Gas Wells for Personal Use; Abandoned Oil and Gas Well Fund; HB 2231

HB 2231 allows an operator of one or more natural gas wells to obtain an annual license from the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) when the natural gas wells are used strictly for personal use on the property where the gas wells are located. The fee will be \$25, rather than the standard \$100 annual license fee under prior law. Also under prior law, applicants for an annual license were permitted to pay the reduced fee of \$25 for those operating one gas well used strictly for the purpose of heating a residential dwelling.

The bill extends the sunset date on the statutory transfers to the Abandoned Oil and Gas Well Fund (Fund) of the KCC from July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2020. The bill also deletes a quarterly transfer of \$100,000 from the State Water Plan Fund to the Fund and increases the quarterly transfer from the KCC's Conservation Fee Fund to the Fund from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

In addition, the bill deletes law regarding a prohibition on transfers from the State General Fund to the Fund in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015 and the aggregate amount of the transfers from the State Water Plan Fund to the Fund in those three fiscal years.