



DRAFT MINUTES

PUBLIC UTILITIES, ENERGY, AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. | 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Derrin R. Owens, Chair
Rep. Colin W. Jack, Chair
Sen. David P. Hinkins
Sen. Karen Kwan
Sen. Ann Millner
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. Walt Brooks
Rep. Scott H. Chew
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Rosalba Dominguez
Rep. Doug Owens
Rep. Nicholeen P. Peck

Rep. Thomas W. Peterson
Rep. Troy Shelley
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Rep. Rex P. Shipp
Rep. Casey Snider

Staff Present:

Samantha Hermany, Senior Policy Analyst
Scott Elder, Associate General Counsel
Samantha Merrell, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Owens called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

MOTION: Representative Jack moved to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2025, meeting.

2. Update - IPA 8:30 - 8:55AM

[2 - Intermountain Power Plant Update \(Department of Natural Resources and Division of Air Quality\)](#)

Joel Ferry, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, presented an update on the status and strategic goals of the Intermountain Power Plant (IPP) and the Utah Energy Council.

Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, gave an update on the air quality permit application submitted to the Division of Air Quality by the Intermountain Power Authority.

Joel Ferry continued presenting on the goal of keeping IPP running while minimizing costs and risks to Utah taxpayers.

Chair Owens informed the committee he would not be taking committee questions on this item due to the sensitive nature of ongoing negotiations and thanked Joel Ferry and Bryce Bird for their presentation.

3. Statutorily Required Report - Energy Education & Workforce Development Programs 8:55 - 9:20AM

[3 - Energy Education and Workforce Development Advisory Group Update \(Office of Energy Development\)](#)

Mary Parkinson, Energy Specialist, Office of Energy Development, presented on the status of the implementation of H.B. 157, Energy Education Amendments, 2025 General Session.

Mary Parkinson responded to questions from the committee.



4. Presentation – Invictus Sovereign 9:20 - 10:05AM

Chair Owens provided background on this agenda item.

[4 - Invictus Sovereign Presentation \(Invictus Sovereign\)](#)

Wayne Aston, Founder and CEO, Invictus Sovereign, introduced Dave Murray, Chief Business and Information Officer, Invictus Sovereign, and Brady Jenkins, Chief Electrical Engineer, Invictus Sovereign, and spoke on his background growing up in central Utah.

Wayne Aston presented on Invictus Sovereign's Valley Forge project, including efforts taken to improve energy development, infrastructure, storage, and efficiency in Millard County.

Wayne Aston responded to a question from the committee and continued presenting.

Wayne Aston and Dave Murray responded to questions from the committee.

5. Presentation - 47G - Utah Aerospace & Defense 10:05 - 10:30AM

[5 - 47G Utah Aerospace and Defense \(47G\)](#)

Aaron Starks, President and CEO, 47G, presented on the history of the aerospace and defense industry, the industry's status in Utah, and the work and history of 47G.

Aaron Starks responded to a comment from the committee.

6. Draft Legislation - Drinking Water Utilities Amendments 10:30 - 11:00AM

6 - Draft Legislation "Drinking Water Utilities Amendments" (V005)

Rep. Jack presented on draft legislation, "Drinking Water Utilities Amendments."

Nathan Lunstad, Director, Division of Drinking Water, continued to present on draft legislation, "Drinking Water Utilities Amendments."

Nathan Lunstad responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Albrecht moved to favorably recommend draft legislation, "Drinking Water Utilities Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 4.



Yeas - 14

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. K. Christofferson
Rep. R. Dominguez
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. T. Shelley
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. W. Brooks
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider

MOTION: Sen. Kwan moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 14

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. K. Christofferson
Rep. R. Dominguez
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. C. Jack
Sen. K. Kwan
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. N. Peck
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. T. Shelley
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 4

Rep. W. Brooks
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider

Chair Owens adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.