

PHYS 350 Homework #4
due 21 March 2013

Comparing Statewide Models for Electricity Production and Policy

1. You were each assigned a state in lab on 14 March. Explore the following issues pertaining to Electrical Power in your assigned state and write up your responses:

[Note: If time permits, go beyond this list]:

- How many public electric utilities are there? What non-utility producers play a significant role in the state?
- Who regulates the utilities (not just the name of the enterprise; find out a little bit about who they are and how they operate)?
- What mixture of energy sources is used in the state (e.g. percentages of coal, nuclear, etc)? Explicitly determine the fraction from "renewable" sources.
- What mixture of natural energy sources are available within the state (i.e. what can they produce without importing resources)?
- Does the state have a "Renewable Portfolio Standard" or other major renewable energy regulation? If so, what are the key provisions, how far along are they?
- What efforts are being made (or have already been enacted) to restructure the electric power industry in that state.

2. Assimilate all 8 responses into a single document.
3. Each of you should then study the document and write up a short essay comparing/contrasting the way these issues are handled in different states.