

Approved: March 1, 2012

(Date)

## **MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carl Holmes at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 in 785 of the DSOB.

All members were present except:

Representative Greg Smith-excused

Committee staff present:

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research  
Brian Turnbull, Kansas Legislative Research  
Mike Sterling, Kansas Revisor of Statutes  
Tamara Lawrence, Kansas Revisor of Statutes  
Renae Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Ed Cross, KIOGA  
Jeremy Viscomi, TORP-KU  
Doug Louis, KCC  
Joe Spease, Kansas Sierra Club

Others in attendance:

Thirty Five including the attached list.

Introduction of Bills

There were no introduction of bills.

Presentations on Hydraulic Fracturing

Ed Cross, KIOGA, (Attachment 1) presented information to the committee on Hydraulic Fracturing. He also presented a video on horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, which can be found on [www.kioga.org](http://www.kioga.org) and on youtube.com. He noted several comments made by previous and current administrations that have testified that there are no known cases of ground water contamination. He reminded the committee that there are a number of pieces of legislation and federal statutes that regulate the hydraulic fracturing process. He also let the committee know about a website that companies can upload where they have hydraulic fracturing and the kinds of

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## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES Committee at 9:00 AM on Tuesday,  
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chemicals used in the solution for the fracturing, [www.fracfocus.org](http://www.fracfocus.org). Additionally, he encouraged the committee to research the webpage [www.energyindepth.org](http://www.energyindepth.org) for various kinds of energy related issues including how many jobs would be lost if hydraulic fracturing were halted nationwide.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Gail Finney, Stan Frownfelter, and Carl Holmes.

Jeremy Viscomi, Tertiary Oil Recovery Project-Kansas University, ([Attachment 2](#)), spoke to the committee about the KU TORP organization, their history, and what they are tasked with accomplishing as a group. He talked about the services they offer to the general public and the fracturing community.

Doug Louis, KCC, ([Attachment 3](#)), spoke to the committee about KCC's role in the hydraulic fracturing industry. He gave a brief explanation on what hydraulic fracturing is and how it works. He spoke about the hydraulic fracturing jobs that are performed in Kansas. He commented that the KCC has developed sound regulations to protect surface water, groundwater, and correlative rights. The 85 full-time employees at the KCC work in the conservation division to enforce the regulations by witnessing, inspecting, and permitting drilling well-completion and production throughout the state.

Joe Spease, Kansas Sierra Club, ([Attachment 4](#)), spoke to the committee about the Sierra Club's position on fracking and how it might affect the water supply. Additionally, he made comments about potential natural disasters and its effects on areas where natural disasters have occurred. His testimony included required regulations that should be implemented where hydraulic fracturing occurs.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vern Swanson, Forrest Knox, Annie Kuether, Stephen Alford, Joe Seifert, and Reynaldo Mesa.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

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