

Approved: February 24, 2004
Date

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF HOUSE AND SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEES.

The meeting was called to order by Senate Utilities Chairman Stan Clark at 9:35 a.m. on January 29, 2004 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter
Representative Bonnie Huy
Representative Peggy Long-Mast
Representative Judy Morrison

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dick Brewster, BP America

Others attending: See Attached List.

House Utilities Chairman Holmes addressed the House members and asked for bill introductions. Representative Kuether moved to introduce a committee bill dealing with the construction and upgrade of transmission lines. Representative Sloan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Clark introduced Dick Brewster, Director of Government Affair for BP America, who provided s presentation titled 'Natural Gas in the US – Supply - Demand - Price – Future Supply – What BP is Doing' (Attachment 1). Mr. Brewster told the joint committees that even though there are a number of challenges, the market it working and is the most efficient way of meeting those challenges and that while the temptation is to focus solely on the short term, government policy as well as industry needs to address the long term issues. Mr. Brewster responded to questions from the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

The next meeting is Friday, January 30, 2004.