**ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR LOUISIANA’S**

**ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND RESTORATION MEETING**

**Thursday, August 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Present**:**

Lori

Dean

Barry

Greg

**III. Update by Barry Salsbury of meeting with oilfield site restoration program staff**

Roby, Blake, John Adams, Brent Campbell met with Barry. Barry gave update of purpose of CLEER. Dialogue about issues inside of the program, what CLEER can help with. Roby provided updates on other items. Could be potential interest for group to step in to help manage if there was something similar to Oklahoma group. Similar to prior meeting with Secretary and Commissioner, CLEER continuing to get more knowledgeable about what the group

Blake: Statue requires commissioner and secretary follow public bid law. Allows for exceptions to that to be adopted by rulemaking. Any exceptions must be “substantially similar to public bid law.” Within public bid law and procurement for the state, there is a closed and competitive bid process. That is key. Specific requirements in public bid law that must be followed. Blake to forward further information on the public bid law.

**IV. Update on Well Done group**

Well Done group approached OSR about co-ops, interested in abandoned wells in LA. They’ve done a similar program in WY. Some funding through donations. They intend to monitor about 40 wells for CO2 emissions/methane. Based on the emissions, they will P&A wells that have certain amount of emissions. Once P&A, will track emissions coming off those wells for additional 10 years. May be able to collect carbon credits which they would later sell. No wells have been P&A at this point.

Most of the wells are in North Louisiana.

Carbon credits are worth a fixed amount of dollars, want to make certain carbon credits are more than the P&A costs.

Potential to partner with other groups in other areas. Barry reached out to one in the Shreveport area. Barry will also meet with someone on-site at another facility to understand how the programs work, how money comes in, etc.

Lindsay – marketed to individuals, can “donate” to companies and buy climate benefit units. Lindsay’s understanding of how the funding works.

**V. Update on Texas Initiative similar to Well Done group**

**VI. Current and potential federal funding opportunities for the oilfield site restoration program**

Allain’s bill ACT 298, authorizes first $30m federal funding to go to OSR. Requires JCLB determine that money is qualified for the expense. Latest CARES act funding instead, that to be discussed and determined at a later JLCB.

Bipartisan bill at federal level that sets forth money to be handed out by USDOE to states for plugging orphan wells. Money broken into grant programs, which must be applied for by states. $775million to be handed out. Louisiana looks to fit qualifications laid out in the legislation. The grant limitations – no state more than $25m, state has one year to spend the money, any left over to go back to DOE. Next is formula grant, DOE given $2B to qualified states, no max amount, sates have 5 years to spend that money. Blake to send bill wording for members to look over.

Performance grant: DOE $1.5 b to be split among states, further broken down into regulatory improvement grant, no state will receive more than $20m.

Matching grant: State no more than $30m, based on how much an OSR fund is spending, may be matched and received up to 10 years out.

Some of the money may cover administrative costs. Looking into how best to spend the money, be prepared when the time comes.

LMOGA also tracking the bill as it is being heard.

Plan in Ohio for landowner – Landowner Pass Through Payment Program. Landowner nominate wells, goes through public notice, if well eligible, get bids to get wells P&A and submit payment to state for reimbursement. Thus far a successful program.

**VII. Discussion of next steps for CLEER**

Barry to meet with Louisiana rep from Well Done Group and provide update. Texas Energy Foundation update.

Dean will provide more on Ohio program.

Blake to provide public bid law and audit update.

Lindsay to give info on geothermal potential

**VIII. Announcements**

**IX. Public Comment** – public comments may be made by using the raise your hand function on Zoom or through the Zoom Chat Function

**X. Adjourn**

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