



National Hydropower Association  
Northeast Regional Meeting  
September 10, 2008

---

**Washington Policy Update:  
Positioning Hydropower for  
America's Energy Future**

# NHA's Goal

---

Simple:

To Create a Robust Business  
Environment for All Waterpower  
Technologies –

conventional and new

# Advocating Waterpower's Role

---

- Through greater appreciation of hydropower's value as a clean, renewable energy source;
- Providing a forum in which industry can organize, learn, share ideas, and best practices

# Washington: The New Dynamic!

---

Energy is emerging as top issue

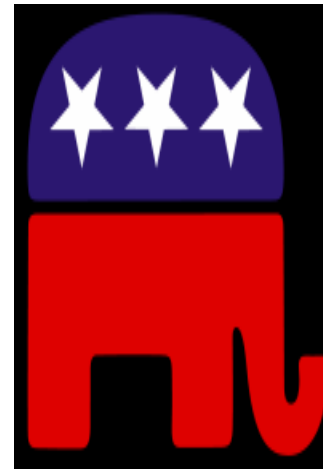
Why?

- Gas prices have Congress' attention;  
(price of oil and economic impact)
- Concern over meeting growing energy demand while addressing dual goals of:
  - Establishing Energy independence
  - Promoting clean energy resources

# In Other Words: The Perfect Storm

---

- Both parties view renewable energy as an important part of America's future energy portfolio



# Congress is Gearing Up

---

- Major energy legislation in both Houses
- Energy summits being held by leadership
- New and old proposals being put on the table
- Become major issue within the campaigns
- Major football in election year politics

# NHA is Leveraging this Momentum

---

- Aggressive outreach with Members
- Leveraging membership through coalitions & tools
  - Participated in BCSE Capitol Hill Day
  - Participated in SEC Exposition
  - Launched online advocacy website
- Partnering with renewable trades
  - Joint press conferences & Hill briefings
  - Joint Congressional reception
  - Joint positioning/wind-hydro plan

# NHA's Advocacy Goals

---

- Tax incentives
- Clean energy incentives
  - Renewable Portfolio Standards
  - Green House Gas Reduction Programs
- Research & Development \$
- Preservation and expansion of regulatory improvements



# Stepping Up is Delivering Results

---

- We have made some significant gains in getting renewed interest:
  - Secured agreement with NGO's for more recognition of hydropower in both incentives and RPS;
  - New Hydropower House Caucus Developed;
  - More policy makers see hydropower as a solution.

# What We Can Expect by End of 2008

---

- Tax Incentives
  - New inclusions (expansion)
  - Extension
- RPS
- Climate Change
- Appropriations (R&D reinvestment)
- Loan programs

# It's Not all Legislative -- NHA's Work in Regulatory Affairs

---

## Conventional Hydropower

- Work on annual charges
- ESA efforts (American Eel)
- Compliance Group
  - Outreach to FERC on implementation of environmental mitigation measures during post-licensing

# Regulatory Affairs Cont'd

---

## New Technologies

- Submitted comments to MMS on final rule for Outer Continental Shelf regulatory scheme
  - Comments submitted Monday, Sept. 8
- Monitoring MOU between MMS and FERC on Outer Continental Shelf development
- Exchanging information on new development

# Promoting Hydropower A Key Element in Getting the Right Attention

---

- Second year of awards program (OSAW)
- Reporter outreach
- Promoting hydro at Society of Environmental Journalist (SEJ)
- Promoting hydro at conferences
- Promoting Hydropower as Renewable and Clean Energy Source – Integration Role
- Working on Reservoir Emissions and Climate Change issues

# Hydraulic Power Committee Offers Important Member' Value

---

- Focuses on Operational Issues
- Holds annual retreat
  - Lancaster, PA this year
  - Focusing on:
    - safety issues (survey review)
    - dam safety (Dan Mahoney's office)
    - hot topics
    - survey work

# R&D: Part of the Three Legged Stool

---

- Securing R&D \$
- Participating in R&D prioritization workshop with DOE, EPRI, OREC and other parties
  - Workshop, Oct. 29-30, Washington, DC
- Participating in conferences on new technology development
  - EnergyOcean Pioneer Award

# Election 2008 Outlook – What this May Mean for Hydropower

---

- Democrats likely to retain and expand their majorities in both houses of Congress
- Democratic gains in Senate will have major impact on content of energy bills – faster track for passage
- Cap-and-trade legislation possibly introduced by Valentine's Day
- Change in the White House?



# Elections 2008 – Where Do the Presidential Candidates Stand on Hydropower?

---

- Obama
  - No mention of hydro on website
  - Toured Voith Siemens turbine plant in York, PA on Sept. 4
  - Pledged to mention hydro as a renewable resource in future speeches
  - Overcome traditional issues
- McCain
  - Hydro mentioned as clean source on website
  - Referenced tidal energy in nomination speech at the Republican Convention and in campaign stump speeches

# Climate Change Policy – Where Do the Candidates Stand?

---

- Mandatory cap-and-trade program
  - Obama – Reduce emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 with 100% of allowances auctioned
    - Economy-wide program
  - McCain – Reduce emissions 60% below 1990 by 2050 with some allowances auctioned and some provided for free
    - Applies to specific sectors, roughly equal to 90% of all emissions

# Renewable Energy Policy – Where Do the Candidates Stand?

---

## ○ Obama

- Double federal science and research funding for clean energy projects
- Invest \$150 billion over 10 years to a build “clean energy future”
- Clean Technologies Venture Capital Fund
- Extend PTC for 5 years
- Federal RPS - 25% renewable by 2025

# Renewable Energy Policy – Where Do the Candidates Stand?

---

## ○ McCain

- Establish permanent PTC equal to 10% of wages spent on R&D
- Establish tax credit system that transforms market for renewable energy to where it no longer requires taxpayer dollars
- Use auction proceeds from cap-and-trade system to fund Green Innovation and Financing Transfer Program (GIFT)

# NHA's Outreach to the Candidates to Promote Hydropower

---

- Provided comprehensive fact sheets to both campaigns
- Setting up meetings with energy policy advisors
- Planning outreach to President-elect's transition team

# Bottom Line

---

- Regardless of which candidate succeeds in the fall election ...

energy policy – renewable energy and climate change – will remain a top priority.

# What are NHA's Asks?

---

- Long-term extension of the PTC and CREBS program
- Expansion of hydro definition to make hydro at non-hydro dams and new technologies eligible for PTC
- Inclusion of more hydro in RPS and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs
- Increased R&D funding
- Regulatory streamlining
- Should we be asking for more?

# The Future: What's at Stake?

---

- The perfect storm is brewing
- Hydro's assets – domestic, climate-friendly, clean energy – is in demand
- Hydro must capitalize on this historic opportunity



# What Can You Do?

---

- Join NHA's committees
- Stay tuned to the listservs
- Write your representative and senator – build a relationship
- – get them to support the hydro caucus & our policy goals
- Become a part of our grassroots efforts – use the online advocacy tool

# The Take Away!

---

- Your role as an advocate on behalf of hydro has never been more important;
- Your opportunity to influence the future never greater;
- Get involved!

# A Robust Industry Counts on Us!

---

## Contact Information:

Linda Church Ciocci  
Executive Director  
National Hydropower Association  
One Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 850  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
202 682-1700, ext. 22  
[Linda@hydro.org](mailto:Linda@hydro.org)

Jeff Leahey  
Senior Manager for Government & Legal Affairs  
Ext. 15  
[Jeff@hydro.org](mailto:Jeff@hydro.org)

