

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Emler at 9:30 A.M. on February 14, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kimberly Gencur, ITC Great Plains
Don Low, Kansas Corporation Commission
Doug Mays, Doug Mays Associates
Luke Bell, Kansas Association of Realtors
Chris Wilson, Kansas Building Industry Association
Martha Smith, Kansas Manufactured Housing Association
Trudy Aron, American Institute of Architects
Bruce Snead, K-State

Others in attendance: See attached list

Chair announced that **SB 326** - State Corporation Commission duties concerning natural gas and energy in emergency situations - had a technical error in the language and requested action to correct page 2, line 37 by deleting the word "energy" and inserting the word "emergency".

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Apple, reconsider action taken on **SB 326** by the Senate Utilities Committee on February 13, 2007. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Francisco, seconded by Senator Pine, amend **SB 326** by deleting the word "energy" and substituting the word "emergency" on page 2, line 37 and correctly move **SB 326** out. Motion carried.

Chair opened the hearing on

HB 2066 - Extension of electric transmission lines; exemption from siting requirements

Proponents

Kimberly Gencur, Vice President of Government Affairs and Community Relations for ITC Great Plains, noted ITC Great Plains supported the KCC amendment which clarified the definition of transmission provider and urged the passage of **HB 2066**. (Attachment 1)

Don Low, Kansas Corporation Commission, explained the two amendments to **HB 2066** which the House approved. The first added a definition of "transmission facilities owner" and the second clarified in what circumstances the use of existing easements for construction of higher voltage lines does not require KCC siting approval under the act. (Attachment 2)

Neutral

Doug Mays speaking for Maple Hill Farm and Tallgrass Ranchers, requested the committee to consider adopting an amendment to **HB 2066** which would strike Section 2, paragraph 2(a). This action would bring future construction of transmission lines adjacent to any highway in Kansas back under the purview of the KCC. (Attachment 3)

Chair closed the hearing on **HB 2066**.

Chair opened the hearing on

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Utilities Committee at 9:30 A.M. on February 14, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

HB 2036 - Thermal efficiency standard for new buildings

Proponents

Chris Wilson, Executive Director of the Kansas Building Industry Association, spoke in support of **HB 2036** as amended by the House Committee of the Whole. (Attachment 4)

Martha Smith, Executive Director of Kansas Manufactured Housing Association, discussed the several amendments to **HB 2036** which included time the disclosure is provided, revision of the Disclosure form, and leaving the form in the statutes. (Attachment 5)

Trudy Aron, Executive Director of the American Institute of Architects in Kansas, noted AIA believes that this bill is a good first step to sustainable design and high performance buildings. (Attachment 6)

Luke Bell, Director of Governmental Relations, Kansas Association of Realtors, discussed the several changes that had been made to the statutes concerning thermal efficiency disclosures in **HB 2036**. (Attachment 7)

Opponents

Bruce Snead, State Extension Specialist in residential energy, K-State, spoke in opposition to this version of **HB 2036** and recommended amending **SB 120** with the Kansas Energy Council substitutions which were included in the testimony. He noted **HB 2036** in its current form is contrary to the KEC recommendation. (Attachment 8)

Chair closed the hearing on **HB 2036**.

Chairman Emler appointed a Subcommittee to study **SB 120** and **HB 2036** and bring recommendations to the Senate Utilities Committee. Members appointed were Senators Petersen, Pine and Lee with Senator Petersen as Chair.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McMorris, Secretary

Attachments - 8