Approved: April 4, 2001

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Tyson at 9:00 a.m. on March 27, 2001 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Janis Lee - excused

Senator Lana Oleen - excused

Senator Dwayne Umbarger - excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department

Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Judy Krase, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list

Senator Tyson called this meeting in order to work <u>House Concurrent Resolution 5009</u>, urging Congress to address the conservation and preservation of the High Plains Aquifer. Staff of Legislative Research reviewed the bill and discussion followed.

Senator Huelskamp moved that the words "portions of" be added after the word "WHEREAS" on line 16 of page 1, and that the word "portion" be stricken and replaced with the word "region" on line 17 of page 1. Senator Downey seconded the motion. The amendment passed.

Senator Huelskamp moved that the words "transition the economy as well as" on page 1, lines 31 and 32 be stricken, seconded by Senator Taddiken. The amendment passed.

Senator Oleen submitted an amendment to the Resolution which added addresses of the Chairmen of the United States Senate Committee on Environment and the United States House Committee on Resources (Attachment 1).

<u>Senator Huelskamp moved that the Committee accept Senator Oleen's proposed amendment, seconded by Senator Downey.</u> The amendment passed.

Senator Huelskamp moved that HCR 5009 be passed as amended, seconded by Senator Taddiken. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 3-27-01

NAME	REPRESENTING
Al Le Doux	KWO-KWA KLA Pinega-Smith Company Kearney Law Office
Sidd Johnson	KLA
Doug Smire Michael White	Pinega-Smith Company
Michael White	Hearney Law Office
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As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2001

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5009

By Committee on Environment

1-30

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States to address the conservation and preservation of the High Plains Aquifer.

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WHEREAS, The High Plains Aquifer is the most important water resource in the eight-state High Plains Region, including Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The water tables of the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas, particularly in the Ogallala portion, have declined dramatically over the past four decades; and

WHEREAS, The projected depletion of the High Plains Aquifer will may require the necessary transition to dryland farming for many areas of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The State is addressing the groundwater depletion through conservation programs and new management approaches; and

WHEREAS, The federal farm program has a significant impact on farmers' agricultural practices; and

WHEREAS, Some of the farm program costs to the government could be transferred as incentives to the farmers to convert irrigated land to dryland and other conservation actions instead of price supports for excess productions; and

WHEREAS, Much of the western Kansas economy is based on irrigated agriculture, and assistance is needed to transition the economy as well as conserve and preserve the High Plains Aquifer: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Legislature of the State of Kansas urges the Congress of the United States to take action appropriate funds through the federal farm program to assist states to conserve and preserve the High Plains Aquifer consistent with the recommendation contained in the Kansas Water Office Committee Report on Federal Actions Necessary for the Conservation and Environmental Preservation of the High Plains Aquifer dated October 27, 2000; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution and the Committee Report to the President of the United States, George W. Bush; Senator Richard G. Lugar,

Proposed amendment Senator Oleen 3/21/01

Senate Natural Resources Committee Date 3-3 7-0 i Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Room 328A, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-6000; Representative Larry Combest, Chairman, United States House Committee on Agriculture, 1301 House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; The United States Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman; and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

Senator Robert Smith, Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Environment, 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Representative James Hansen, Chairman, United States House Committee on Resources, 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515;