

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Apple at 1:30 p.m. on March 15, 2011, in Room 548-S of the State Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Emler, excused

Committee staff present:

Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Leo Haynos, Chief of Gas Operations and Pipeline Safety, Kansas Corporation Commission
Chris Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture
Kimberly Svaty, The Wind Coalition

Others attending: See attached list.

Chair opened the hearing on:

SCR 1606 - Urging the United States Department of Transportation to adopt regulations permitting the State Corporation Commission to regulate natural gas storage fields in Kansas.

Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes, explained the purpose of **SCR 1606** is to urge the U.S. Department of Transportation to adopt regulations regarding certain operations in gas storage fields and to enable KCC to enforce regulations for natural gas storage facilities in Kansas. (Attachment 1)

Proponent

Leo Haynos, Chief of Gas Operations and Pipeline Safety, Kansas Corporation Commission, spoke in support of **SCR 1606**. He provided background and current status of the KCC involvement; a brief history of KCC regulating Underground Porosity Gas Storage and their concerns about safety; KCC efforts to bring the issue of a regulatory gap to light; and the eight activities that are unregulated. (Attachment 2)

Chair closed the hearing on **SCR 1606**.

Chair opened the hearing on

SB 227 - Requiring anemometer towers to be marked or flagged so as to be identifiable in clear air during daylight hours

Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes, explained **SB 227**. (Attachment 3)

Proponent

Chris Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, spoke in support of **SB 227** which would provide safety to pilots of low-flying aircraft. (Attachment 4)

Neutral

Kimberly Svaty, representing The Wind Coalition, explained the concerns of the members in the language in **SB 227** involving "area surrounding the anchor point", but noted their support of the two year retrofit provision. (Attachment 5)

Chair closed the hearing on **SB 227**.

Chair asked the committee for their action on the bills just heard.

Moved by Senator Kultala, seconded by Senator Francisco, to move SCR 1606 out favorably. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Bruce, seconded by Senator Taddiken, to amend SB 227 by striking the language starting on line 9 with "for the" and all of lines 10 and 11. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Utilities Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 15, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Bruce, to amend **SB 227** by striking the language in Section (3), lines 29 thru 34. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Love, seconded by Senator Petersen, to amend **SB 227** by inserting a period at the end of line 28 and renumbering (4), at the discretion of the Revisor. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Bruce, to move **SB 227** out favorably as amended. Motion carried.

ITC Great Plains Update

Kimberly Svaty, The Wind Coalition, provided an update on ITC Great Plains applying for Siting Permit for the Kansas V-Plan transmission line project. Their proposed route would traverse Ford, Clark, Kiowa and Barber Counties and expects to enter service late in 2014. (Attachment 6)

Chair announced this was the final meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee for the 2011 session. No further meetings are scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Attachments - 6