

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:15 A.M. on January 31, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Dan Johnson- excused
Annie Kuether-excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research
Melissa Doeblin, Revisor's Office
Rena Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Trudy Aron, American Institute on Architects
Tom Thompson
Dave Springe

Others attending:

Twenty Three including the attached list.

The Chairman noted that we will be meeting in 313-S all week next week, and the meetings will start at 9 a.m. He clarified that both the House and Senate proponents on **SB 515** and **HB 2711** would be heard Monday and Tuesday, and opponents would be heard Wednesday and Thursday. The Chairman noted that it is his intent for the committee to work **HB 2711** on Friday.

Mary Galligan gave a synopsis to the committee on net metering and how that compares to what we currently have in the state of Kansas. She noted that other states that have net metering have varying means of payment for the electricity they put into the grid.

Hearing on:

HB 2682 - Net metering and easy connection act

Trudy Aron, the American Institute on Architects, (Attachment 1), presented testimony in favor of **HB 2682** noting that they would like the bill to include other sources of renewable energy added to the grid.

Tom Thompson, Sierra Club, (Attachment 2), offered testimony in favor of **HB 2682** recommending that wind energy be added to this bill.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representative: Vaughn Flora.

Written testimony from KCPL, (Attachment 3), was presented to the committee on **HB 2682**.

Opponents:

Dave Springe, CURB, (Attachment 4), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2682** noting that the current parallel generation statute is the right mechanism for the state. They are concerned with the loss of fixed cost payments to the utility and then someone else has to make up the fixed cost difference. He notes however that the percentage cap is a possible positive part of this bill. He also asked that if the bill is implemented that a customer funded third party non-utility entity be created that can focus on providing low income utility assistance, and weatherization, energy conservation and energy efficiency measures to all Kansas customers.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Don Myers, Tom Hawk, Vaughn Flora, Josh Svaty, Tom Sloan, Carl Holmes, Terry McLachlan, Forrest Knox, and Richard Proehl.

Bill Smalley also contributed to the question and answer period. He noted that there is a report that was

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handed to Representative Kuether that he recommended the committee read.

Hearings on **HB 2682** were closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2008.

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