Executive Order 2010-02

Renewable Energy Summit and Public Agency Coordination

WHEREAS, the renewable energy industry is becoming an increasingly vital component of Arizona's economy, and

WHEREAS, there has been a recent marked increase in proposals to establish renewable energy projects in Arizona, and

WHEREAS, Arizona must illustrate to the renewable energy industry that it will strive to accommodate these new projects, and

WHEREAS, there are multiple state, tribal, and federal land management, natural resource, research and regulatory agencies which will provide input on or process applications from renewable energy producers seeking to locate their projects and/or develop electric transmission lines to connect with the energy grid, and

WHEREAS, many public agencies face budget reductions and corresponding staff reductions that may impact the efficiency with which they can address the increasing number of renewable energy applications, and

WHEREAS, Arizona must continue to encourage interest in renewable energy production, and must support every effort to ensure public agencies deliver timely processing of renewable energy applications, and

WHEREAS, it will require cooperation among different levels of government and jurisdictions, each with distinctive missions, authorities and processes, and

WHEREAS, in order to focus the public agencies on the projects with the greatest potential technological and economic viability, and align the processing of their corresponding applications and reviews to a similar timeframe, it will be necessary to develop interagency and inter-jurisdictional coordination and communication to achieve prioritized results,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janice K. Brewer, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, hereby order and direct as follows:

1. The Arizona Energy Office, the Arizona State Land Department, and the three State Universities, with the cooperation of the Arizona Bureau of Land Management and the Arizona Corporation Commission and non-profit associations that have developed an expertise in advancing renewable energy development, will convene a summit in February, 2010 to which natural resource, regulatory, tribal, research and land management agencies with an interest in renewable energy generation projects will be invited.

2. The summit shall result in at least the following: an immediate evaluation of the technological and economic viability of each of the current applications and requests pending with each agency; an assessment of the relative amount of work each application will require; an alignment of work effort among the agencies to bring to successful and timely conclusion those applications with the greatest technological and economic viability; an assessment of the impediments to the completion of these applications and projects; needed research and legal analysis to accommodate the renewable energy industry and a determination of whether formal agreements are needed among agencies to accommodate the advancement of renewable energy in Arizona.

3. The Arizona Energy Office, the Arizona State Land Department, Arizona's three universities, in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management and non-profit associations with expertise in advancing renewable energy development shall also convene an open house for the purpose of conveying to and inquiring of interested parties in the renewable energy industry and in the general public what opportunities and challenges exist in Arizona for advancement of renewable energy. A report of their findings shall be delivered to the Governor no later than May 30, 2010.

4. The Arizona State Land Department shall report monthly to the Governor on the progress of the applications and proposals and will advise the Governor of any resource or administrative issues which should be addressed to provide assistance to the agencies to accomplish their tasks.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

Janice K. Brewer
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capital in Phoenix, Arizona this 5th day of January in the Year Two Thousand and Ten and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-Fourth.

ATTEST:

Ken Bennett

SECRETARY OF STATE