. Mr. Keegan discussed the fact that with the growing number of advanced devices, more and more mobile data traffic is generated, and in 2020, the volume of mobile data traffic is expected to be six times greater than in 2015. He said that the "5G" future will be 100 times faster than today and will further expand the "internet of things" to include smart homes, mobile health, smart cities, advanced robotics and connected-car vehicle safety. Mr. Keegan discussed small cells, which are wireless antennas that may be placed on any existing structure, such as a streetlight or utility pole, and he said that access to rights of way, reasonable costs and a streamlined application process are needed to take advantage of this technology. Mr. Keegan said that a sound tax policy is needed to facilitate more investment by the wireless industry.

Marco Gonzales, Verizon Communications, and Terri Nikole Baca, director of external affairs, AT&T New Mexico, expressed their support for the information provided by Mr. Keegan and CTIA's policy work.

David LaFuria, Smith Bagley, Inc., (SBI) and Cellular One, discussed SBI's operations in northwest New Mexico, where it serves approximately 35,000 customers, mostly members of the Navajo Nation and the Pueblo of Zuni. Because of the demographics on tribal lands, including low incomes, few commercial enterprises and the high cost of connecting towers, Mr. LaFuria said there would be no financial return from most cell towers in the region without federal support through the Universal Service Fund (USF) and Lifeline programs. He said that high-quality mobile broadband networks are critical to New Mexico's future, especially in the areas of public safety and health care, and many areas in New Mexico lack access to high-quality coverage. He said that the State Rural Universal Service Fund (SRUSF) has approximately \$24 million available for telephone service, which should be used for broadband. He noted that in 2016, the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) adopted a broadband fund for fixed and mobile wireless and has been sued by CTIA over whether or not the PRC has the authority to use the funds for broadband. Mr. LaFuria suggested that the legislature needs to clarify the PRC's authority to use the SRUSF for broadband, and he further suggested that the legislature should, by amendment, direct the PRC only to use state funds for broadband, instead of basic landline phone service, because if the person has access to broadband, the person also has access to voice communications.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the importance of installing fiber to cell sites, especially in rural areas;
- how the USF and SRUSF are funded;
- the possibility of the SRUSF being funded by a fixed fee;
- unfair taxation of the telecommunications industry to support universal broadband deployment;
- how far a small cell can carry a signal;
- the status of CTIA's lawsuit against the PRC;
- the choices of carriers in rural communities;
- that rural communities are unable to implement smart cities technologies without broadband;
- hurdles to overcome regarding easements;
- difficulties in using small cell tower technology in rural areas;
- the continuation of 4G after 5G is available;
- tax incentives and exemptions to accelerate broadband deployment;
- the amount of money needed to install fiber per square mile; and
- the need for more competition in the broadband market.

Providers' Plans to Meet Needs

Charlie Ferrell, executive director, New Mexico Exchange Carrier Group (NMECG), highlighted that more work needs to be done to ensure that rural customers have access to broadband speeds. He noted that the NMECG's companies have made good progress in providing broadband due to the support of the USF and SRUSF; however, the high-cost companies that have received support in the past are now facing uncertainties over the USF and whether they will receive the same support in the future. Based on recent information from the Federal Communications Commission, some carriers will receive less support in the future. He said that the funds help rural communities to keep pace with urban communities and allow for infrastructure development because it is a source of revenue to keep service affordable in rural areas. Continued funding support for landlines is also needed as customers may not be able to afford basic phone service otherwise. NMECG members support the PRC's new broadband plan to offer grants to companies to offset the investment in rural areas, and Mr. Ferrell encouraged the committee to support the PRC plan.

Stuart Roberts, president, Southwest Cable Communications Association (SCCA) said that the SCCA represents all of the major cable operators and broadband operators. He said the association wants the opportunity to participate in state funding from the PRC, but not all operators agree. To date, all growth, expansion and upgrades have been self-funded from the shareholder pot. He said that the SCCA looks at the return on investment, and if the project is not feasible, the association puts it aside until the project is economically viable. As to the E-rate map and the disparities in rates throughout New Mexico, he noted that Carlsbad signed a new E-rate deal for five years at \$1.39 per Mbps, while Lovington is locked into a long-term deal that

was signed three years ago when there was not a competitive market for broadband; thus, its rate is higher.

