

Rep. Tom Sloan (R, Lawrence) addressed Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz and members of the Quadrennial Energy Review (QER) Team on the nation's electric infrastructure needs. The QER process was initiated by a presidential order as part of the national process to determine our nation's energy needs and strategic opportunities.

"I focused my comments on five aspects of national energy needs and opportunities: 1) the Council of State Governments' (CSG) Interstate High Voltage Electric Transmission Line Siting Compact that can increase collaboration between federal agencies (e.g., Forest Service, Park Service) and many states to streamline the decision-making process; 2) the need to develop integrated wind-solar-energy storage-other renewable generation sources (e.g., bio-digester) electric generation projects to increase the capacity (reliability) of renewable energy; 3) the need of DOE to work with the private sector financial community to develop 'insurance' programs that encourage innovation and protect rate-payer interests (e.g., similar to crop insurance or fire insurance); 4) encourage development of new types of electric transmission towers that offer reduced view shed interference (e.g., similar to a competition in Iceland); and 5) work more closely with CSG and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), both legislators' professional organizations, to develop shared objectives and strategies to cost-effectively meet regional and national energy needs," said Sloan.

Rep. Sloan was invited by Dept. of Energy staff members to address the Secretary and QER Team. He was selected because of his service on the DOE's Electricity Advisory Committee and GridWise Architecture Council; his leadership on energy issues in Kansas, CSG, and NCSL; and the seven Regional Electric Transmission Summits that he has hosted in Kansas. He was the only state legislator to address electric infrastructure issues.

Sloan is serving his 10th term in the Kansas House of Representatives, chairs the Vision 2020 Committee, and is a member of the Transportation and Agriculture & Natural Resources Committees.

###