

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Thursday, June 25, 2026

10:00 AM

311 S. West Ave.

El Dorado, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Mark Johnson, Co-Chair; and Brad Simon; Representatives Matthew J. Shepherd, Co-Chair; Rick Beck, Steve Hollowell, Jack Ladyman, Richard McGrew, and Ron McNair

Other members present: Senators Steve Crowell, Kim Hammer, and Matt Stone; Representatives Lincoln Barnett, Howard Beaty Jr., Carol Dalby, Jon Eubanks, Jessie McGruder, Marcus Richmond, Johnny Rye, and Richard Womack

Representative Shepherd called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve February 24, 2026, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit B]

Senator McNair made a motion to approve meeting minutes, seconded by Representative Rick Beck, and the motion carried.

American Petroleum Institute (API) Presentation

Gifford Briggs, Gulf Coast Region Director, API, and Mason Hamilton, Vice President, Economics and Research, API, presented on how the oil and petroleum industry is being disrupted by releases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. They highlighted that the volume of oil diverted is roughly equal to the daily fuel needs of every airplane worldwide and all diesel-powered vehicles and equipment in the United States.

Murphy USA Presentation [Exhibit D]

Mindy West, President and CEO, Murphy USA Inc., delivered a presentation detailing the origin of the company and its ongoing growth. She also expressed that the company is committed to giving back by investing a portion of its profits into local businesses and charitable programs.

Arkansas Oil Marketers Association Presentation

Justin Sewell, President, Sewell Oil Company, Inc., Tri-County Oil Company, Inc., and Sewell Transport, LLC; Matt Lyles, Vice President, Coulson Oil Company, Inc; and Steve Goode, Executive Director, Arkansas Oil Marketers Association; provided a discussion regarding how residents of Arkansas often hold them accountable for rising gas prices. They also shared that their company's marketing approach for gas is influenced by replacement costs and the weekly volume of gas they consume.

College and Workforce Development Overview [Exhibit F]

Dr. Stephanie Tulley-Dartez, President, South Arkansas College, provided an overview regarding the new facilities and programs that the school will introduce. Additionally, she highlighted the school's support for several of the Regional Manufacturers Degree programs.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Following the meeting: Tour of Delek US Refinery