300 SW TENTH AVENUE • SUITE 24-Е • ТОРЕКА, KS 66612 • (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To:Senate Committee on UtilitiesFrom:Nick Myers, Office of Revisor of StatutesDate:February 19, 2024Subject:Bill Brief – Senate Bill 457

Senate Bill 457 would amend K.S.A. 66-104 which establishes the definition of a public utility under Kansas law. Generally, if a public utility holds a certificate of convenience and necessity from the Kansas Corporation Commission such public utility may exercise the power of eminent domain in relation to the public utility's functions.¹

Currently, K.S.A. 66-104(g) expressly prohibits any public utility from exercising the power of eminent domain for the siting or placement of wind turbines. SB 457 would add another provision to K.S.A. 66-104(g) to expressly prohibit any public utility from exercising the power of eminent domain for the siting or placement of solar facilities.

¹ K.S.A. 17-618; K.S.A. 26-101.