

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Olson at 1:36pm on Wednesday, February 11, 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:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Senator Olson opened the meeting with a welcome greeting to attendees.

Presentation on: Kansas Attorney General Overview on Proposed Clean Power Plan - EPA 111(d)

Senator Olson called on Jeff Chanay representing the Kansas State Attorney General's office to begin his presentation ([Attachment #1](#)).

In response to questions and comments from Senators Francisco, Powell, Knox and Olson the presenter made the following points:

- 1.) The role of the attorney general is not to develop state policy but to defend it in legal settings.
- 2.) The office has so far handled all activities from within its current staff. He explained that Kansas efforts have benefited from multi-state partnerships and expected to be able to handle any ongoing challenges internally within its current budget.
- 3.) Concern was expressed by committee members:
 - a.) about whether or not the state has a clear enough state energy policy for the Attorney General to be able to defend;
 - b.) desire to see more cost-benefit analysis;
 - c.) potential ramifications of not complying with EPA timetables; and
 - d.) the possible loss of state control to the federal agencies by producing a state implementation plan (SIP).The presenter reminded the committee that because and until the EPA 111 (d) rules are finalized it is difficult to be more specific. He deferred to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as being better qualified to address these concerns.

Seeing no further questions or comments Senator Olson adjourned the meeting at 1:54 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2015.