

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Olson at 1:30pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department
Natalie Nelson, Legislative Research Department
Michael Welton, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Matt Sterling, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Mike O'Neal, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Ryan Yonk, Utah State University
Rodger Woods, Americans for Prosperity
Craig Gabel, Kansans for Liberty
Laura Maag Lutz, Westar, KCP&L and Empire District Electric
Robert Glass, Kansas Corporation Commission
Kimberly Svaty, Wind Coalition
Grant Bannister, Alexander Community Wind Farm
Mark Richardson, rancher and farmer

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Senator Olson greeted attendees and opened the committee meeting.

Senator Francisco welcomed the members of the League of Women Voters of Lawrence - Douglas County as her guests.

Hearing on: SB253 — Renewable energy standards act sunset.

Senator Olson opened the hearing on the bill and called on Matt Sterling for a Revisor of Statutes overview of the bill ([Attachment #1](#)).

Senator Olson called on proponent Mike O'Neal representing the Kansas Chamber for testimony ([Attachment #2](#)).

Senator Olson called on proponent Dr. Ryan Yonk representing Utah State University for testimony ([Attachment #3](#)).

Senator Olson called on proponent Rodger Woods representing Americans for Prosperity for testimony ([Attachment #4](#)).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Utilities at 1:30pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

Senator Olson called on proponent Craig Gabel representing Kansans for Liberty for testimony ([Attachment #5](#)).

Senator Olson referenced the following written only proponent testimony:

Aaron M. Popelka representing the Kansas Livestock Association ([Attachment #6](#)).

The following issues were discussed in response to questions and comments by Senators Francisco, Powell, Masterson, Hawk, Lynn, Powell and Olson:

- 1.) How the impact of actions taken by the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) might affect the eventual forecasted out-comes of the study.
- 2.) The indirect transmission line development costs to ratepayers.
- 3.) The study assumptions regarding Kansas jobs.
- 4.) The research methodologies used to develop study forecasts.
- 5.) The degree that energy subsidies might cause market interference or distortions in what is available at the best price.

Senator Olson called on neutral Laura Maag Lutz representing Westar, KCP&L and Empire District Electric for testimony ([Attachment #7](#)).

Senator Olson referenced the following written only neutral testimony:

Robert Glass representing the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) ([Attachment #8](#)).

Senator Olson called on opponent Kimberly Svaty representing the Wind Coalition for testimony ([Attachment #9](#)).

Senator Olson called for any opponents from out of town where returning tomorrow might be a burden.

Opponent Grant Bannister representing the Alexander Community Wind Farm provided testimony ([Attachment #10](#)).

Opponent Mark Richardson a farmer and rancher provided testimony ([Attachment #11](#)).

Senator Olson declared that the meeting be suspended the next meeting.

Possible action on bills previously heard

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.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Utilities at 1:30pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 548-S of the Capitol.

There was no action on bills previously heard.

Seeing no further questions or comments Senator Olson adjourned the meeting at 2:30pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2015.