

Approved: March 21, 2005

Date

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF SENATE & HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Scott Emler at 9:30 A.M. on March 17, 2005 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Senator Janis Lee- excused
Senator Roger Reitz- excused

Committee staff present: Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Warren Woods, General Counsel, Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant

Others in attendance: on file with House Utilities

Presentation on Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant

Warren Woods, general counsel, for Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant, showed a slide presentation on the facilities and how electricity is generated at the Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant. Wolf Creek was built between 1977 and 1985 - eight years in the process - and the cost was \$3 billion dollars. It is owned by three companies: 47% by Kansas City Power & Light; 47% by Kansas Gas & Electric; 6% by Kansas Electric Power Cooperatives.

There are 103 operating nuclear units in the United States and they produce 21% of all electricity used. Wolf Creek is one of the newest facilities. Yucca Mountain in Nevada will start operating in 2012 and accept radio active waste from all nuclear plants.

The control room at Wolf Creek is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Six operators are on duty at each shift and their training is very extensive before they are certified to work in the control room.

Committee members asked about mechanical breakdowns, future nuclear plants, what happens in the event of a emergency shutdown, and comparison of cost of fuel from nuclear and other types of plants.

The committees have been invited to a tour of the Wolf Creek plant on April 26, 2005.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Ann McMorris, Secretary