

2016 USGO OKLAHOMA REPORT



**Amelia Island, FL
July 31 – August 3, 2016**

OKLAHOMA AT A GLANCE

STATE PROFILE

Capitol City	Oklahoma City
Governor	Mary Fallin
General Elections	November 8, 2016
Legislature Convenes	February 6, 2017

SENATE

Republicans	39
Democrats	9
Term	4 Years
Presiding Officer	President Pro Tempore, Brian Bingman
Majority Leader	Mike Schulz
Minority Leader	John Sparks
Major Utility Committee	Energy Committee, Bryce Marlatt (Chair)

HOUSE

Republicans	72
Democrats	29
Term	2 Years
Presiding Officer	Speaker, Jeff Hickman
Majority Leader	Charles Ortega
Minority Leader	Scott Inman
Major Utility Committee	Utilities, Todd Thomsen (Chair)

REGULATORY BODY

Members	Bob Anthony – R (Chair) Dana Murphy – R Todd Hiatt - R
Method of Selection	Election
Current Issues	General Rate Case (including DG Rate and Residential Demand Charge), Regional Haze Compliance, and Smart Grid Opt-Out

2016 OKLAHOMA LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The second Session of the 55th Legislature of Oklahoma convened on February 4, 2016, and Adjourned Sine Die on May 27, 2016.

UTILITY COALITION LEGISLATION

Top Priority – OAEC, OGE & PSO – While we ran no legislation this Session, OGE lent their support to measures relating to elimination of the “Zero Emissions Tax Credit” (Wind Energy). Additionally, the Utility Coalition supported UAV Restrictions over our “critical Infrastructure” and also focused our efforts on defeating adverse legislation, primarily relating to the Clean Power Plan and Eminent Domain, among others.

SESSION OVERVIEW

Against a backdrop of some 3,500 pieces of legislation, including numerous social issues and 2nd Amendment measures, the Oklahoma Legislature found itself facing a Budget Failure in the current year and a projected Budget Gap of \$1.4 Billion for the upcoming fiscal year. Nearly 75% of the Bills failed the 1st deadline, as the gravity of the budget challenges took more attention. However, the Budget wasn’t passed until the very last day of the Session.