



**KANSAS ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.**

# NEWSMAKER

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Winter 2017

## **KEPCo Attends Southwest Power Pool Legislative Conference**

Phil Wages, KEPCo, attended the three-day Southwest Power Pool Government Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C., where approximately 50 attendees were present, representing the utilities within the SPP region. A variety of topics were discussed, centered around issues impacting the electric utility industry and how Congress and the administration are addressing these matters. The speakers for the conference included several experts in the energy industry, as well as Members of Congress serving on jurisdictional energy committees and representing districts within the SPP region. These individuals included: Keynote speaker Congressman Joe Barton (TX), Chairman Emeritus and current Vice Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Member of the Subcommittees on Energy, Environment, and Oversight and Investigations, and Member of the Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus; Congressman Robert Latta (OH), Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and its Energy and Environment Subcommittees, Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus, and Grid Innovation Caucus; Congressman Donald Bacon (NE), Member of the House Small Business Committee and its Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy, and Trade, and Member of the Climate Solutions Caucus; U.S. Representative Gene Green (TX), Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and its Subcommittees on Energy and Environment, and Co-Chair of the Congressional Natural Gas Caucus; U.S. Senator Jeff Flake (AZ), Member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Water and Power, and member of the Subcommittees on Energy and Public Lands, Forests, and Mining.



Representatives from Midwest Energy, KEPCo, Empire District, ITC, and Sunflower visit with Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins during the SPP conference.

U.S. Representative Gene Green (TX), Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and its Subcommittees on Energy and Environment, and Co-Chair of the Congressional Natural Gas Caucus; U.S. Senator Jeff Flake (AZ), Member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Water and Power, and member of the Subcommittees on Energy and Public Lands, Forests, and Mining.

## **Marcus Harris and Dale Short Discuss G&T and Co-op Relationships**

At the NRECA Region 7 & 9 meeting in Denver, CO., Marcus Harris, KEPCo EVP & CEO, and Dale Short, Manager of Butler Electric Cooperative, were panelists on a breakout session entitled, "The Evolving G&T/Distribution Cooperative Relationship: Exploring Interrelationship Opportunities." Marcus and Dale examined changing technology, rate designs, and changing member expectations. Marcus and Dale emphasized that the G&T and the member cooperative must work collaboratively for the betterment of all members.

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## KEPCo Finance Department Assists Wolf Creek

For the past 16 months, staff of KEPCo's Finance Department (Jill Taggart, Stephanie Anderson, and Shari Koch) have been traveling to Wolf Creek weekly to assist Wolf Creek's accounting department with various accounting functions. The assistance has been valuable to Wolf Creek and a growth opportunity for the Finance Department staff.



Jill Taggart



Stephanie Anderson



Shari Koch

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President Kevin Compton address the KEPCo Board of Trustees during Annual Meeting.

## KEPCo Conducts Annual Meeting

KEPCo celebrated its 43rd Annual Meeting November 15 in Wichita, KS. President Kevin Compton provided remarks and thanked the Board for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Marcus Harris, KEPCo EVP & CEO, reviewed accomplishments made in 2017 and provided insight on the items KEPCo will focus on in 2018. The following day, the Board unanimously re-elected the current KEPCo Officers and Executive Committee.

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## Prairie Sky Solar Performance

Prairie Sky Solar, which became commercially viable in late February, performed exceptionally well this year, providing a positive net savings in energy and demand costs to the KEPCo members. Through October, Prairie Sky Solar generated 1,480 MWh and provided an average of 841 kW of capacity over the four summer peak months.



Prairie Sky Solar

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## KEPCo Presents 2018 Budget

KEPCo staff presented the proposed 2018 budget to the KEPCo Finance and Audit Committee in November. The proposed budget will be presented to the KEPCo Board of Trustees at the December Board of Trustees meeting.

## KEPCo Submits Grant Application

As part of the Volkswagen settlement with the EPA and California, a distribution of a set amount of money to each of the 50 states has been established. The amount, per state, is dependent upon the number of impacted vehicles in each state. Kansas will receive approximately \$15.6 million dollars over 10 years and the fund will be administered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (Trustee). As the Trustee, KDHE will have the responsibility of distributing the money on projects that promote the reduction of nitrogen oxide emissions, which can include the deployment of electric vehicle charging stations. KEPCo submitted a proposal to KDHE of a vehicle charging network that will place 38 charging stations within the service territories of KEPCo's member cooperatives.

## KEPCo Attends Wolf Creek Tours

Phil Wages, KEPCo, along with representatives from Westar Energy and KCP&L, accompanied three separate groups on tours of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station over the summer and fall months. The first tour was with Paul Davis, candidate for the Kansas 2nd District Congressional seat, followed by a tour with the Joint Committee on Kansas Security, which is comprised of members of the Kansas Legislature, and the final tour was with the staff of Missouri and Kansas congressional members and state legislators.



Paul Davis, candidate for the 2nd District Congressional seat, on a tour of Wolf Creek.



Several members of the Joint Committee on Kansas Security and Wolf Creek guide.



Congressional and state legislative staff members on a tour of Wolf Creek.



### KEPCo Board of Trustee Members Retire

Dale Coomes, Manager of Heartland Rural Electric, Ken Maginley, Manager of Bluestem Electric, and Bob Reece, Manager of Flint Hills Rural Electric announced their retirements earlier in the year and were recognized and honored at KEPCo's Annual Meeting for their service to the KEPCo Board of Trustees.

Dale, Ken, and Bob have been cornerstones on the KEPCo Board of Trustees for a combined tenure of 94 years. Suffice it to say, these three gentlemen have been involved in essentially everything that has occurred at KEPCo over the past 30-plus years. Their depth and breadth of knowledge and experience will be greatly missed.



From l to r: Dale Coomes, Ken Maginley, and Bob Reece.

From your friends and colleagues at KEPCo and the KEPCo Board of Trustees, thank you for your dedicated service and we wish you a long, healthy, and happy retirement.



### Wink Hartman Visits KEPCo

Gubernatorial candidate Wink Hartman, R-Wichita, stopped by the KEPCo offices to discuss his campaign agenda and for Mr. Hartman to get a better understanding of KEPCo and electric cooperatives.

Wink Hartman (second from left), and KEPCo staff members.