

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:00 A.M. On March 7, 2011, in Room 785 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Burgess-excused
Representative Annie Kuether-excused
Representative Reynaldo Mesa-excused
Representative Mike Slattery-excused
Representative Tom Sloan-excused

Committee staff present:

Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Renaë Hansen, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Larry Biles, State Forester
Allen Moore, Director of Engineering and Maintenance, Frito Lay Wood Energy Project

Others attending:

Fifteen including the attached list.

Informational Hearing on:

Wood Energy Initiative

Larry Biles, State Forester, (Attachment 1), spoke to the committee about the Wood Energy Initiative in the state of Kansas. He also gave an overview of the Kansas Forest Service. He presented a power point to the committee to explain their initiative in Kansas.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vern Swanson, Joe Seiwert, Don Schroeder, Richard Proehl, and Forrest Knox.

Informational Hearing on:

Wood Energy Project

Allen Moore, Director of Engineering and Maintenance, Frito Lay Wood Energy Project, (Attachment 2), presented a power point to the committee on their environmental sustainability portion of the operation. He spoke specifically about their biomass to energy system that is in operation in Topeka, Kansas.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Stan Frownfelter, Don Hineman, Forrest Knox, and Nile Dillmore.

The committee received an update (Attachment 3) from the Prairie Wind Transmission regarding plans to build a new high-capacity transmission line. A map was included providing a rough picture of where this proposed line will be built.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M.