

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Senator Robert Tyson at 8:31 a.m. on January 24, 2003 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Members present: Senator Tyson, Senator Taddiken, Senator Huelskamp, Senator Umbarger and Senator Lee

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes
Shannon Stone, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Gary Blackburn, Director of Bureau of Environmental Remediation, KDHE
Bill Bider, Director of the Bureau of Waste Management

Others attending: See attached list

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Tyson. He appointed a subcommittee to research possible water agency reorganization. Senator Schmidt will chair the committee. He will be assisted by Senators Taddiken and Downey.

There were no bill introductions or resolutions.

The first conferee to appear before the Committee was Gary Blackburn, (Director, Bureau of Environmental Remediation). He reported on the status of the "Drycleaner Environmental Response Act" ([Attachment 1](#)). He specifically addressed the Bureau's corrective action at contaminated sites in Kansas and the development of KDHE regulations ([Attachment 2](#)). Mr. Blackburn also provided a table of expenditures and encumbrances as well as a list of a Kansas contaminated dry-cleaning sites in his handout.

Questions from the Committee regarding surcharges, funding, current dry-cleaning facility standards and clean-up were responded to by Mr. Blackburn.

Bill Bider, (Director, Bureau of Waste Management) appeared before the Committee to review the Kansas Solid Waste Program for fiscal year 2002 ([Attachment 3](#)). He informed the committee of revenue sources, 2002 expenditures and 2003 balance and expected revenue and expenditures. According to the budget, expenditures are expected to exceed revenues by \$2,983,628 in the coming year. The Bureau, which generally stays below budget (they spend approx. 95% of their proposed budget, annually) has come up with several plans to reduce expenditures and increase revenue which include: 1) reducing program spending 2) reducing fund transfers and 3) increasing tipping fees. Currently Kansas' tipping fee is

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\$1.00/ton. Mr. Bider went on to explain that while we are receiving nearly \$1 million from Missouri for transporting trash to Kansas waste facilities, the majority of waste from Missouri is not charged because it comes in on a truck and doesn't go through a transfer station.

In response to Senator Huelskamp's question regarding a newly imposed \$100 fee for certain small business owners, Mr. Bider explained that the fee was a "hazardous waste fee" that the agency always had the authority to enforce but only recently put in action in order to meet financial needs. A book detailing the revenue and expenditures in FY 2002 was made available for committee members ([Attachment 4](#)).

Senator Tyson concluded by reminding everyone that the deadline for requesting committee bills is February 5.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.