

NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL

133rd MEETING OF THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL

December 12, 2023

9:00 a.m. (E.S.T.)

MEETING MINUTES

Having been duly called and noticed in the Federal Register, the National Petroleum Council's (NPC) 133rd meeting was held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, with NPC Chair Darren W. Woods and the Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of Energy, presiding.

Agenda and Attendees.

The meeting agenda and attendance are available as separate attachments on the [NPC Meetings section of the Department of Energy website](#).

Call to Order, Introductory Remarks, and Welcome to Attendees and Online Observers. Darren W. Woods, Chair, National Petroleum Council.

- Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. (E.S.T.) and introduced the participants at the head table. These included Hon. Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of Energy; Hon. David M. Turk, Deputy Secretary of Energy; Hon. Bradford J. Crabtree, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy and Carbon Management; Michael K. Wirth, Chair, Hydrogen Energy Study Committee; Ryan M. Lance, Chair, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Study Committee.
- Chair Woods then ceded the floor for Hon. Jennifer Granholm to address the Council.

Remarks by the Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of Energy.

- Secretary of Energy Granholm addressed the Council and noted that since the days of the Petroleum Administration for War in World War II, this industry has partnered with the federal government to take on tough problems. -She acknowledged that although government and industry may have different opinions on the energy transition, both are working towards the shared goal of secure, reliable, and cleaner energy. Secretary Granholm further noted the extensive clean energy commitments of the oil and gas industry but emphasized the necessity for industry to further bolster their clean energy investments to overcome a "trust deficit" with the public.
- Secretary Granholm highlighted the importance of both studies addressing societal considerations and impacts and how this topic aligns with the environmental justice and equity goals of the Administration, citing the implementation of Community Benefits Planning requirements for federal funding.

Remarks by the Honorable David M. Turk, Deputy Secretary of Energy.

- Deputy Secretary Turk also addressed the Council and praised those working on the two current studies from the many companies present, DOE colleagues, those from non-profit organizations, and others for their time and effort.

- Deputy Secretary Turk acknowledged the new tools that are being offered by DOE to accelerate clean hydrogen deployment, reduce methane emissions, and increase clean energy investments, and the important role that collaboration between government and industry will continue to play in utilizing these tools.
- Deputy Secretary Turk underscored the progress achieved in the transition to clean energy so far. He reported that the commitment and leadership demonstrated by the Administration, state and local governments, and companies actively working toward their pledged initiatives led to a 3.1 percent reduction in GHG emissions in 2023 and put the United States on a trajectory for a projected 40-41 percent reduction in emissions by 2030.
- Deputy Secretary Turk also noted that more work needs to be accomplished as the current reduction projections fall 9-10 percent short of the Biden Administration's goal of 50 percent GHG reduction by 2030.

Progress Report on NPC Hydrogen Energy Study.

- Michael K. Wirth, Chair of the Hydrogen Energy Study Committee, and Austin G. Knight, Chair of the Hydrogen Energy Coordinating Subcommittee, presented the progress report on the study, addressing key findings:
 - The role of low carbon intensity (LCI) hydrogen in lower cost emissions reductions;
 - Unlocking demand sectors will require significant and immediate action;
 - Optimal supply mix will be driven by speed to scale, cost, and carbon intensity;
 - Anchor demand will impact regional adoption;
 - Cost parity gaps to incumbent fuels and feedstocks; and
 - Coordinated government and industry action needed for deployment.
- When the final report is released in spring 2024, it will articulate the important role hydrogen can play in the future energy mix as a low carbon intensity product through a detailed national and regional analysis of potential demand sectors and production growth. The report will highlight critical enablers to unlock the potential of low carbon intensity hydrogen to help achieve U.S. climate goals, including targeted policy and regulatory actions, technology development, and safety and societal considerations.

Progress Report from NPC GHG Emissions Study.

