

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ralph Ostmeyer at 8:45 a.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Terry Bruce, Excused
Senator Garrett Love, Excused

Committee staff present:
Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dana Wethington, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Shari Feist Albrecht, Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission

Others attending:
See attached list.

Confirmation Hearing on the Reappointment of Shari Feist Albrecht, member of the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission

Chairman Ostmeyer opened the **Confirmation Hearing on the Reappointment of Shari Feist Albrecht, member of the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission**.

Shari Feist Albrecht provided testimony that included a timeline for the Kansas KLLW. (Attachment 1) She is an attorney with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. She has been a Kansas representative on the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission (CIC) since 2009. Kansas is a member with three other states: Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. Since the settlement of the lawsuit against Nebraska in 2004, the CIC has resolved to downsize its operation and to forego actively seeking a disposal site for low-level radioactive waste within the region. She stood for questions.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Ostmeyer called for final action. Senator Abrams made a motion, seconded by Senator Francisco, to pass out favorably the Reappointment of Shari Feist Albrecht, member of the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission; motion passed.

Chairman Ostmeyer announced that members had received draft minutes from previous Committee meetings. Senator McGinn moved, seconded by Senator Teichman; motion carried that minutes from previous meetings be approved.

Chairman Ostmeyer announced additional meetings are on call of the Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: March 17, 2011

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Testimony for Confirmation Hearing Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission

**Presented to
Senate Natural Resources Committee
by
Shari Feist Albrecht**

March 17, 2011

Good morning, Chairman Ostmeyer and members of the Committee. I am Shari Feist Albrecht, currently employed as an attorney with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. I am a native Kansan, born in Lawrence and raised in western Kansas, Tribune and Sharon Springs, specifically. I returned to eastern Kansas to attend college and law school, graduating from KU with a degree in Spanish and with a law degree from Washburn Law School. Except for an 18-month period involving a move and the birth of a child, I have been employed in state government since November 1984. I first worked at the Kansas Corporation Commission as a staff attorney and later as Conservation Division director.

I have been employed at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment since September 1993, first as a presiding officer hearing primarily environmental appeals and later as a public service executive performing environmental policy research and writing for the director of the Division of Environment and developing legislation and regulation proposals to implement environmental policies. It was in the policy research role that I first became involved in the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission in 2005, providing research support to then-Commissioner Joe Harkins. I was appointed Commissioner in June 2008, subject to Senate confirmation, and confirmed January 27, 2009.

The Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission (CIC) is composed of four states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Jeffrey Myers, the Louisiana Commissioner, currently chairs the commission having done so since February 18, 2010, when he was selected to fill the remainder of the Oklahoma Commissioner's term as Chair. To provide a history of the CIC, I have attached a timeline that traces its activities in the context of national and state low-level radioactive waste law and policy.

Since the settlement of the lawsuit against Nebraska in 2004, the CIC has resolved to downsize its operation and to forgo actively seeking a disposal site for low-level radioactive waste within the region. The CIC now maintains office space in the home of its administrator. The CIC meets annually in June, rotating meeting locations within the region states; the June 2011 meeting will be conducted in Kansas at a location yet to be determined. In the past, the CIC met periodically throughout the year by telephone primarily to approve export applications. As a result of changes made to the Bylaws in 2009, export applications are now reviewed and approved by Commission voting conducted electronically.

During 2010, the CIC approved 30 export applications, including 15 from Kansas generators. In Kansas, the mix of generators included one major generator, seven small generators, and seven very small generators. Most

Continuation Hearing

March 17, 2011

Page 2

of the small and very small generators dispose of waste generated at medical/pharmaceutical facilities or educational institutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and for your consideration of my continued appointment to serve as the Kansas Commissioner.