

AGENDA

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development Meeting Jointly

Tuesday, December 16, 2008

01:00 PM

Embassy Suites Little Rock - Ambassador Room - 11301 Financial Centre Parkway
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sen. Jim Luker, Chair
Sen. Ruth Whitaker, Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Hill
Sen. Jimmy Jeffress
Sen. Steve Bryles
Sen. Shane Broadway
Sen. Gene Jeffress
Sen. Mary Anne Salmon

Rep. Tommy Dickinson, Chair
Rep. James Norton, Vice Chair
Rep. Stan Berry
Rep. Lenville Evans
Rep. Benny Petrus
Rep. Sandra Prater
Rep. Scott Sullivan
Rep. Mike Kenney
Rep. Curren Everett
Rep. Roy Ragland
Rep. Eddie Cooper
Rep. Gregg Reep
Rep. Monty Davenport
Rep. Lindsley Smith
Rep. Mike Burris

Rep. Bill Sample
Rep. Robbie Wills
Rep. Nathan George
Rep. John Lowery
Rep. Fred Allen
Rep. Mark Martin, Non-Voting
Rep. Bruce Maloch, Non-Voting
Rep. John Paul Wells, Non-Voting
Rep. Lamont Cornwell, Non-Voting
Rep. Robert Moore, Non-Voting
Rep. Joan Cash, Non-Voting
Rep. Buddy Lovell, Non-Voting
Rep. Bryan King, Non-Voting
Rep. Larry Cowling, Non-Voting
Rep. Jerry Brown, Non-Voting

- A. Call to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes from the September 23, October 3 & 4, 2008 Minutes
- C. Welcoming Remarks by Senate Chairman and Speaker-elect Robbie Wills

D. **Green Sustainability: An Arkansas Opportunity**

1:00 p.m. Energy Security for the Future

– Ken Nemeth, Director, Southern States Energy Board

Green Valley Network: Creating Preeminent Sustainability Technology

1:45 p.m. Arkansas' Green Valley Opportunity: Leveraging Existing Natural, Cultural and Technological Resources to Build the Next National Business Cluster

– Dan Sanker, CEO, CaseStack; Managing Director, Green Valley Network

The Economic Development in Our Backyard:

What companies are here and in discussions to move here as a result of the Green Valley Initiative?

– Steve Rust, Director, Green Valley Network; President (video presentation)

Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as "*Members and Staff Only*"

Poised for Economic Development: The Businesses in Green Valley

Sustainable Business Growth: New companies are already moving to Green Valley. How can the state support the development of a business and research cluster?

Moderator:

– Laurie Smalling, Government Relations, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (video presentation)

Panelists:

1. Bob Ames, Renewable Fuels Division, Tyson Foods, Inc.
2. Matthew Merchant, President, AlphaGen Materials Technology
3. Jeff Rice, Program Manager, University of Arkansas Applied Sustainability Center
4. Joshua Hutchinson, Director of Government Relations, BioBased Systems
5. Travis Clark, COO, Coenco
6. David Baker, Senior Vice President of Operations Support, FutureFuel Chemical Company
7. Karen McSpadden, Program Officer, Innovate Arkansas and Winrock International
8. Scott Osborn, Chief Technology Officer, BlueInGreen
9. Tom Bartlett, Marketing Director, Better World Materials
10. Mary Laurie, Director of Sustainable Initiatives, Nabholz Construction
11. Dr. Steven Gates, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, NorthWest Arkansas Community College

3:15 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. Energy Resources and Options in Arkansas

Panel Moderator

– Chris Benson, Director, Arkansas Energy Office

Electrical Power Generation: Current and Future Perspectives

- Supply vs. Demand--where are we now? What are the projections for the next 5-15 years? What are Arkansas' significant fossil resources (coal, oil, gas)?
- Re carbon-related concerns--does the power sector in Arkansas/the region anticipate new federal controls? What might they look like? What's an anticipated timeline? How might those affect power generation? Consumption in Arkansas?
- Beyond carbon controls, what are some other key issues or strategies associated with power generation/transmission/distribution in Arkansas (currently and in foreseeable future)?
– Nick Brown, CEO, Southwest Power Pool

Conserving Energy by Building Smarter

- How much energy is consumed by buildings in Arkansas (by sector, form, etc)?
- What are some strategies for conserving energy consumed in buildings?
- What efforts are underway (in public/private sectors) re building energy conservation?
– Bob East, CEO, East-Harding Inc., Construction Contractors

Transportation Energy

- Consumption in Arkansas--how much? In what forms? By whom?
- What are key issues re transportation energy in Arkansas?
- What are some strategic options that should be considered in Arkansas?
– Tommy Foltz, President, Foltz Company LLC

Renewable Energy Options

- What are Arkansas' principal renewable energy options?
- What are some key benefits and challenges?
- What are some strategies for pursuing renewable options?
– Jim Wimberly, President, BioEnergy Systems LLC

E. Other Business

F. Adjournment

