



NEWS RELEASE
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Commissioner Kalk Appointed to National Coal Council

BISMARCK, ND – North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Brian P. Kalk has been appointed to the National Coal Council, a federal advisory committee to the U.S. Secretary of Energy.

Commissioner Kalk, who has a Ph.D. in Natural Resource Management from North Dakota State University, was recently appointed to the National Coal Council (NCC) for 2016-2017 by U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz. The NCC provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on general policy matters relating to coal and the coal industry.

“I look forward to providing input on the technological advancements being made right here in North Dakota on our lignite coal,” said Commissioner Kalk. “It’s important to remember that while renewable energy presents unique opportunities, coal is a strategic resource that heats millions of homes and provides low cost reliable power. If the United States hopes to have true energy security, coal must be in the resource mix.”

The NCC activities include providing the Secretary of Energy with advice on:

- Federal policies that directly or indirectly affect the production, marketing and use of coal.
- Plans, priorities and strategies to address more effectively the technological, regulatory and social impact of issues relating to coal production and use.
- The appropriate balance between various elements of federal coal-related programs.
- Scientific and engineering aspects of coal technologies, including emerging coal conversion, utilization or environmental control concepts.
- The progress of coal research, development, demonstration and commercial application.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

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