

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dennis Hedke at 9:00 am on Friday, February 12, 2016, 582-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Kiegerl – Excused  
Representative Craig McPherson – Excused  
Representative Les Mason – Excused  
Representative Randy Powell – Excused

Committee staff present:

Matt Sterling, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Erica Haas, Legislative Research Department  
Cindy Lash, Legislative Research Department  
Patricia Kready, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Stuart Lowry, President and CEO, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation  
Earnie Lehman, President and General Manager, Midwest Energy, Inc.  
Patrick Smith, Senior Corporate Counsel, Westar Energy  
Mo Awad, Director of Regulatory Compliance, Westar Energy  
Shane Laws, CEO, The Victory Electric Cooperative Association  
Randy Cooper, Corporate Engineering and Resources Manager, Cargill Animal Protein and Salt  
Todd Fridley, Vice President, Transource Energy  
Bill Riggins, Senior Vice President, Chief Strategic Officer and General Counsel, KEPCo  
Colin Hansen, Executive Director, Kansas Municipal Utilities  
Mark Chesney, Executive Director, Kansas Power Pool  
Carl Huslig, Senior Vice President for Business Development, Gridliance  
Sharon Segner, Vice President LS Power Development, LLC

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Hearing on: HB2623 — Utilities and electric transmission lines.**

Chairman Hedke opened the hearing **HB2623**.

Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes gave a bill brief. ([Attachment 1](#)) He stood for questions.

Stuart Lowry, President and CEO, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation testified in support of the bill. ([Attachment 2](#))

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Energy and Environment at 9:00 am on Friday, February 12, 2016 in Room 582-N of the Capitol.

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Earnie Lehman, President and General Manager, Midwest Energy, Inc. gave supporting testimony. [\(Attachment 3\)](#) [\(Attachment 4\)](#)

Patrick Smith, Senior Corporate Counsel, Westar Energy and Mo Awad, Director of Regulatory Compliance, Westar Energy, presented testimony in support of the bill. [\(Attachment 5\)](#) [\(Attachment 6\)](#)

Shane Laws, CEO, The Victory Electric Cooperative Association gave supporting testimony. [\(Attachment 7\)](#)

Randy Cooper, Corporate Engineering and Resources Manager, Cargill Animal Protein and Salt presented supporting testimony. [\(Attachment 8\)](#)

Written only supporting testimony was submitted by Rodger Woods, Deputy State Director, Americans for Prosperity-Kansas. [\(Attachment 9\)](#)

Adrienne Clair, Partner, Stinson Leonard Street presented neutral testimony to the bill. [\(Attachment 10\)](#) Chairman Hedke asked Ms. Clair to stand for questions.

Todd Fridley, Vice President, Transource Energy, representing Great Plains Energy and KCPL gave opposition testimony to the bill. [\(Attachment 11\)](#)

Bill Riggins, Senior Vice President, Chief Strategic Officer, General Counsel, KEPCo, testified in opposition. [\(Attachment 12\)](#)

Colin Hansen, Executive Director, Kansas Municipal Utilities, gave opposition testimony. [\(Attachment 13\)](#)

Mark Chesney, Executive Director, Kansas Power Pool, presented opposing testimony. [\(Attachment 14\)](#)

Carl Huslig, Senior Vice President for Business Development, Gridliance, testified in opposition. [\(Attachment 15\)](#) [\(Attachment 16\)](#)

Sharon Segner, LS Power Development, LLC, presented opposing testimony. [\(Attachment 17\)](#) [\(Attachment 18\)](#)

Written only opposition testimony was submitted by Paul Mahlberg, General Manager, Kansas Municipal Energy Agency([Attachment 19](#)) ; Janet Doll, Mayor, City of Garden City, KS([Attachment 20](#)) ; Janis Krievens, Electrical Engineer, City of Gardner, KS([Attachment 21](#)) ; James Ging, Director of Electric and Water, City of Winfield([Attachment 22](#)) ; Shawn Schukar, Senior Vice President, Transmission Business Development, Ameren Services Company([Attachment 23](#)) ; Erik Sartorius,

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Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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Executive Director, The League of Kansas Municipalities. ([Attachment 24](#))

Following all testimony, Conferees stood for questions.

Chairman Hedke closed the hearing on **HB2623** and adjourned the meeting at 11:27 am.