



Enhanced Oil  
Recovery Commission

2435 King Blvd, Suite 313  
Casper, WY 82604  
307-301-2780

**MEETING MINUTES**

September 10, 2025 – 1:30 pm  
Gillette, WY

**Commission Members Present:**

Chairman Robert King  
Vice Chairman Chad Brister  
Commissioner Ken Hendricks  
Commissioner and Interim State Geologist Ranie Lynds  
Commissioner Paul Ulrich  
Commissioner Eli Bebout  
Commissioner Reuben Tarver

**Commission Member(s) Via Zoom:**

None

**Commissioner(s) Excused:**

None

**Commission Staff Present via Zoom:**

Assistant Attorney General Stephanie Sneesby

**Guest(s) Present:**

Wyoming Energy Authority Executive Director Rob Creager  
Wyoming Energy Authority – Chairwoman Wanda Burget  
Wyoming Senate – Senator Eric Barlow  
Merit Energy – Troy Skitt  
True Oil - Laura Nicholas

**Guest(s) Present Via Zoom:**

Holly Krutka, Executive Director, School of Energy Resources  
Eric Robertson, Robertson Solutions

**Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Staff Present:**

Director Lon Whitman  
Deputy Director Roger Hillibush  
Data Architect Shane Singleton  
GIS Manager Kellie Cairns Vlastos

**Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Staff Present via Zoom:**

Business Manager Gabe Tullis



## I. Call to Order

**\*\*1:30 pm Chairman King called the meeting to order; roll was taken, and a quorum was established.** Chairman King requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hendricks moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ulrich seconded, and the agenda was approved.

## II. Minutes

**Motion:** Chairman King requested a motion to approve the May 14, 2025, Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Bebout moved to approve the minutes as published. Commissioner Ulrich seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## III. Director's Report

Director Whitman mentioned that the EORI continues to strive for excellence and a high level of collaboration. We are continuing to build our team unity, and sustained excellence is our goal.

Team Development continues with the addition of Amitabh Garg as a Senior Petroleum Engineer, who joined EORI on July 7, 2025. The hiring process took one year, but EORI is pleased with the addition.

The EORC FY 27/28 biennium budget request is almost complete; Chapter 17 is the last step that needs finishing. A \$558,802 increase has been requested to fund two positions at EORI: the Manager of Strategic Partnerships and an office assistant. The budget hearing with Governor Gordon has been scheduled for October 10, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Bebout asked about EORI's readiness with backup material for the budget request. Director Whitman stated that we do have all the information collected and available. EORI is working closely with Budget Analyst George Pitt to be as fully prepared as possible. Commissioner Hendricks had a question about the Strategic Partnership position and asked if it covers outreach for EORI. Director Whitman answered that the position is for outreach, but more so for business development, project acquisition, and managing work with industry partners.

EORI has two staff members who have received recognition awards this quarter. Steve Whitaker received the Wyoming Geological Association award for the best presentation of 2024. His presentation was "Interesting Observations at Minnelusa Outcrop at Glendo Reservoir." Shane Singleton was presented with a Certificate of Recognition by Casper College as the Student of the Year for 2025.

EORI completed the Clifton Strengths assessment and had an in-depth meeting with Sallie Greenberg on August 6-7, 2025. The meeting was beneficial for the EORI Team. Sallie Greenberg will present an update to the commission.

The EORI Technical Team is currently managing 18 Projects. The most recent project is Cowboy Clean Fuels, using a sugar beet slurry as a process to enhance the production of low-carbon gas from CBM production. EORI has started a historic statewide review of EOR processes. Black Bank is a field review



for the Montana Wyoming Oil Company. The eight-field, 3D seismic study of the Minnelusa fields continues.

Commissioner Bebout questioned whether EORI is approaching the maximum number of projects that can be successfully managed and asked if there is a queue of requests for new projects. Director Whitman stated that EORI is approaching the maximum number of projects, but these projects are fluid, and some regional studies can be set aside for industry requests as needed.

EORI will also complete the DOE projects within the next six months. EORI aims to expand the scope of projects that have wide applicability to multiple fields beyond their initial focus. There is a project queue, but the wait is not long due to the flexibility of the regional study work.

The Technology and Data Team also helps to streamline the project work by providing good starting data. Chairman King asked about outside consultants and how we are utilizing them. Director Whitman responded that we have been fortunate to have very good consultants, such as Randi Martensen and Scott Ellsington; we use the consultants on an as-needed basis for incoming projects. Chairman King inquired about the Technical Advisory Board and the extent of its involvement with EORI. Director Whitman noted that the Technical Advisory Board plays a valuable role in project development and in keeping EORI aligned with current industry interests.

