

**Testimony of Kansans for Lower Electric Rates (KLER) and
Kansas Industrial Consumers Group (KIC)
In Support of Senate Bill 456
Before the Senate Utilities Committee
February 15, 2024**

SB 456 is a straightforward approach to ensure that fossil fuel generating assets that customers have paid for will not be prematurely retired or abandoned without thorough consideration by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC).

The bill states:

1. The utility will replace the abandoned or retired facility with dispatchable power
2. The retired facility shall not cost customers more than simply continuing operation, and the retirement can't be due to ESG motivations, consistent with existing state law.

Concerns about electric generation capacity have grown considerably since Winter Storm Uri in 2021. Evergy, the KCC and the Southwest Power Pool have all indicated there are no plans to close generating plants in the next several years.

SB 456 simply provides certainty to all stakeholders, including customers, that Kansas will have sufficient generating resources in the future.

KIC & KLER urge the Committee to support SB 456.

Contact:

Paul Snider, on behalf of KLER & KIC | (913) 439-9723 | paul@sniderpa.com

The Kansas Industrial Consumers Group (KIC) is a coalition of large-volume energy users in Kansas. The members collectively represent billions of dollars of investment in the State and employ thousands of Kansans. Kansans for Lower Electric Rates (KLER) is an advocacy project of KIC with members of all sizes. We believe high energy costs are negatively impacting residential consumers, schools, hospitals, and large and small businesses.