

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Emler at 9:30 A.M. on February 8, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Tatiana Lin, Legislative Fellow
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Colin Hansen, Executive Director, Kansas Municipal Utilities
Rick Anderson, General Manager, McPherson Board of Public Utilities
Colin Whitley, Director of Electric & Water Utilities, City of Winfield, Kansas

Don Gaeddert, City Manager, City of Larned, Kansas (written testimony only)

Others in attendance: See attached list

Chair opened the hearing on

HB 2032 - Deregulation of municipal gas and electric utility's rates, charges and terms and conditions of service in area more than three miles outside municipality.

Colin Hansen, Executive Director, Kansas Municipal Utilities, urged adoption of **HB 2032** which would allow municipal electric and natural gas utilities with customers more than three miles outside corporate limits to locally control their rates and conditions. This legislation would save significant time, effort and resources both for municipal utilities and the staff of the KCC. ([Attachment 1](#))

Rick Anderson, general manager, McPherson Board of Public Utilities, stated their utility supports **HB 2032** because it would help to alleviate the significant administrative headaches currently caused by the three-mile statutes. ([Attachment 2](#))

Colin Whitley, director of electric & water utilities, City of Winfield, Kansas, noted the existing three mile statutes have made it very difficult for their utility to provide comparable service within their service territory. Most municipal utilities will not file with KCC for modifying rates, terms and conditions unless it is absolutely necessary because of the burdensome paperwork. ([Attachment 3](#))

Written testimony was provided by Don Gaeddert, city manager, City of Larned, Kansas. ([Attachment 4](#))

Chair closed the hearing on **HB 2032**.

Presentation on High Performance Buildings

Hans Nettelblad of BNIM Architects and member of the Board of Directors for the American Institute of Architects in Kansas, introduced the Committee to high-performance building design and the "Triple Bottom Line - a methodology of "accounting" which balances the social (people), environmental (planet), and economic (prosperity) impacts of our design decisions. AIA believes there is an immediate need to strengthen the State of Kansas' commitment to sustainable design and, more specifically, high-performance buildings. He reviewed "first cost" concerns, electrical energy consumption, benefits of daylighting, and utilization of other resources that require abundant energy consumption. He announced that AIA plans on drafting legislation on adopting a comprehensive high-performance building standard and initiative towards carbon neutral buildings for consideration later in the year. ([Attachment 5](#))

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris, Secretary
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