

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 4, 2011, in Room 785 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

- Representative Tom Sloan-excused
- Representative Gail Finney-excused
- Representative Vern Swanson-excused

Committee staff present:

- Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
- Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
- Rena Hansen, Committee Assistant

Conferees Appearing Before the Committee:

- Ray Hammerlund, Kansas Energy Office
- Liz Brocius, Kansas Energy Office
- Janet Buchanan, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending:

- Eighteen including the attached list.

Chairman Holmes asked for bill introductions and there were none. He noted this was the last day for bill introductions.

Chairman Holmes presented the committee with an article ([Attachment 1](#)), on nuclear energy being developed in China with the use of Thorium as the fuel instead of Uranium. He also noted that today the Department of Energy has noted they would approve of the second pipeline from Trans-Canada that would remove our dependency on oil from the Middle East.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representative: Don Hineman.

Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Updates:
Statewide Building Code
Utility Rate Restructuring Project
Energy Efficiency Programs

Ray Hammerlund introduced the Kansas Energy office staff and their counterparts from the KCC.

Liz Brosius, Kansas Energy office, ([Attachment 2](#)) presented information on the Energy Efficiency Codes for residential and commercial buildings.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Annie Kuether, Don Schroeder, and Carl Holmes.

Ms. Brosius noted that one of the reasons for not adopting the 2006 rules were partly because of cost, and lack of staff resources, but also because builders in some areas are using the codes anyway when they are building. She noted that focus for the codes would be in nine counties: Butler, Douglas, Johnson, Leavenworth, Pottawatomie, Riley, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte.

Included in the testimony were other supporting testimony:

- Status of Residential and Commercial Building Codes in 55 Jurisdictions, ([Attachment 3](#))
- Kansas energy Efficiency Disclosure Form, ([Attachment 4](#))
- Efficiency Kansas partner Lenders and Partner Utilities Map, ([Attachment 5](#))

Janet Buchanan, Senior Managing Research Analyst, KCC, ([Attachment 2](#)), spoke to the committee on the comprehensive utility rate design project. She noted there will be a workshop held at the KCC on February 24, 2011 where Christensen Associates Energy Consulting and several energy companies in Kansas will come together to discuss the results of some of these evaluations. She noted there is a draft

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:00 A.M. on February 4, 2011, in Room 785 of the Docking State Office Building.

report available for the committee members of the results of the beginning process of this evaluation. Ms. Buchanan also spoke to the committee on the ARRA State Electricity Regulators Assistance Grant Program.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Annie Kuether, Stan Frownfelter, and Carl Holmes.

Ryan Freed, Kansas Energy Office, (Attachment 2) gave the committee details on the ARRA state electricity regulators assistance block grants: renewable energy incentives grant, public projects grant, energy managers grant, and take charge challenge. He also spoke to the committee on the state energy program grant worth \$38,284,000. The testimony also includes an appendix that expands on additional state energy grants.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Don Hineman, Richard Proehl, Joe Seiwert, Mike Slattery, Forrest Knox, Nile Dillmore, and Carl Holmes.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2011 and will be a tour of the Topeka AT&T facility.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 A.M.