

February 8, 2023
Opposition to SB68
Written-Only
Paul Cicio
Pcicio@ieca-us.org



Electricity
Transmission
Competition
Coalition

February 8, 2023

Chairman Sen. Robert Olson,
Vice-Chairman Sen. Mike Petersen,
Ranking Member Sen. Marci Francisco and Members of the Committee
300 SW 10th St,
Topeka, KS, 66612

Dear Chairman Olson, Vice-Chairman Petersen, Ranking Member Francisco and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of 86 organizations and companies in opposition to Senate Bill 68, which would grant incumbent electric utilities the right of first refusal (ROFR) to build and operate new electricity transmission projects. It grants the utility monopoly power to build transmission lines in an era when it is a norm that all other businesses face market competition. Granting this monopoly power would lead to high inflationary electricity costs for consumers for decades to come.

Where competition has been allowed to occur nationwide, transmission competition has been shown to lower costs by as much as 30%, which would save consumers money each month on their utility bills. Studies have verified similar findings.¹ In a climate of record inflation, driven in large part by spiraling electricity costs, we cannot afford to turn our backs on competition. Competition drives down construction costs and increases innovation, both of which benefit households and businesses which in turn will drive a robust economy for Kansas.²

We urge you to reject SB68. Stand up for consumers and not the monopoly power of the incumbent electricity utility.

Thank you for protecting consumers in the State of Kansas from higher costs.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio

¹ Brattle Group: Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission, https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726_cost_savings_offered_by_competition_in_electric_transmission.pdf

² Brattle Group: Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission, https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726_cost_savings_offered_by_competition_in_electric_transmission.pdf

Paul N. Cicio

Chairman, Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition

<https://electricitytransmissioncompetitioncoalition.org/>

MEMBERS OF THE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COALITON

Ag Processing

Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC)

Aluminum Association

American Chemistry Council

American Forest & Paper Association

American Foundry Society

American Iron and Steel Institute

Anbaric Development Partners, LLC

Ardagh Group

Arglass Yamamura

Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers, Inc.

Arkansas Forest and Paper Council

Association of Businesses Advocating for Tarrif Equity

CalPortland Company

Can Manufacturers Institute

Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates

Carolina Utility Customers Association, Inc.

Century Aluminum

Chemistry Council of New Jersey

Coalition of MISO Transmission Customers

Coastal Energy Corporation

Commercial Metals Company

Council of Industrial Boilers Organization

Delaware Energy Users Group

Digital Realty

Domtar Corporation

Eramet Marietta Inc.

Formosa Plastics Corporation, USA

Foundry Association of Michigan

Glass Packaging Institute

Illinois Industrial Energy Consumers

Indiana Cast Metals Association

Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers

Industrial Energy Consumers of America

Industrial Energy Consumers of Pennsylvania

Industrial Energy Users-Ohio

Industrial Minerals Association-North America
Iowa Business Energy Coalition
Iowa Industrial Energy Group, Inc.
Iron Mining Association of Minnesota
Large Energy Users Coalition (NJ)
Lehigh Hanson, Inc.
LS Power Development, LLC
Maine Industrial Energy Consumer Group
Marathon Petroleum Company
Maryland Office of People's Counsel
Messer Americas
Metalcasters of Minnesota
Michigan Chemistry Council
Midwest Food Products Association
Minnesota Large Industrial Group
Multiple Intervenors, NY
National Council of Textile Organizations
National Retail Federation
NextEra Energy
North Carolina Manufacturers Alliance
Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia
Ohio Cast Metals Association
Ohio Chemistry Technology Council
Ohio Energy Group
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers
Olin Corporation
Owens-Illinois
Pennsylvania Energy Consumer Alliance
PJM Industrial Customer Coalition
Portland Cement Association
Public Citizen, Inc.
R Street
Resale Power Group of Iowa
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Riceland Foods, Inc.
Rio Tinto
Steel Manufacturers Association
Texas Cast Metals Association
TimkenSteel Corporation
Vallourec STAR LP
Vinyl Institute

Virginia Manufacturers Association
West Virginia Energy Users Group
Wisconsin Cast Metals Association
Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group