

**Testimony on HB-2045
presented to the
Senate Utilities Committee**

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Thank you Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to speak on House Bill 2045 which addresses the serious long-time problems of constraints in the state's electric transmission system. My name is Lee Allison and I serve as the Science and Energy Policy Advisor to Governor Sebelius. I also chair the Kansas Energy Council but the Council has not reviewed this legislation or taken a position on it.

As you know, the transmission grid in Kansas suffers from a variety of constraints including flowgates and insufficient capacity in many areas. These constraints have limited opportunities for new generation capacity, increased line losses, and impact the reliability of the system. Constraints on the transmission system also constrain economic development opportunities across the state.

Most of the elements are present to resolve this problem: the technology is present, the transmission owners and utilities are prepared to make needed investments, and the will is there to take action. What is missing is an efficient, effective system to allocate the costs for improving and enhancing our transmission grid. Regional and federal regulatory bodies have long proposed changes to the allocation process but have not yet put into place those reforms.

We endorse HB2045 as a timely and appropriate contribution to improving the reliability of the state's electric transmission grid, economically benefiting electric transmission systems and consumers, and opening new economic opportunities for Kansans.

With that, I would be pleased to stand for questions.