

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:15 A.M. on February 26, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Vaughn Flora- excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research

Carol Toland, Kansas Legislative Research

Melissa Doeblin, Revisor's Office

Rena Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Ray Merrick

Steve Miller, Sunflower

Others attending:

Twenty-two including the attached list.

Continued Hearing on:

HB 2872- Removing the assessment of actual expense of services by the state corporation commission.

Proponents:

Representative Ray Merrick, 27th District, (Attachment 1), presented testimony in support of **HB 2872**. His testimony was a copy of a letter he presented to the KCC. Additionally, he explained the history of this issue to the committee and why this bill came to be drafted.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Don Myers, Margaret Long, Tom Hawk, Bill Light, Cindy Neighbor, Annie Kuether, and Terry McLachlan.

Tom Day, KCC, also contributed to continued questions.

The hearing on **HB 2872** was closed.

Hearing on:

HB 2894-Duties and powers of the secretary of KDHE in issuing permits for electric generation facility.

There were no proponents on **HB 2894**.

Opponents:

Mark Calcara, Vice President and General Counsel, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, (Attachment 2), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2894**.

Written Opponents:

Mark Schreiber, Westar Energy, (Attachment 3), offered written testimony in opposition to **HB 2894**.

Paul Snider, KCP&L, (Attachment 4), presented written testimony in opposition to **HB 2894**.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:15 A.M. on February 26, 2208 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Neutral:

Roderick Bremby, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, (Attachment 5), offered written testimony to **HB 2894**.

Question were asked and comments made by Representatives: Don Myers, Peggy Mast, Carl Holmes, Annie Kuether, Vern Swanson, Tom Sloan, Forrest Knox, and Bill Light.

It was noted that the bill came out of appropriations, and was proposed by Representative Bob Bethall.

Bob Gross from KDHE was available to answer questions, as well as Paul Snider from KCP&L.

The hearing on **HB 2894** was closed.

Discussion on:

HB 2881- Net metering.

Representative Tom Sloan moved to recommend HB 2881 favorable for passage to the House floor, seconded by Representative Annie Kuether.

Discussion on the motion ensued by Representatives: Annie Kuether, Rob Olson, Don Myers, Forrest Knox, Tom Hawk, and Tom Sloan.

The motion to pass **HB 2881** to the House floor failed 8-11.

The chairman reminded the committee members about the committee dinner sponsored by AT&T on February 26, 2008.

Chairman Holmes distributed an article (Attachment 6) to the committee written by Matt Simmons, that addresses a letter to the incoming President of the United States in 2009, and read the article to the committee as he felt it is an important warning to all those concerned with energy issues in the United States and the world.

Questions or discussion ensued by Representatives: Forrest Knox, Carl Holmes, Tom Moxley, Judy Morrison, Rob Olson, Don Myers, Josh Svaty, Bill Light, Terry McLachlan, Peggy Mast, and Annie Kuether.

The next meeting is scheduled for next week.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.