John Badal, Sacred Wind Communications, said that if others had access to the same speeds provided to Navajo customers, the committee would not be having this conversation. He said low-interest loans are available from the United States Department of Agriculture, but no tax incentives exist. Regarding CTIA, he noted that mobile wireless is a zero-sum game, and he reminded the committee that mobile wireless is dependent on fiber. He noted that approximately 45% of Sacred Wind's customers subscribe to broadband, while 55% subscribe to voice only. The FCC is moving subsidies from the USF to broadband and is imposing rules that kick in three years from now that require a broadband channel for rural customers. Customers will have to pay \$60.00 a month for broadband when they only need voice service. He said affordable voice service is being replaced by unaffordable broadband. Sacred Wind supports legislation to clarify the PRC's authority to include broadband in the SRUSF and a flat surcharge, instead of a percentage fee, for the generation of the SRUSF. He noted that most broadband is used for entertainment and suggested that perhaps video and movie streaming services should have a surcharge to support broadband, though this would be a federal issue. In summary, he said, he supports a broadband fund, but not a broadband-only fund, and there should be incentives to accelerate the move to broadband. He also said that he is opposed to fiber in most areas of the state because most small businesses and homes do not need gigabit speeds and other technologies like fixed or mobile wireless could be used. Additionally, consumers cannot be forced to consume what they do not want.

Gabriel Montoya, chair, REDI Net, Margaret Campos, board member, REDI Net, David Trujillo, vice chair, REDI Net, and Raymond Ortiz, REDI Net, discussed the operations of REDI Net with the committee. Working through her handout, Ms. Campos stressed that broadband is necessary for economic prosperity and that access to adequate broadband speeds was life-changing for her in her approach to her work. She said that REDI Net's goals are to reduce the cost of broadband for anchor institutions; to expand services geographically while maintaining affordability and reliability; to form strategic partnerships; and to improve information technology capacity in the region for workforce development. She noted that REDI Net is able to move quickly because joint powers agreements address the issues of easements and rights of way, and REDI Net's governmental partners are the owners of the rights of way. REDI Net brings fiber to anchor institutions, such as schools and libraries. By using point-to-point transport and economies of scale, REDI Net has been able to reduce costs and realize a three-month return on investment.

Mr. Montoya, who is also a Pueblo of Pojoaque council member, told the committee that REDI Net is looking to expand to underserved areas and places where it can directly compete to bring down the costs. REDI Net has partnered with Kit Carson Electronic Cooperative, Plateau, Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative and others. Without partnerships, Mr. Montoya said, REDI Net would not be anywhere. He said that REDI Net is willing to set up a pilot project with the state and see if it will work for all involved.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the reorganization of REDI Net's board;
- disparities in rates between public schools and private customers;
- REDI Net's inability to reach the end user because it is not a last-mile provider;
- connectivity issues in Los Alamos;
- the number of new landlines added in rural areas in past years;
- contributions by landline and mobile users to the SRUSF;
- how to repurpose SRUSF money to expand broadband but still ensure that people have telephone service;
- the variability of SRUSF surcharges on mobile phone bills versus landline bills;
- the disparity between actual intrastate calls versus what is estimated and reported by the carriers;
- the simplicity of calculating a flat rate for SRUSF charges; and
- opposition to a flat rate.

Proposed Legislation

Senator Padilla presented to the committee for discussion, but not endorsement, two bills. The first bill makes changes to the New Mexico Telecommunications Act and provides for PRC jurisdiction over incumbent local exchange carriers and their investment in telecommunications and broadband infrastructure. He said that the bill seeks to bring outside investment into New Mexico, and it redefines how carriers are established and regulated by the PRC. He said the bill has been considered for multiple years and will be reintroduced in the upcoming legislative session. A committee member stated that there are currently concerns about areas without a lot of competition being monopolized and that this bill puts all on a level playing field, creates competition and, in turn, protects consumers.

The second bill, enacting the Public-Private Partnerships Act, is only a broad draft that will be narrowed before it is introduced. Senator Padilla said that the bill creates a framework for public-private partnerships in regard to broadband so as to incentivize private entities to make more investment. He noted that the bill addresses public ownership of infrastructure, the use of labor unions in projects and maintenance of projects. The committee discussed whether a bill for public-private partnerships is actually needed and the need for outside investment in infrastructure that the state cannot afford.

La Cañada Wireless Association — Fixed Wireless Internet Service Provider

Dana Simmons, president and director, La Cañada Wireless Association (LCWA), shared with the committee how the LCWA formed as a nonprofit, self-funded, volunteer cooperative to deliver broadband wireless internet service to rural New Mexico communities and described the model's potential to bring broadband to other rural communities. He said that 78% of LCWA members have no other internet service alternative, and access to broadband affects home prices and desirability in the real estate market. The LCWA's services are sourced from CenturyLink, and strategically placed fixed wireless access points deliver services from one

member to another. Many of the access points are on members' homes, and there is no issue with rights of way because no wires are placed in the ground; only a "line of sight" from one access point to another is needed. Members pay \$40.00 a month for up to five Mbps and a one-time \$50.00 membership fee. There are no long-term contracts or data caps, and services are provided on a month-to-month basis. Since the LCWA's inception in 2003, there have been four iterations of the technology, and community members have been involved in ensuring that upgrades are made.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- how similar work could be done cost-effectively in particularly remote areas;
- the strategic nature of placing access points;
- the speeds being provided; and
- the reliability of the network.

