

**Propane Education & Research Council  
February 16, 2006  
Conference Call**

**MINUTES**

Chairman John Gawronski called the meeting to order. Mr. Gawronski, who was in the PERC office, welcomed Council members participating via conference call: Mark Alexander, Doug Auxier, Curtis Donaldson, Rosie Dzanski, Ken Green, George Koloroutis, Bill McAdam, R.C. Mills, Bill Platz, Charles Revere, Ray Scholes, Michael Schwartz, Bruce Toellner, Jay Weinheimer, Elliot White, and David Wunch.

Mr. Gawronski welcomed new councilor Bill Platz, Delta Liquid Energy (Paso Robles, CA), who was appointed by the National Propane Gas Association to fill the seat vacated by Ralph Rooney.

**President's Report**

A presidential grant of \$5,000 to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (Golden, CO) to include propane in the lab's forthcoming report on hybrid distributive generation technology was assigned **Docket 11941**.

**Safety & Training Advisory Committee**

Mr. Gawronski directed the Council's attention to a request to release the Propane Incident Data Collection Study to the industry following the development of a communications plan. PERC President and CEO Roy Willis said the communications plan would likely include a general summary for the public about the findings. Mr. Gawronski asked for unanimous consent to release the report. No objections were heard.

Mr. Gawronski asked for unanimous consent to approve a change order authorizing an additional \$2,572.50 to **Docket 11869** that would fund translating the industry's safe grilling materials into Spanish. No objections were heard, and the change order was approved.

**Engine Fuel Advisory Committee**

PERC Managing Director, Engine Fuel Programs Brian Feehan introduced **Docket 11942** by updating the Council on the Engine Fuel Advisory Committee's vehicle development template. The project will design, engineer, build, and test a dedicated propane Roush/Ford F-150. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

<b>Docket:</b>	<b>11942</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	Roush Industries
<b>Short Title:</b>	Propane Light Duty Vehicle - Dedicated Propane F-150 Pick-Up
<b>Amount Requested:</b>	<b>\$1,059,410</b>
<b>Action:</b>	<b>Approved</b>

Mr. Feehan introduced **Docket 11943**. He said Blue Bird was adding a propane engine offering to differentiate its product. The dedicated propane bus will be commercialized in November 2006, and the company expects to sell 2,200 of the buses by 2010 and

14,000 by 2013 after more stringent emissions regulations go into effect. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

**Docket:** 11943  
**Applicant:** Blue Bird Corporation  
**Short Title:** Commercialization of a Dedicated Propane Blue Bird School Bus  
**Amount Requested:** \$859,494  
**Action:** Approved

#### **Industry Programs**

Mr. Willis introduced **Docket 11940**. He summarized last year's activities and explained the budget was significantly lower because the industry can leverage existing staff resources and not rely on outside contractors. He said a key component of the 2006 program would be Propane Days, a three-day event for industry leaders to meet with Washington, DC, policy makers. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

**Docket:** 11940  
**Applicant:** National Propane Gas Association and the Propane Education & Research Council  
**Short Title:** 2006 Capital Action Program (CAP 2)  
**Amount Requested:** \$675,000  
**Action:** Approved

#### **New Business**

Director of Industry Programs Kelley Maierhofer directed the Council's attention to a memo outlining a methodological change that the American Petroleum Institute (API) and Energy and Environmental Analysis, Inc., recommends should be made in the 2004 API survey.

Ms. Maierhofer said the preliminary report numbers indicate that the survey results will lead to significantly more variation and changes in the state propane sales percentages used to allocate the PERC rebates than in recent years. EEA recommends that PERC change the state funding allocation methodology to use a three-year rolling average of the state odorized propane sales percentages reported by the API survey instead of the state percentage reported in the most recent API survey. Ms. Maierhofer said the states will be notified of the potential change with the anticipation that the Council will make a decision at its April meeting.

Following the announcement of the next meeting, which is scheduled for April 6-7 in Atlanta, the Council adjourned at 3:20 p.m.