

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:00 a.m. on January 20, 2009 in Room DSOB 783 of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Gail Finney-excused

Committee staff present:
Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research
Melissa Doebelin, Kansas Legislative Revisor
Mary Torrence, Kansas Legislative Revisor
Rena Hansen, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:
Thirty-two including the attached list.

Chairman Holmes asked the committee to sign a sheet letting him know if members are available for sub-committee meetings on Fridays. He noted that we might have sub-committees that would discuss bills on: renewable energy, RPS standards, energy efficiency, and any other topic the chair deems necessary.

He also let the committee know about a Sustainability conference at K-State, (Attachment 1).

Representative Rob Olson moved to introduce a bill allowing law enforcement to do a ping on a cell phone when someone is missing, Representative Dan Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Hearing on:

HB 2012 - Establishing a deadline for the court of appeals to decide appeals from administrative orders of the state corporation commission.

Proponents:

Kimberly Gencur, ITC, (Attachment 2), spoke to the committee in favor of **HB 2012**.

Opponents:

Judge Gary Rulon, Kansas Court of Appeals, (Attachment 3), spoke to the committee in opposition to **HB 2012** noting the amount of documents needed for cases similar to these, and also the amount of time needed for decisions to be made.

Martha Coffman, KCC, advisory council, (Attachment 4), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2012**. She noted the amount of time needed to reach a decision was not adequate for the amount of information a judge would need to go through in order to make a sound decision.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Forrest Knox, Vern Swanson, and Carl Holmes.

The hearing on **HB 2012** was closed.

Hearing on:

HB 2014 - Granting authority to the Kansas Electric Transmission Authority (KETA) to establish and charge reasonable fees for use of facilities owned, financed or administered and services rendered by KETA.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy And Utilities Committee at 9:00 a.m. on January 20, 2009, in Room DSOB 783 of the Capitol.

Melissa Doebelin, Revisor of Statutes, gave a brief summary to the committee on **HB 2014**.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representative Tom Sloan.

Proponents:

Chairman Carl Holmes explained to the committee why this legislation was brought before the committee. He noted that the Wyoming legislation called for fees because in the western grid they don't have RTO's like we have in the eastern grid. When legislation for KETA (Kansas Electric Transmission Authority), was drafted, it was envisioned that this would come under the rules for SPP. 2 examples: a wind farm or generator that builds 10 - 15 miles from the grid. Right now the wind farm or generation facility has to pay to build to the grid. In Oklahoma there are 2 hubs. They are building spokes like the spokes of a wheel to bring wind farms into production. In Hitchland Oklahoma they are doing this, and in Mooreland Oklahoma they are proposing to do this. And a line between Hitchland and Mooreland are proposed and that will then go to Oklahoma City. This legislation would allow KETA to build those kind of hubs if they are needed. KETA will have to determining cost recovery before lines can be built. Small communities have been turned down for lack of new connection lines. With current statutes, KETA does not have the opportunity to do these kinds of projects. This legislation would allow KETA to partner with wind farm investors and small communities transmission. They cannot with the current legislation that is in place.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives Vern Swanson.

The hearing on **HB 2014** was closed.

Hearing on:

HB 2017 - Establishing a deadline for decisions by the state corporation commission.

Melissa Doebelin, Kansas Legislative Revisor, spoke to the committee on what **HB 2017** proposes.

Proponent:

Kimberly Gencur Svaty, ITC Great Plains, (Attachment 5) , spoke to the committee in favor of **HB 2017**.

Opponent:

Don Low, KCC, (Attachment 6), noted the commissions' opposition to **HB 2017** because putting a time frame of 140 days on merger and acquisition filings is not enough time to get through the entire process.

The hearing on **HB 2017** was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.