

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:15 A.M. on March 17, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Oletha Faust-Goudeau-excused
Dan Johnson-excused
Judy Morrison-excused
Cindy Neighbor-excused

Committee staff present:

Carol Toland, Kansas Legislative Research
Melissa Doeblin, Revisor's Office
Renaë Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Roger Reitz
John Grimwade, KCPL
Mark Schrieber, Westar
Tom Thompson, Sierra Club
David Springe, CURB

Others attending:

Twenty-three including the attached list.

Hearing on:

SB 586- Incentives to encourage development of nuclear power by utilities and authorizing recovers of certain costs.

Proponents:

Senator Roger Reitz, 22nd District, (Attachment 1), presented testimony in support of **SB 586**, noting the bill allows the commission to fix fair and reasonable rates, and charges for the planning and feasibility of new nuclear power plants.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vaughn Flora, and Tom Hawk.

John Grimwade, KCPL, (Attachment 2), offered testimony in support of **SB 586**, noting the length of time it will take to get a new plant up and running once a plant has been determined to be feasible to build. He noted the time needed to get the permits approved is just the first part of the entire regulatory process.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Annie Kuether, Terry McLachlan, Vern Swanson, Tom Sloan, Vaughn Flora, Tom Hawk, Carl Holmes, Forrest Knox, and Tom Moxley.

Mark Schreiber, Westar, (Attachment 3), offered testimony in support of **SB 586**. He thanked Senator Reitz for beginning the process of making a more favorable environment for expanded nuclear generation in the state of Kansas.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vern Swanson, Tom Hawk, Terry McLachlan, Forrest Knox.

Opponents:

Tom Thompson, Sierra Club, (Attachment 4), gave testimony in opposition to **SB 586**. He noted that the enrichment of uranium takes thousand of megawatts of electricity which mostly comes from coal-fired power plants. Enrichment plants emit chlorofluorocarbons that are 10,000 times more potent as a global warming gas than is CO₂.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:15 A.M. on March 17, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Questions were asked or comments made by Representatives: Don Myers, Tom Sloan, and Peggy Mast.

David Springe, CURB, ([Attachment 5](#)), presented testimony in opposition to **SB 586**. He noted this bill is merely an accounting bill and that it does not move forward the actual construction of a nuclear plant in the state of Kansas.

Questions were asked and comments made to all conferees by Representatives: Vaughn Flora, Carl Holmes, Tom Moxley, Forrest Knox, Tom Sloan, Vern Swanson, Peggy Mast, Rocky Fund, Vaughn Flora, Don Myers, and Richard Proehl.

Tom Day, KCC, also responded to a question.

The hearing on **SB 586** was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.