



The HERO Headliner

Reprinted from the January 2007 Edition

Watching the Legislative Process



There is an old saying about watching the Legislative Process and something about making sausage...but I am not going into that now.

What I do want to bring to your attention is the fact that our Legislative Process only comes around every 2 years... that is the good news... the bad news is--- this is the year it comes around.

Your association is working very hard at monitoring the energy issues through the partnerships and relationships we have with ESL, Good Company, TXU Electric Delivery, Centerpoint, Entergy, Consumer Groups, Senators and Representatives, Trade Associations and others through out the State that share a common interest in energy issues and programs.

Even with these efforts, it still takes a constant vigilance by TXHERO and it's members to keep aware of the issues. That is why we have the TXHERO Legislative Fund in order to have monies to cover awareness programs, mailings, and other expenses that we may incur in our legislative efforts.

Remember, these funds cannot be expensed without 2/3's approval of your BOD's, so you can be assured that we will not make unneeded expenditures and this is not a PAC.

We do need your help by making a contribution to this fund. Please make a donation to your TXHERO Legislative Fund a New Years Resolution so we can work at improving our industry in Texas.

Why do we need to stay aware of what is going on and who is trying to do what to us?

As Steve Saunders mentioned in his message, "there is plenty of excitement ahead of the Texas Legislature meeting about the cost of electricity and gas, the supply of fossil fuels, the number and timing for new power plants, the impact of coal plants on clean air for Texans, the virtue of deregulation, the security of the electricity grid, the need for more energy efficiency and the continued push in renewable energy. These are all topics of great interest to Rating Companies and our customers.

Has anyone else noticed a significant increase in the number of articles in the public and business press about a growing interest in clean air, clean water, energy efficiency, renewable energy, the cost and availability of energy and the security of energy supplies. It looks like a mega trend to me."

I could not agree more about the "mega trend" and the impact it will have on us as rating companies and the future of our businesses.

As sayings go---You can continue to do business today the way you did yesterday and be out of business tomorrow---or you can be involved in making changes that allow you to be in business tomorrow Do not wait until it is too late to get involved. **Send a contribution to TXHERO Legislative Fund today...**so we can be active TOMORROW in the legislative process.

Wishing you and yours the Best for the New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Saunders".