

Petroleum Pipeline Study Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 9, 2017 2:00 p.m.
Gressette Building, Room 105

Members Present: Senators: Tom Young (CH), Brad Hutto, and Shane Massey, ;
Representatives: William “Bill” Hixon and Russel Ott; C. Dukes Scott (ORS Executive Director);
Michael Traynham (DHEC Assistant General Counsel); Public Members: Donald Gardner; W.
McLeod Rhodes

Staff Present: Heather Anderson, Roland Franklin

Meeting:

Senator Young called the meeting to order. He asked the study committee members whether as a policy matter for the State, should petroleum pipeline companies be given eminent domain authority, and if so, under what circumstances? The members discussed various aspects and issues related to whether or not petroleum pipeline companies should have eminent domain authority in South Carolina. During this discussion, questions were asked about Georgia’s pending legislation (S.B. 191) which would grant eminent domain authority to petroleum pipeline companies under certain conditions.

Sen. Young summarized issues raised at meetings held by the Study Committee, as well as meetings of the Senate subcommittee that worked on S. 868 in the prior legislative session.

Sen. Hutto moved that the Study Committee request an extension on issuing its report to have time to study the Georgia legislation, to further explore the issues identified in Sen. Young’s oral summary, and to determine if any other issues may need to be considered by the Study Committee. These issues would be reduced to bullet point form and posted on the Study Committee’s website to allow for public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Young asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. Ms. Laura Haskell Phinizy spoke briefly regarding her view on petroleum pipeline matters.

Don Siron, with the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), provided an update regarding the Belton spill pipeline clean-up, as well as general information regarding pipeline releases in South Carolina since 1970 that DHEC is currently monitoring.

With no further business before the Study Committee, Mr. Dukes Scott made a motion to adjourn; Sen. Massey seconded the motion. The meeting was then adjourned, to reconvene at the call of the chair.