

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE.

The joint meeting of the House and Senate Utilities Committees was called to order by Chairperson Senator Stan Clark at 9:30 a.m. on January 23, 2002 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Barone

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research
Ann McMorris, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: none

Others attending: see attached list

Representative Carl Holmes (Chairman of House Utilities Committee) reported on an Advisory Committee on Energy meeting held in Tampa, Florida for the National Conference of State Legislatures energy staff. He described a tour of the Energy Technology Resource Center in Tampa, Florida owned by Tampa Electric Company. The center is segmented into three interactive areas: (1) Advanced Technology Center; (2) Foodservice Center; and (3) Lighting Display Center and provides businesses an opportunity to research and test energy efficient electric and natural gas technologies for industrial, commercial and retail applications (Attachment 1)

Infrastructure risk assessment concerning security risk information and the vulnerability of energy infrastructure to terrorist threats was discussed. A major problem is state "open meeting laws" or "right to know" whereby the federal government refuses to provide most classified and intelligence information to the states because of open access.

The group toured a state of the art "Integrated coal gasification combined-cycle power plant". Chairman Holmes suggested Kansas needs to look at this technology in detail as it could reopen Kansas coal mines. (Attachment 2)

FERC asked for input from state commissions and legislatures concerning transmission issues.

The committees were provided with several documents which are on file in the State Library.

1. California's Power Crises-What Happened?-What Can we Learn
2. Restructuring in Retrospect
3. The Electric Industry - State and Federal Jurisdiction.
4. Transmission Planning for a Restructuring U.S. Electricity Industry
by Eric Hirst and Brendan Kirby.
5. Expanding U.S. Transmission Capacity by Eric Hirst.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McMorris
Secretary

Attachments - 2