

Citizen Trade Policy Commission

November 20, 2009

Transportation Committee Room, Augusta

9:00 a.m.

Meeting Summary

Members present: Rep. Margaret Rotundo, Rep. Sharon Treat, Sarah Bigney, Malcolm Burson, John Patrick, Cynthia Phinney, Linda Pistner, Paul Volckhausen, Joseph Woodbury, Wade Merritt

Members absent: Jane Aiudi, Carla Dickstein, Sen. Stan Gerzofsky, Rep. Jeffrey Gifford, Michael Herz, Michael Hiltz, Sen. Troy Jackson, Leslie Manning, John Palmer, and Barbara VanBurgel

Water Resource Planning Committee members present: Robert Marvinney (Maine Geological Survey), Jeff McNelly (Maine Water Utilities Assoc.), Andrew Tolman (ME CDC), Timothy Hobbs (Maine Potato Board), Marcia Spencer-Famous (LURC), Barry Sandford (Pine State Drilling), Thomas Brennan (Nestle), James Wilfong (H2O for Maine) and David Bell (Maine Agricultural Council)

Guest: William Waren (Forum on Democracy and Trade via conference call)

Staff present: Linda Nickerson and Judy Gopaul

I. Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Rep. Margaret Rotundo. Introductions took place.

II. Conference Call presentation – William Waren, Policy Director, Forum on Democracy and Trade

William Waren presented Draft #2 – Final Report on Water Policy and International Trade Law and gave a brief summary of his report. The importance of international trade issues and investment law, trade agreements and disputes and investment disputes were addressed. Group discussion followed. Attendees expressed concerns of overall complexity and felt that there was a need for clarification and be more laymen friendly. Appendix I, pages 29, 30, and 31 were heavily discussed. Significant point mentioned is that we have not lost NAFTA case but what would the consequences be if a case was lost.

III. CTPC/WRPC International Trade Agreements and Ground Water Withdrawal Recommendation

Robert Marvinney, Chair, Water Resource Planning Committee reviewed recommendations (attached) from the review of international trade agreements.

Members expressed concerns of the need to be more specific and have more background on recommendations. Recommendations 2 and 5 appear controversial and there is a need to look at possible implications; recommendations 1, 3, and 4, members need to look at what is

happening in trade; recommendation 6, discussion of wording “sound basis” to “scientific basis” and concerns of private versus public trust ownership.

Robert Marvinney proposed working with Rep. Rotundo, Linda Pistner and others on revising the list of recommendations prior to the next meeting (December 11th) incorporating concerns, background and specificity. Members were requested to send concerns and suggestions directly to Bob Marvinney as soon as possible.

IV. Progress Report on Forum’s Assessment of the Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission

William Warren was called back into the meeting via polycom. Members reviewed items 1-7. There were no questions on the assessment.

Rep. Treat expressed importance of being represented at the National Association of State Legislators meeting being held in California and stated that Rep. Pat Jones offered to represent CTPC. Motion made by Sarah Bigney to have Rep. Pat Jones or other delegate represent CTPC at the NCSL conference in December. Seconded by Cynthia Phinney. Vote, unanimous.

Suggestion was made to compile a briefing package for Rep. Jones to include the annual report, Columbia Free Trade letter, and other pertinent information.

V. Next Meeting – December 11, 2009

VI. Adjournment

Rep. Rotundo expressed thanks to Judy, Linda and Curtis for the assistance to the commission. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

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