



**Executive Order 2011-18**

**PROVIDING DIRECTION TO THE NEW ENERGY INDUSTRY TASK FORCE  
AND ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE THERETO**

**WHEREAS**, renewable energy is important to the economy of the state and plays a role in the overall health, safety and welfare of the people of the State;

**WHEREAS**, Nevada is home to some of the most accessible renewable energy resources in the world, providing for clean, valuable electricity generation for the region;

**WHEREAS**, Nevada is a leader among the leaders in the nation to adopt policy that supports the development of our renewable resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Energy plays a critical role in the development of a statewide plan for the promotion and proliferation of a sustainable and appropriate renewable energy industry;

**WHEREAS**, coordination of transmission planning and development is critical to the success of the renewable energy industry in the State;

**WHEREAS**, the State needs to be an active participant in the regional renewable energy and transmission market and planning activities that are consistent with accepted and adopted regional plans;

**WHEREAS**, the State needs to insure that the public interest is served through the creation of a competitive energy market in a manner that is reasonable and not discriminatory or preferential;

**WHEREAS**, transmission facility developers should share similar benefits and obligations commensurate with their participation in the cost allocation of transmission development that is selected for inclusion in the State and/or regional transmission plan;

**WHEREAS**, fostering greater and more timely renewable energy development requires the State to establish a more cohesive and integrated statewide strategy, including greater coordination and streamlining of the siting, permitting, and improving the manner in which the transmission infrastructure is developed; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, "The Supreme Executive Power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nevada, I hereby direct and order:

1. The New Energy Industry Task Force ("Task Force"), established by NRS 701.500 as amended, is hereby charged with facilitating the timely development of transmission facilities and renewable energy resources in this State, which includes without limitation facilitation of permitting, construction, and electrical interconnection of these facilities and resources.

2. The Task Force shall work with the Director to:

a) Identify and establish appropriate corridors for the transmission of electricity in this State recognizing Renewable Energy Zones adopted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to NRS 704.741(2)(b);

b) Promote the development and regionalization of transmission facilities and renewable energy resources in this state and in the western United States in a manner that is reasonable and not discriminatory or preferential; which considers the impacts to the citizens of the state of Nevada; and which creates an environment in this state that invites the development of these facilities;

c) Coordinate with existing electrical utilities, the Public Utilities Commission and other stakeholders on development of regional transmission planning and cost allocation strategies for interstate transmission facilities, while improving coordination for the development and construction of transmission facilities among local governments, between neighboring states and neighboring balancing authorities; and

d) Develop the business case from the perspective of Nevadans and our neighboring states necessary to develop our State's renewable resources and related industries with lowest possible risk to ratepayers.

3. The Nevada State Office of Energy and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada will work collaboratively, and in coordination with the Task Force, with the intent to adequately plan and coordinate issues regarding transmission of renewable energy generation within the regional energy transmission market for the benefit of the State.

4. The Director of the Office of Energy shall form a Technical Advisory Committee to assist the Task Force in its work. Members of the Advisory Committee will not have a vote in the final recommendations of the Task Force and will serve at the pleasure of the Director with the express purpose of furthering the goals and mission of the Task Force. The Director shall ensure the Technical Advisory Committee includes representation from the Public Utilities Commission, Nevada Legislature, Board of Economic Development, Nevada System of Higher Education and such federal agencies or private enterprises as the Director deems necessary.

5. On or before August 1, 2012 the Task Force will present a report to the Governor demonstrating the business case for the production and transmission of renewable energy for native and regional load requirements.

6. On or before August 1, 2012 the Task Force will present a report to the Governor that recommends policy or regulatory changes that supports the goals of the Task Force.

7. On or before August 1, 2012 the Task Force will present a report to the Governor that clearly demonstrates the direction of the State as it pertains to long term regional transmission and cost allocation planning and in compliance with the Federal Electric Regulatory Commission Order 1000.

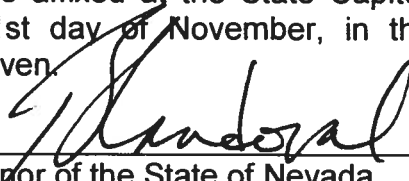
8. The Director of the Office of Energy shall coordinate efforts of the Task Force and other state, regional and federal organizations to carry out the orders as set forth in this Executive Order.

9. Meetings of the Task Force and Technical Advisory Committee shall be held in Carson City at the State Capital with members participating by video conference from the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas if necessary.

10. To the extent this order conflicts with any previous executive order, this order controls.

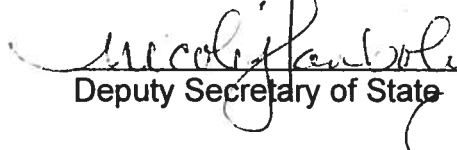


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 21st day of November, in the year two thousand eleven.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Secretary of State