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Written Testimony in Support of SB 348  
Before the Kansas Senate Committee on Utilities

National Beef Packing Company, L.L.C.  
Caleb Tschetter, Vice President of Engineering

January 22, 2026

Chairman Fagg, Vice Chair Petersen, Ranking Member Francisco and members of the Senate Committee on Utilities, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 348 on behalf of National Beef Packing Company, L.L.C. My name is Caleb Tschetter, and I serve as the Vice President of Engineering for National Beef Packing Company, L.L.C.

Southern Pioneer Electric (Southern Pioneer), a Kansas not-for-profit corporate utility, currently supplies electric Power to the National Beef Packing Company (NBP) location in Liberal, KS. Southern Pioneer is also currently regulated by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). Because they are regulated, Southern Pioneer incurs significant costs and must seek approval from the KCC prior to establishing or changing tariffs or enacting certain policies.

The costs associated with KCC regulation are passed along to customers. Waiting for approvals from the KCC for Southern Pioneer to implement policy is also a burden on customers. For example, Southern Pioneer was required to obtain KCC approval before enacting a policy that would provide a payback plan for customers to pay for excessive costs resulting from Winter Storm Uri. The delay in approving the payback plan was not only a burden to customers but also added to the reimbursement cost.

These delays and expenses could be avoided if Southern Pioneer was no longer regulated by the KCC. National Beef Packing Company, LLC is therefore in support of de-regulating Southern Pioneer Electric Company from oversight by the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL BEEF PACKING COMPANY, L.L.C.

Caleb Tschetter  
Vice President of Engineering