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House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee  
Testimony in Support of House Bill 2227  
Presented by Amanda Stamm, Vice President of Energy Operations

Friday, February 4, 2023

Members of the House Committee, my name is Amanda Stamm and I'm Vice President of Energy Operations for Cromwell Environmental Inc., DBA Cromwell Solar in Lawrence, Kansas. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2227, which would allow for third-party power purchase agreements (PPAs). Currently only utility companies can enter into a PPA with a business entity, limiting Kansas businesses from being able to choose their provider and best rate source. The State of Kansas is currently enabling a monopoly on our power sources, restricting Kansas businesses and organizations opportunities to save money, self-produce power and grow their entities through cost savings by selecting their best investment opportunities.

Kansas is one of only seven states that don't allow for PPAs by providers other than utilities. This bill would allow for schools, religious organizations, businesses, and residents the opportunity to afford self-producing energy, stabilizing their organizations and providing security for their homes and businesses. The passing of this bill would allow our military solar and battery installations with size limits, so their energy needs can be met, and our forces will be more resilient. Over the years, we have many interested in going solar to off-set their massive energy costs but were unable to due to their inability to afford the upfront costs or enter into an PPA with interested financiers. PPAs are the chance for those who cannot afford the investment, the opportunity to choose their energy source provider and have control over the rate they are paying for the energy used.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 2227. I'm happy to answer any questions on how adopting House Bill 2227 would be beneficial to our State's economics and our people. Thank you for your time and consideration.