

## WDEA to Create Advisory Board for Uniform Truck Permit System; Statewide Expansion Possible

Due to growing interest in expanding its Uniform Truck Permit System beyond the oil-producing counties, the Executive Committee of the Western Dakota Energy Association approved changes to the permit system bylaws at its December 19 meeting in Dickinson.

The major change is an additional level of governance. A five-person advisory board will be formed to provide continuity between the permit system committee and WDEA's Executive Committee. Previously, any recommendations from the permit committee were acted on by its full membership, which consists of dozens of city and county elected officials and law enforcement personnel, with input from highway superintendents and engineers.

The advisory committee will be comprised of an ex-officio member of the WDEA Executive Committee, the Chair and Vice Chair of the permit system committee, and two at-large members from the permit committee. Recommendations from the advisory committee will be transmitted to the WDEA Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

WDEA approved the new governing structure in response to interest in the permit system among industry groups, and transportation and law enforcement officials around the state.

The North Dakota Legislature's interim Transportation Committee completed a [study](#) of the Uniform Truck Permit System. The committee heard concerns about lack of consistency among counties, which creates inefficiencies and increases the length of time companies spend applying for county and township permits. Legislators also heard testimony from the trucking industry expressing interest in creating a single point of access for permitting, and implementation of a maximum fee schedule for overweight and overlength vehicles.

WDEA's revision to the truck permit system bylaws responds to the concerns of industry and government officials, and sets the stage for inviting other units of government in North Dakota to join the truck permit system. Additional details about operation of the system is available [here](#). Interested parties may also contact Janet Sanford, Uniform Truck Permit System Operator at [janet@ndteamworks.com](mailto:janet@ndteamworks.com).