

Approved: Carl Dean Holmes
Date 4-29-95

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carl Holmes on March 16, 1995 at 3:30 p.m. in the First Floor Rotunda of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Phill Kline - Excused

Committee staff present:

Others attending:

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Committee toured the Western Resources Electric and Natural Gas Dispatch Centers. In addition to Committee members, three guests accompanied the group: Ms. Hope Howell, Fort Scott; Wayne Powell, Fort Scott; and Jonathan Brzon, Lawrence.

Some highlighted facts of the tour:

At the electric dispatch center, it was explained how the generation and transmission system is controlled; energy transaction, receipts and energy deliveries within the electrical load in a defined geographical area; and the function and power transfer capabilities of different transmission voltages and system reliability. In addition to making sure energy is available at all times, dispatching provides customer service of voltage and frequency control; and reliable restoration following service interruption.

With reference to their main gas transmission system, Western Resources has 1700 miles of pipeline serving 100 Kansas communities with 125,000 customers. There are 300 miles of gathering field pipeline; 11 mainline compressor stations, of which seven are automated with remote control from Topeka ; eight gathering field compressors (none automated); and two storage fields.

Types of storage fields are:

- Brehm Field. Contains 1.6 billion cubic feet (bcf) of cushion gas and 2.2 bcf of working gas. This field fills and draws down slowly.
- Yaggy Field. Contains 0.5 bcf of working gas. Fills and draws down quickly, and is used for peaking storage.
- Mesa Ltd. Partners. This has historically been the main source of natural gas for the transmission system, and produces from the Kansas Hugoton field in Southwest Kansas.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 522-S of the Capitol.