Continuing with the project review, the Linch CO<sub>2</sub> project with Contango will be the largest CO<sub>2</sub> - EOR project that EORI has been involved with to date and includes over 500 wells. With such a large project, EORI may need some outside consultants; currently, the project is in the data acquisition stage.

#### **IV. IT Data Technology Highlights**

All new information was included in the reports provided, and there were no questions about the IT and Data Technology Team at this time.

#### **V. Engagement**

EOR Insights continues to be successful for engagement with industry, and EORI is grateful to True Companies for allowing us to hold the EOR Insights at the True River Cross Commons facility. The third-quarter Insights will take place on September 30, 2025, and feature Mark Wolf and David Daniel discussing the Wolf System, an automated oil tank cleaning system. The fourth-quarter meeting will take place on October 28, 2025, featuring ESaI (low-salinity technology) with Teresa Nealon and Geoff Thyne.

EORI is pleased to be working with the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and the Petroleum Association of Wyoming to support the Joint Minerals Interim Committee's work on EOR in Wyoming. The first meeting held on May 21, 2025, covered a review of EOR processes, primary/secondary/tertiary phases, CO<sub>2</sub> sources and supply, current and developing projects, and ways to incentivize increased EOR activity in Wyoming. This information was very well received, including significant positive feedback from legislators. Chairman Heiner requested that EORI, PAW, and the WOGCC develop something big for the July 30, 2025, meeting. EORI, PAW, and WOGCC



responded with three potential incentives to be evaluated by the committee. Revision to SF17, updating HB 54, and developing an EOR “support” funding pot, which operators developing EOR projects can submit proposals for 1:1 financial support. The proposed funding pot allocation was \$250 million, and all three proposals were well-received. EORI was pleased to be involved, and we feel it was a great opportunity for engagement. Commissioner Bebout asked Commissioner Tarver about his read on legislators’ reactions to these proposals. Commissioner Tarver stated that he feels that SF 17 and HB 54 are looking positive, but he is unsure about the \$250 million pot proposal.

On August 27, 2025, Director Whitman presented on the U in CCUS (Utilization) at the PAW Rockies Petroleum Conference in Laramie, Wyoming, discussing the value of utilizing CO2 for EOR in Wyoming.

Director Whitman continues to attend and present at the Energy Resources Council's quarterly meetings. He also attends and supports quarterly Wyoming Energy Authority Board Meetings as an ex officio member. He will be attending the IOGCC Annual Meeting in Anchorage, September 21-24, 2025. Director Whitman will also be on a panel, led by Lynn Helms, representing the utilization of CO2 in CCUS, again at the North Dakota EERC/PCOR Annual Meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 29-October 1, 2025.

#### **VI. Financial Report**

As of July 2025, the new fiscal year has started. There will be some changes to the numbers after the 2024 FY has been processed in August. Chairman King thanked Vice Chairman Chad Brister for his time and help with the financial reports.

Director Whitman explained the \$2.2 million one-time fund to provide clarity for the new commissioners regarding its purpose and allocation. This fund came from leftover budget money that was reverted to the state by EORI, but UW, which administered the fund, did not revert the money. This fund has been created to allow EORI to cost-match EOR projects in Wyoming. Currently, the fund must be used by June 30, 2026. There is a discussion pending with the Joint Appropriations Committee about eliminating the end date on the usage of the funds. Commissioner Bebout questioned whether, if the end date is eliminated, the fund will continue until it is depleted. This is what EORI hopes to determine with the Joint Appropriations Committee.

EORI has three DOE projects that are scheduled to conclude by March 2026. EORI will not seek out new DOE projects as lead but will support SER with DOE projects as needed. Chairman King stated, for the benefit of the new Commissioners, that the DOE Projects have not been the best use of EORI’s time and effort over the last four years.

#### **VII. School Of Energy Resources Updates**

Holly Krutka, Executive Director of SER, gave an update on the School of Energy Resources.

#### **VIII. EORI Partner Projects Deep Dive**

Eric Robertson, Roberson Solutions, presented the CO<sub>2</sub> Enhanced Oil Recovery in Wyoming: 2025 Update report.

Troy Skitt, Merit Energy, presented Gelled-Polymer for Water Diversion

#### **IX. Executive Session**



At 3:32 pm Chairman King called for a move to go into executive session. Commissioner Hendricks moved for an executive session, and Vice Chairman Brister seconded the motion.

**X. Comments from Commissioners**

There were no ending comments from the Commissioners.

**XI. Future Meeting Dates**

Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 1:00 pm meeting via Zoom only.

**XII. Adjourn**

Chairman King made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

**\*\* Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm \*\***

APPROVED



**XIII. Minutes Approved**

Robert A. King  
Robert King, Chairman

11/13/2025  
Date

APPROVED