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**Attn: Chairman Delperdang and members of the committee**

Thank you hosting this hearing today.

It has been an encouraging process to work with varying stakeholders and present a balanced bill that lands on some very solid middle ground between the Solar industry and the Investor Owned Utilities in regards specifically to net-metering.

A year ago I stood before you asking for three things:

- 1. Clarity**
- 2. Consistency**
- 3. Certainty**

Our existing Net Metering statute was written in our industry's infancy. Technology was just becoming commercially viable for grid interactive systems. National testing standards were still being developed and while the National Electric Code included solar and energy storage, it did little more than mention its existence.

Fast forward to today.

The testing and safety standards are nationally recognized. The early adopters have helped utility companies and investment firms learn to trust the function and viability of the technology, and energy storage is on the cusp of fiscal viability.

However, our legislation remains out dated.

For example:

- We don't have common language to describe the flow of electrons from the utility to the customer and vice versa.
  - Is that power delivered? Received? Produced? Imported? Sold? Or otherwise?
- What is a generation system's size and what size is "appropriate"?
  - Is it the number of solar panels? The inverter's peak capacity? What if the inverter has no defined nameplate rating?
- What do we do when a neighborhood's electrical infrastructure is too congested to accept more solar or what happens when the required distributed generation capacity for the year is fully subscribed. Or what if a customer wants to manage their electrical load within their own building?

These, along with other items, are gaps in our current statutes.

From that hearing last year until today, there has been significant effort put into negotiating new language that creates clarity across the industry, consistency in how systems are sized & certainty in what we can all expect. I'm particularly proud of the way our team has been able to work with Eversource to plan for the future.

In this bill you will see language that guarantees certainty for the solar industry while protecting the utility from drastic changes, such as the stepped approach to increasing the net-metering cap from 1% to 5%.



In this bill you will find clarity in defining that the point of interconnection is to be at the billing meter which gives Kansans the freedom to manage their own energy within their property, but also guarantees the utility company's right to verify those set points through witness testing which protects our shared grid infrastructure.

In this bill you will find consistency in determining how solar projects are sized and an openness to new rate options for Kansans such as time varying rates, which have the potential to actually incentivize distributed generation resources while more accurately matching energy production and consumption to realtime cost.

You'll also see a simplified and increased individual net-metering cap of 150kW with a future option for larger export limited systems. Export limited systems will allow Kansans to plan for the future. However, there is also a provision to protect the average Kansan who desires to utilize net-metering by requiring extremely large systems to still be interconnected under the parallel generation provisions found in other statute.

Just as in every negotiation, there are items that are not exactly what we wanted. Evergy has also worked in good-faith to find common ground and compromise where necessary.

I'm hopeful that we can bring another solid piece of middle ground legislation to you in the coming weeks that brings clarity, consistency & certainty to the Municipal and Cooperative utilities through adjustments to Parallel Generation statute. I'm also hopeful that we can find common ground with all three utility groups to include consumer protections, but those items are for another day.

I look forward to this bills' continued progress and with mutual support from both Evergy and our team at the Clean Energy Business Council I look forward to the long term certainty that will be brought to our state and our shared industry.

Thank you for your time. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Horst".



**Mark Horst**  
**King Solar**  
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