

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:00 a.m. on February 2, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Melissa Doeblin, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Mary Torrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Rena Hansen, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mike Hutfles, Rural Independent Telephone Companies
Larry Berg, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation
Tom Thompson, Sierra Club
Mark Schreiber, Wester
Larry Holloway, Kansas Corporation Commission
Dave Springe, CURB
Scott Jones, KCPL

Others attending:

Thirty-five including the attached list.

Hearing on:

HB 2115 - Repealing K.S.A. 21-4211, criminal penalty for refusing access to a telephone line for emergency purposes.

Proponents:

Mike Hutfles, Rural Independent Telephone Companies (Attachment 1)

Questions and comments were made by Representative Tom Moxley.

The hearing on **HB 2115** was closed.

Hearing on:

HB 2116 - Requiring the state corporation commission to annually update base load projections; also requiring utilities to establish energy efficiency and loan management programs.

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research, explained **HB 2116** to the committee.

Larry Berg, Sunflower, gave an explanation to why this legislation was brought forward.

Proponents:

Larry Berg, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, (Attachment 2), submitted written testimony in support of **HB 2116**, noting two modifications that they suggested to the committee.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Forrest Knox, and Tom Sloan.

Tom Thompson, Sierra Club (Attachment 3), offered testimony in support of **HB 2116**.

Neutral:

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Energy And Utilities Committee at 9:00 a.m. on February 2, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Mark Schreiber, Westar (Attachment 4), offered neutral testimony for **HB 2116**, but noted some changes they might recommend to the wording of the bill. He commented that they do supply load and capacity information forecasts to the EPA for 10 years. Beyond that they feel the numbers are merely speculative.

Larry Holloway, Kansas Corporation Commission (Attachment 5), offered testimony for **HB 2116** with recommendations for language changes in the bill.

Dave Springe, CURB, (Attachment 6), spoke from a neutral position on **HB 2116**. He noted some concerns with some of the language in the bill and offered some recommendations for change.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Tom Sloan, Forrest Knox, Carl Holmes, and Tom Moxley.

The hearing on **HB 2116** was closed.

Hearing on:

HB 2117 - Requiring utilities to develop retail tariffs for electricity generated from wind.

Cindy Lash, Kansas Research, gave an explanation to the committee on **HB 2117**.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Tom Sloan and Carl Holmes.

Neutral:

Scott Jones, KCPL, (Attachment 7), spoke to the committee on **HB 2117**.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Tom Moxley, Carl Holmes, and Forrest Knox.

Some questions were also answered by Mark Schreiber, Westar, and Larry Holloway, KCC.

The hearing on **HB 2117** was closed.

Representative Carl Holmes asked Larry Holloway, KCC, to expand on the role of the Kansas Corporation Commission in rate making cases, and their relationship to electric utility entities. Additionally, the relationship between the KCC and the legislature was discussed.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representative Forrest Knox.

The committee was given a document created by the research department relating to state incentives that are available for energy production and transportation. (Attachment 8)

Representative Vern Swanson spoke to the committee about his sub-committee that meets at noon.

Representative Forrest Knox reminded the committee the renewables sub-committee meets tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2009.

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