- Ryan M. Lance, Chair of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Committee, and John M. Dabbar, Chair of the GHG Emissions Coordinating Subcommittee, presented the progress report on the study work. The study is focused on identifying options to realize:
 - A 50 to 52 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 (from 2005 levels);
 - Economy-wide, net-zero emissions by 2050; and
 - Achievement of the Global Methane Pledge.
- The GHG Emissions report, also scheduled for completion in spring 2024, will include background information on the role of natural gas, pathways to reduce emissions aligned with the three goals identified above, and a focus on societal considerations and impacts. The report will also analyze GHG emissions reduction from infrastructure and policy, including siting and development of new infrastructure to reduce GHG emissions, technology for measurement and detection of methane, and life cycle assessments for the natural gas value chain.

Remarks by the Honorable Bradford J. Crabtree, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

- Assistant Secretary Crabtree commented on the progress reports and thanked the Study Committees for the “breadth, ambition, and sophistication of the work,” as well as the efforts to reach consensus on the recommendations of the reports.
- Assistant Secretary Crabtree highlighted the collaborative work underway, mentioning that although public opinion may differ, the oil and gas industry can provide answers to the climate challenge by driving emissions reductions and delivering valuable economic and environmental benefits to affected communities.

Report of the NPC Finance Committee.

- W. Byron Dunn, Chair, provided the report of the NPC Finance Committee, and noted that, in August 2023, the Finance Committee reviewed the NPC’s 2022 Form 990 and 2022 Audit Report that included a “clean” opinion confirming that the NPC’s financial controls are strong. More recently, the Finance Committee met the day before the NPC meeting to review the projected year-end 2023 financials and review of a proposed 2024 Budget. The Finance Committee discussed and agreed upon a proposed 2024 Budgeted Spending Authority to provide resources to complete the remaining study operations and publication of the Hydrogen Energy and GHG Emissions Studies.
- As part of the Finance Committee’s recommendations, the existing membership will be asked for an average 10 percent increase in their 2024 contributions. The Finance Committee believes that this increase is required to avoid further erosion of the NPC’s Contingency Fund, which has been drawn upon over the last two years to assist in funding the substantial costs required for the two studies.
- The NPC unanimously approved the report of the NPC Finance Committee.

Report of the NPC Nominating Committee.

- John B. Walker, Chair, presented the recommendations of the NPC Nominating Committee for the 2024 NPC Officers and Committees as follows:
 - 2024 NPC Chair: Alan Armstrong.
 - 2024 NPC Vice Chair: Ryan Lance.

2024 Agenda Committee

Deb Caplan
Bob Catell
Joe Gorder
Ray Hunt
Jeff Miller
Gretchen Watkins
Bill Way
Bill White
Mike Wirth
Dan Yergin, and
Vicki Hollub, Chair

2024 Appointment Committee

John Christmann
Paula Glover
David Grzebinski
John Hess
Olivier Le Peuch
Mike Linn
Pierce Norton
Scott Tinker
John Walker, and
Lorenzo Simonelli, Chair

- For the five 2024 “at-large” members of the NPC Cochairs’ Coordinating Committee: Kevin Book, Maryam Brown, Ed Crooks, Marilu Hastings, and Tom Jorden.

- There being no further nominations from the floor, the Council unanimously elected the slate as proposed by the NPC Nominating Committee.

Adjournment.

The 133rd meeting of the National Petroleum Council was adjourned at 11:11 a.m. (E.S.T.).

The proceedings of the December 12, 2023, meeting of the National Petroleum Council are, up until the Report of the NPC Finance Committee, available in video format. The video, full meeting transcript, and the presentations for both the Hydrogen Energy and GHG Emissions Studies, along with other pertinent meeting documents are available as separate attachments on the [NPC Meetings section of the Department of Energy website](#). The Hydrogen Energy and GHG presentation slides, as well as the meeting video, are additionally available at www.npc.org.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren Woods", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darren W. Woods
Chair
National Petroleum Council