



Testimony of Kansas Industrial Consumers Group
Support of SB124
Before the Senate Utilities Committee
February 25, 2019

The Kansas Industrial Consumers Group (KICG) 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. We believe high energy costs are negatively impacting residential consumers, schools, hospitals, and large and small businesses.

KICG understands that Kansans are struggling with high electricity costs. While many homeowners invest in solar for its environmental benefits, businesses choose to invest because of the energy cost savings potential. It has to make economic sense. And with increasing electric costs, the payback for solar becomes much more attractive.

Complicating the economics of solar is the ability for Westar and KCP&L to add an additional charge on bills for solar customers. The Kansas Corporation Commission allowed the new charge on net metering customers after the Legislature gave it the authority in the 2014 legislative session.

For businesses and homeowners, the opportunity to invest in solar or other means to self-generate electricity is a matter of economic freedom. They should not be penalized with additional fees. We urge the committee to approve SB 124.

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