

### **Rep. Sloan Visits Edmonton Waste Management Centre**

Rep. Tom Sloan (R, Lawrence) visited the 550 acre Edmonton (Canada) Waste Management Centre (EWMC) as part of a National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) sponsored Energy Supply Task Force tour. EWMC is the largest integrated waste management facility in North America on one site and is being developed by Alberta Province, City of Edmonton, and private sector businesses.

The Centre contains biosolids storage lagoons, compost curing, e-waste recycling, construction and demolition recycling, materials recovery (sorting of municipal waste streams), leachate treatment facility (liquids seeping through a closed landfill), advanced energy research facility, and a biofuels facility still under construction.

"The comprehensive waste treatment centre costs \$90 million, but represents a long-term approach to handling all types of wastes from households to industries," Sloan said. "Its biofuel from municipal waste research facility will result in advances in methanol and ethanol production breakthroughs that can be implemented worldwide."

One of the major objectives is for the output from one waste handling facility be the input stream for another part of the operation or for another offsite business. Alberta Province and Edmonton are attempting to create an integrated industrial sector that is self-sustaining and effectively reduces the need for landfills to almost nothing.

"The planning for such an integrated vision for handling wastes and commercializing the outputs from the various waste handling operations demonstrates that governments and private sector partners can develop viable business plans that reflect public support for sustainability investments," said Sloan. "The discussions with Alberta and Edmonton officials and the managers of the Centre will help the Kansas Legislature examine sustainability opportunities and private-public sector partnerships in new ways."

Rep. Sloan is serving his 9th term in the Kansas House of Representatives and is Chairman of the Vision 2020 Committee. He is a member of the NCSL Energy Supply Task Force and the NCSL Environment Task Force; the Council of State Governments' Energy & Environment Committee and is co-chairman of the Interstate Transmission Siting Compact Task Force; and the GridWise Architecture Council (GWAC).

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