

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stan Clark at 9:30 a.m. on January 14, 2004 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Emalene Correll, Legislative Research
Ann McMorris, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Paula Johnson, Assistant General Counsel, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending:

See Attached List.

A presentation regarding the Cold weather Rule was made by Paula N. Johnson, assistant general counsel for the Kansas Corporation Commission. The purpose of this appearance before the Senate Utilities Committee was to cover how issues regarding the Cold Weather Rule have been dealt with since the introduction of House Bill 2186 in the 2003 Legislative Session.

After reviewing the background regarding the Cold Weather Rule, and the subsequent request that the Commission hold roundtable discussion to bring out the issues involved, Ms. Johnson reported on the roundtable held in May, 2003. The participants at the roundtable presented a broad range of views and consensus was that the Cold Weather Rule issues are more complex than many realized and that the Cold Weather Rule can be better monitored as an administrative regulation instead of a statute. All participants agreed the Cold Weather Rule is necessary and the Commission concluded that there was no compelling need to change the Cold Weather Rule.

The Commission will continue to closely monitor the Cold Weather Rule and to consider modifications when necessary. (Attachment 1)

The next meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee is scheduled for January 15, 2004.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris, Secretary

Attachments - 1