

**Kansas Energy Council Biomass Committee  
February 26, 2007 Meeting**

Chair Holmes opened the meeting with introductions and a legislative update of the following bills: HB 2013, HB 2039, HB 2405, HB 2419, HB 2476, SB 262, SB 298, SB 303, SB 327.

Chair Holmes then shared a report on the potential loss of the livestock feeding industry in Kansas because of being behind Iowa and Nebraska on ethanol. The concern is that processing may start to move away from Kansas in part because of the excess supply of distillers grains in the ethanol-heavy states.

Secretary Polansky reported on the North Central Bioeconomy Consortium (NCBEC). This is a multi-state initiative created by state Departments of Agriculture, corresponding university extension office, and land grant university research/experiment stations, along with not-for-profit and for-profit organizations to identify and jointly act upon opportunities to ensure Midwestern states move forward on energy independence, biomass utilization, and the development of bioeconomies. Secretary Polansky believes this is a collaborative opportunity for research regarding how we pool our regional resources, as well as to provide Kansas with a leadership opportunity. Ken Frahm suggested a vote of confidence from the full KEC on the group and Secretary Polansky concurred.

The committee received reports from KTEC and NISTAC. Various initiatives are underway, including the progression of the pursuit of the NBAF facility as well as Sunflower Integrated facility. Edenspace is also looking at locating in Kansas as they would like to produce as soon as 2009.

Corey Mohn provided a summary of the progress on background papers for biodiesel and bioethanol to the committee. Kent Glasscock believes there should be some focus on creating a technology pipeline to Kansas to allow for the secondary industries (i.e. biodiesel) to flourish. Secretary Polansky hoped the paper would result in a positive directive for where Kansas can proceed to be successful in renewable energy.

Corey Mohn moved on to outline the 2007 USDA Farm Bill proposals. Of the eight specifically proposed points in the Energy Title, a few points were discussed in detail. Kent Glasscock suggested that any funding directed to cellulosic ethanol include language to allow the money to be spent on “game-changing technologies” like that used by Edenspace. In addition, he thought the definitions of research and laboratory network should be expanded beyond the university landscape. Greg Krissik commented that the CCC Bioenergy Program made a difference with 20-30 plants between 2002-2004. The direct support to cellulosic ethanol producers would be a similar benefit, so this has merit. We should also be paying attention to initiatives by the Department of Energy, not just the Department of Agriculture. Secretary Polansky feels that the \$1.6 billion provided for cellulosic ethanol over the next 10 years is not enough money if we are serious about developing the industry.

The discussion concluded with a conversation regarding the merits of CO2 sequestration. Marty Dubois and Bill Harrison mentioned that having a number of plants connected via a pipeline would allow the capacity to add up and make the project feasible. Kansas oil reservoirs would serve to our advantage in creating a carbon sink.

Chair Holmes closed the meeting.