

**PRESENTATION BY JEFF GENZER TO THE “ENERGY DATA NEEDS”  
SESSION  
4/8/09 – 9-10:30 A.M.**

I AM CERTAINLY PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY WITH SUCH AN AUGUST PANEL AND ESPECIALLY MY DEAR FRIEND, SHIRLEY NEFF. SHE HAS BEEN A REAL STALWART ON ENERGY DATA NEEDS AND WAS THE “GO TO” PERSON ON THE SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE STAFF ON THESE ISSUES FOR MANY YEARS.

I AM HERE IN MY CAPACITY AS COUNSEL TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE ENERGY OFFICIALS. I HAVE REPRESENTED NASEO SINCE THE ORGANIZATION BEGAN IN 1986, AND BEFORE THAT I WAS THE STAFF COUNSEL AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION. I HAVE WORKED ON ENERGY ISSUES SINCE 1978. NASEO MEMBERS SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME ADVISING THEIR GOVERNORS AND LEGISLATURES ON ENERGY POLICY. HOW CAN YOU DO ENERGY POLICY WITHOUT GOOD ENERGY DATA? WE SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME ON ENERGY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE. IT CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT ENERGY DATA. MOST AMERICANS ONLY THINK OF BIG EMERGENCIES CAUSED BY TERRORIST ATTACKS – BUT PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM KNOW THAT WE HAVE ENERGY EMERGENCIES AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS; THE VAST MAJORITY HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH TERRORISM. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH DOE TO CONDUCT ENERGY EMERGENCY EXERCISES SINCE I BECAME INVOLVED IN THESE EXERCISES IN 1983. IN FACT, OUR LEAD STATE OFFICIAL ON ENERGY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, WHO CHAIRS NASEO’S ENERGY DATA AND SECURITY COMMITTEE, IS JEFF PILLON. JEFF AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THESE ISSUES TOGETHER FOR 26 YEARS.

I HAVE WORKED WITH EIA SINCE 1981. I REMEMBER THE DAYS WHEN THERE WERE OBJECTIONS TO EVEN COLLECTING ENERGY DATA, FOR FEAR THAT SOMEONE MIGHT USE IT.

AS I LOOK AT ENERGY DATA NEEDS AND THE SOPHISTICATION OF COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OVER THESE DECADES, THE CHANGES HAVE BEEN REMARKABLE. I SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME WITH JAY HAKES, WHO WAS EIA ADMINISTRATOR DURING THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION REALLY UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE AND THE EFFORTS THAT EIA GOES THROUGH EVERY DAY. JAY WAS THE ENERGY DIRECTOR IN FLORIDA FROM 1981-1985, SO HE REALLY MADE SURE I PAID ATTENTION. HE IS NOW HEAD OF THE CARTER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY.

**SECTION 805 OF EISA**

DURING THE 2007 ENERGY BILL WE WORKED HARD WITH A GROUP TO PUSH FOR INCLUSION OF SECTION 805 OF THAT BILL, WHICH REQUIRED EIA TO IMPLEMENT A 5 YEAR PLAN TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF DATA.

WE HAVE CONSULTED WITH EIA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PLAN. AT THE STATE LEVEL WE MAY USE EIA DATA MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE AS WE EVALUATE OUR ENERGY NEEDS, LOOK TO THE FUTURE AND RESPOND TO ENERGY EMERGENCIES.

EIA HAS DONE A GOOD JOB WITH LIMITED RESOURCES ESTABLISHING STATE-BY-STATE DATA SETS. ENERGY CONSUMPTION SURVEYS ARE INVALUABLE TO POLICY MAKERS.

## **EIA FUNDING**

THIS EFFORT HAS SHOWN A NUMBER OF PEOPLE BEYOND NASEO AND THE NORTHEAST-MIDWEST INSTITUTE, THAT FUNDING NEEDS TO INCREASE FOR EIA. CONGRESS INCREASED EIA FUNDING DURING THE FY'2009 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS AND WE ARE SEEKING A DRAMATIC INCREASE TO \$145 MILLION FOR FY'2010. A BROAD COALITION OFF THE HILL HAS SENT A LETTER TO THE APPROPRIATORS SUPPORTING THIS FUNDING LEVEL. A DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER SIGNED BY ABOUT 50 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE IS SUPPORTING THIS FUNDING LEVEL. WE EXPECT A SIMILAR LETTER IN THE SENATE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS.

WE WANT SUPPORT FROM MANY GROUPS FOR THE \$145 MILLION FUNDING LEVEL.

## **ISSUES**

INACCURATE DATA DISTORTS DECISIONMAKING. WE ALL KNOW THAT. FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO UPDATE MODELS AND DO MORE FREQUENT SURVEYS.

WE HAVE WORKED WITH EIA FOR MANY YEARS ON THE OIL, NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE SURVEYS. THESE HAVE BEEN UNDERFUNDED..

SECTION 805 OF THE ENERGY BILL RAISED TWO ISSUES – STATE LEVEL DATA NEEDS – WHAT SHOULD EIA DO; AND TWO – QUALITY CONCERNS ABOUT EIA DATA. EIA NEEDS TO INVEST IN UPGRADES IN TECHNOLOGY, PERSONNEL AND ANALYSIS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF

RAPIDLY CHANGING MARKETS. AT THE PRESENT TIME, EIA'S STATE LEVEL DATA IS NOT ACCURATE ENOUGH TO TRACK THE IMPACT OF STATE POLICIES DESIGNED TO ADDRESS ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (LET ALONE FEDERAL POLICIES IN THOSE SAME AREAS). EIA'S END USE CONSUMPTION SURVEYS YIELD GOOD RESULTS FOR A FEW STATES (CA, NY, TX) – MORE DETAILED SURVEYS ARE NEEDED

CONGRESS AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WILL REQUIRE ENHANCED DATA TO ADDRESS DEMAND RESPONSE AND END-USE CONSUMPTION. WE USE THIS DATA TO ESTABLISH ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES AND PROGRAM.

WE NEED MORE ACCURATE DATA TO ADDRESS LOW-INCOME CONSUMER NEEDS.

OIL AND GAS DATA IS INADEQUATE AND NEEDS TO BE IMPROVED. IN 2005, THE EIA OFFICE OF OIL AND GAS ESTIMATED THAT THEY NEEDED \$29 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS + ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO DO THE JOB RIGHT.

WEEKLY DATA COLLECTIONS FOR BIOFUELS (RATHER THAN MONTHLY) SHOULD BE REQUIRED. DATA QUALITY FOR THE MONTHLY GASOLINE CONSUMPTION DATA IS A QUESTIONMARK. LACK OF DATA QUALITY IN THIS AREA MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO ADDRESS EMERGING SUPPLY ISSUES. THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EIA PETROLEUM DATA.

AS CONGRESS CONSIDERS CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION AND PRICE AND SUPPLY IMPACTS – ENERGY DATA IN A TIMELY WAY IS CRUCIAL.

PRICE VOLATILITY IN ENERGY MARKETS HAS GOTTEN MUCH MORE SEVERE. ENERGY DATA (ON A REAL-TIME BASIS) BECOMES EVER MORE IMPORTANT IN ORDER TO PERMIT STATE AND FEDERAL POLICY MAKERS TO RESPOND.