

Approved: March 1, 2012  
(Date)

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carl Holmes at 9:00 AM on Thursday, February 16, 2012 in 785 of the DSOB.

All members were present except:  
Representative Mike Slattery-excused

Committee staff present:  
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research  
Matt Sterling, Kansas Revisor of Statutes  
Renae Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
Doug Lewis, KCC  
Nathan Eberline, Kansas Association of Counties  
Ed Cross, KIOGA  
David Bleakly, EKOGA

Others in attendance:  
Twenty one including the attached list.

The insurance commission presented written additional testimony (Attachment 1) to the committee that outlines the insurance buildings compliance energy usage and its relationship to the national average for a building of its size.

Hearing on:

### **HB 2708-Renewable energy resources**

Matt Sterling, (Attachment 2) presented a memo with an explanation of **HB 2708**.

Proponents

Tom Sloan, (Attachment 3), presented testimony in support of **HB 2708**.

There were no questions on **HB 2708**.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES Committee at 9:00 AM on Thursday,  
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The hearing on **HB 2708** was closed.

Hearing on:

**HB 2711- Counties; cost of plugging oil and gas wells**

Matt Sterling, (Attachment 4), gave a brief explanation of **HB 2711** to the committee.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Annie Kuether, and Tom Sloan.

Proponents

Representative Forrest Knox, (Attachment 5), spoke to the committee in favor of **HB 2711**. He spent time explaining why this bill is necessary.

Neutral

Doug Lewis, KCC, (Attachment 6), spoke to the committee about **HB 2711**. He explained to the committee the logistics of how this might work if enacted as law. Additionally, he raised questions the KCC have with some of the particulars of the bill and requested that additional language be added.

Nathan Eberline, Kansas Association of Counties, (Attachment 7), spoke to the committee from a neutral position on **HB 2711**.

Opponents

Ed Cross, KIOGA, (Attachment 8), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2711**. He gave an example of just one of the counties in Kansas and how it would affect that county.

David Bleakly, EKOGA, (Attachment 9), spoke to the committee in opposition of **HB 2711**. He noted that there are already two plugging funds established.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Annie Kuether, Vern Swanson, Tom Sloan, Don Hineman, Forrest Knox, Carl Holmes, Joe Seiwert, and Reynaldo Mesa.

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John McCannon, Litigation Council, KCC helped to answer questions brought forth by the committee.

The hearing on **HB 2711** was closed.

Action on:

**HB 2708-Renewable Energy Resource**

*Representative Tom Sloan moved to pass out **HB 2708** favorably for passage and put on the consent calendar, seconded by Representative Nile Dillmore. Motion Carried.*

If **HB 2708** is pulled off of the consent calendar Representative Tom Sloan will carry the bill on the house floor.

Action on **HB 2708** was closed.

Action on:

**HB 2661-Municipally owned Utilities and rates**

*Representative Forrest Knox moved to amend **HB 2661** (Attachment 10), seconded by Representative Joe Seiwert.*

Discussion ensued between Representatives: Forrest Knox, Greg Smith, Richard Proehl, Phil Hermanson, Stan Frownfelter, Vern Swanson, Nile Dillmore, Tom Sloan, and Mike Burgess.

*The motion was withdrawn due to an agreement by the maker and the second.*

*Representative Forrest Knox moved to amend **HB 2661** (Attachment 11), seconded by Representative Tom Sloan.*

Discussion ensued between Representatives: Tom Sloan, Forrest Knox, and Nile Dillmore.

*The motion to amend **HB 2661** failed.*

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Representative Annie Kuether moved to table **HB 2661**, seconded by Representative Nile Dillmore, motion carried.

Action on **HB 2661** was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned on 10:50 a.m.

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