



February 6, 2024

The Honorable Representative Leo Delperdang
Chair, Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee
Kansas State Capital
300 SW 10th St.
Topeka, KS 66612

Subject: HB 2527

Dear Chairman Delperdang,

As part of my work on task forces for Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) for the U.S. Department of Energy, and as CEO of a company working to build cheap, zero carbon Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES)/green H2 projects in this part of the country, I have concerns about the expressed desire by Eversource to switch coal power plants to natural gas power plants. In testimony by Chuck Caisley of Eversource on January 16, he said that Eversource was pursuing "hydrogen capable" gas plants to address the need for dispatchable energy in their service territory. There are cheaper options that are better for the economy, will lower electricity rates, and could bring billions of dollars of development to western and central Kansas.

There are new hydrogen power technologies that Eversource is not considering that are superior to the natural gas plants. One is CAES/green H2 that offers 12-100 hours of storage, makes the most efficient use of green H2 for generating electricity of any technology and produces electricity at rates cheaper than natural gas power. Kansas has all the natural assets to support CAES/green H2 projects. The other option is the full Siemens Hydrogen Power Plant (HPP) that will be available by 2026 that runs on 100% green H2 which in this part of the country is cheaper than natural gas.

While I am neutral on HB 2527, I urge you to encourage Eversource to avoid the mistake of using expensive, economically damaging natural gas power that will only see drastic rate increases as the costs of natural gas rise higher. The best new, reliable power options for Kansas, with economic benefits that are especially lucrative for western and central Kansas, are CAES/green H2 and HPP using green H2 made right here in Kansas.

If you would like more information about these new power technologies I am happy to share information about them with you. My contact information is below. Thanks for your time. I am happy to answer questions.

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