Tuesday, November 15

Department of Information Technology (DOIT) Project Dashboard

Darryl Ackley, secretary, DOIT, reminded the committee of the information that is located on the project portfolio dashboard (http://www.doit.state.nm.us/dashboards/FY-2017-Q1/project_dashboards.html). Out of the top-10 projects, he said that many are on track, and those are indicated in green. The ones in yellow mostly have scheduling issues, primarily due to federal reporting requirements. The dashboard indicates projects that go out to 2019. Secretary Ackley said that some projects will be closing out soon, bringing down the volume of the top-10 projects. He said that the DOIT is overseeing approximately \$410 million worth of information technology projects, and information technology special requests are noted in their own separate dashboard, which will be used in the DOIT's presentation to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) in making recommendations on the budget. Secretary Ackley provided the STTC with two reports: 1) the "2016 State CIO Survey", available online, which contains a decade of longitudinal data and statistics on each state's information technology services; and 2) the "2016 Deloitte-NASCIO Cybersecurity Study", which provides a status report by state regarding cybersecurity and acknowledges that cybersecurity requires coordination and collaboration across organizations and agencies.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- praise for the work of Secretary Ackley and the DOIT;
- the existence of cyberthreats on the secretary of state and county clerks' offices during the election; and
- a suggestion to add funding sources to the dashboard's project budgetary information.

LFC DOIT Analysis

Jon Courtney, program evaluator manager, LFC, summarized for the STTC the LFC's program evaluation of the DOIT's enterprise service rates and project management and oversight, the final report of which may be found on the LFC's website. Referring to the report, Dr. Courtney said that the evaluation assessed information technology rate development and methodology, project management and oversight responsibilities from the LFC's 2012 program evaluation. He said the current evaluation found that some of the LFC's 2012 recommendations had been implemented, but issues remain involving how the DOIT charges agencies for equipment replacement, the rate-setting process and service delivery and oversight and governance. He discussed as a main area of concern the DOIT's reporting of operating losses despite increases in cash balances and rates and that the DOIT's budget requests overestimate the revenue generated. A discussion ensued about the DOIT's ability to fully allocate depreciation to the service rates to collect revenue for equipment replacement. Another concern was whether or not the DOIT had a plan for the replacement of equipment.

Brenda Fresquez, program evaluator, LFC, continued by discussing with the STTC a need for the DOIT to improve its rate-setting and service delivery. She said that the rates are set with estimates, although the actual costs are known, and the rate-setting process is not always substantiated by a documented process. Concerns were also raised that the DOIT does not sufficiently use service level agreements (SLAs) to establish the quality and type of service that will be provided in exchange for the fee, and it was suggested that establishing SLAs could help overcome issues with communications between the DOIT and other agencies. Ms. Fresquez said that the DOIT's compliance and project management program serves as the state's enterprise project management office (EPMO), and restructuring the compliance and project management program may allow EPMO functions to be funded through enterprise funds, creating General Fund savings. Ms. Fresquez cited a need for information technology contract terms and conditions to be revised to accommodate cloud services and improve other key clauses, such as termination management, indemnification and liability. It was also noted that because the Information Technology Commission (ITC) is inactive, there has been a lack of accountability and transparency in the making of significant information technology decisions, and proposals need to be brought forward to modernize the state's information technology plan, institute new information technology policies, update administrative rules and make changes to ensure the ITC can operate. She said the DOIT has implemented some key recommendations from the LFC's 2010 program evaluation, and the DOIT has realized financial management improvements by implementing SHARE's accounts receivable and assets management modules.

Ms. Fresquez concluded with recommended actions for the legislature, the ITC and the DOIT. As to the DOIT, she highlighted that it should develop an equipment replacement plan as required by statute and provide it to the ITC, LFC, Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) and the legislature; provide annual equipment replacement fund reconciliation, as required by statute, to the legislature and include it in its annual budget submission to the DFA and LFC; document and publish the methodology for rate-setting; ensure that information

technology costs and cost recovery methods are transparent and clearly communicated; and establish SLAs with state agencies.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- state agency delays in responding to the DOIT's requests;
- when the DOIT should be in charge of information technology for a department versus when the department should have its own internal information technology;
- the DOIT's response to the LFC's report;
- the existence of a detailed SHARE plan;
- Corrections Department radios;
- modernization of the statewide information technology strategic plan;
- the frequency of DOIT evaluations;
- the time it took for the LFC to put together the report;
- the need for feedback to be given more regularly;
- the DOIT's ability to move forward with the constructive criticism;
- state procurement processes;
- the DOIT's cash balances and the inability of the legislature to use the money for other purposes;
- the DOIT's inability to fully recover depreciation;
- the need for a formal equipment replacement plan;
- the cost of phone service across state agencies;
- the status of the Taxation and Revenue Department's (TRD's) predictive dialer upgrade; and
- the DOIT's independent verification and validation requirements and practices.

Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Report

Mike Ross, senior vice president for government affairs and public relations, SPP, told the committee that the SPP is one of seven Federal Energy Regulatory Commission designated nonprofit regional transmission organizations in the United States and that the SPP operates in all or part of 14 states, including eastern New Mexico. The SPP works to ensure that power gets from where it is made to where it is needed by matching the generation of electricity to the load, and the SPP's markets include transmission service, a day-ahead market and a real-time balancing market to ensure the most cost-effective and reliable mix of generation for the region. The SPP is also responsible for transmission planning for the region. Mr. Ross noted that the SPP is responsible for studying the need for new transmission lines and issuing a notice to construct. Thereafter, the entity building the line works with state utility regulators to plan the actual path of the line as well as cost recovery. He noted that it can take up to eight years from when the time studies begin until a new transmission line is put into service. In support of the value that the SPP contributes to the region, the SPP recently completed a study concluding that for every dollar invested in modernizing the grid, a benefit of \$3.50 is realized and that the value of the service provided by the SPP is in excess of \$1.4 billion annually.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- incentives and credits for industry investment; and
- the impact of the election on the energy industry.

Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) Tapestry Program

Demesia Padilla, secretary, TRD, and John Monforte, deputy secretary, TRD, discussed with the committee the history, planning, implementation process and successes of the MVD's project to institute the driver and vehicle services software, Tapestry. Secretary Padilla explained that through a transparent and inclusive planning process, strategic decisions were made to wait for the market to mature and to forego employment of a project manager. The project was prioritized above operations on the assumption that, with the completion of the project in five years, operations would necessarily improve and employees would be empowered to make decisions. In addition to keeping the project on schedule, these decisions shaved over \$12 million from the project budget and improved the morale at the MVD, which is now ranked one of the top-three motor vehicle divisions in the nation.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- praise for the Tapestry project;
- how to replicate Tapestry's success with other projects;
- the role of empowering people through the success of the project;
- the importance of placing the project above operations and putting great employees on the project;
- the LFC's findings on the status of the TRD's predictive dialer upgrade; and
- the need to revise performance benchmarks and raise the bar for success.

Gas Company of New Mexico Economic Development Initiative

Lloyd Hatch, director of business and economic development in New Mexico, New Mexico Gas Company (NMGC) and La Vanda Jones, governmental affairs administrator, NMGC, informed the committee that the acquisition of NMGC by Emera, Inc., of Canada was approved unanimously by the PRC pursuant to a stipulation developed by the PRC, the attorney general and other interveners requiring Emera to contribute to economic development initiatives within the state.

Emera has earmarked \$10 million in matching funds for natural gas infrastructure expansion in unserved or underserved parts of the state, and \$5 million of shareholder money will be used for general economic development over five years. Emera is working with the University of New Mexico, Innovation Central and other technology resource centers to build technology and entrepreneurial businesses that will stay in the state. Funds will also be given to chambers of commerce and other economic development groups that have been affected by the oil and gas recession, including the MainStreet program, the Regional Development Corporation of northern New Mexico, the Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District, seven

counties and six colleges. Also, \$5 million will be used to build a pipeline from the southern reach of New Mexico's natural gas system into Mexico. Although there are 11 pipelines from Texas to Mexico and three each from Arizona and California, there are no pipelines from New Mexico to Mexico. It was noted that this project will be funded with shareholder money that will not be recouped from customers, and Emera is looking to find viable markets across the border. Lastly, Emera agreed to increase NMGC's contribution to charities and community organizations by \$400,000, for a total contribution of \$800,000 by NMGC.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- right-of-way issues with the pipeline into Mexico;
- environmental reviews required for the pipeline;
- permits;
- praise for the company's community contributions and diversity of public service projects;
- the impact of a new federal administration on the pipeline plans; and
- revenue generated from expanded access of pipeline into Mexico.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Representative Zimmerman, seconded by Representative McCamley, the minutes of the fifth STTC meeting on October 20-21, 2016 were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the sixth meeting of the STTC for the 2016 interim adjourned at 12:36 p.m.