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SENATE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES

Neutral, In-Person Testimony

SB 92 – Extending Timeline for Final Orders in Transmission Line Siting Dockets

February 5, 2025

Presented by:

**Reagan McCloud, Director of Government Relations
Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc.**

Chairman Fagg, Vice Chair Petersen, Ranking Member Francisco, and members of the Senate Committee on Utilities, thank you for the opportunity to submit neutral testimony on behalf of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC) and our members concerning SB 92. I am Reagan McCloud, and I serve as Director of Government Relations for KEC, the statewide service association for 29 member, not-for-profit cooperatives providing electric service in 103 of 105 Kansas counties.

SB 92 extends the time in which the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) must make a final order on an electric transmission line siting application from 120 to 180 days. KEC and its members maintain a tremendous level of respect for the KCC and the business it conducts. KEC's rationale for being a neutral conferee on SB 92 is twofold.

First, KEC understands that the business conducted throughout line siting dockets is complicated.

KEC was an intervenor in KCC Docket #24-GIME-102-GIE, the KCC's "Investigation into Principles and Priorities for Location of a Proposed Transmission Line in Future Line Siting Proceedings." We are still reviewing the results of the final order of the docket which was released on Jan. 23, 2025. However, in the future, our members understand that additional time may be necessary for the KCC to provide comprehensive orders regarding line siting dockets.

Second, KEC understands concerns about price impacts stemming from an additional 60 days.

We acknowledge that increasing the deadline for final orders from 120 to 180 days may increase costs for our members, including those engaging in transmission line siting dockets. We also realize that this additional time might increase the quality of the final KCC orders, which is best for all utilities, including our members. We anticipate that our members, especially those impacted by the line siting process, will take advantage of this additional time to engage in the procedure.

Reagan McCloud

Director of Government Relations
Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc.