

PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES

RE: SB 325; concerning natural gas and gas gathering activities.

February 20, 2007
Topeka, Kansas

Testimony provided by:
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Chairman Emler and members of the Senate Committee on Utilities, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am Terry Holdren, National Director—Governmental Relations for Kansas Farm Bureau. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 40,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau Associations.

We appear before you today in support of SB 325. This legislation provides clarity to the issue of KCC jurisdiction over potential residential taps and use for agricultural operations and allows for regulation and investigation, if necessary, by the KCC. It will allow farmers and ranchers who rely on this supply of gas to continue their operations and provide them a mechanism to request review of decisions made by suppliers and the industry.

Our membership has considered this issue and supports efforts to ensure access and to provide a dependable, timely, uninterrupted supply of affordable and quality gas for irrigation and other agricultural purposes, and for rural residences. We believe SB 325 is a good product—one that will address the issues currently experienced by many well-head and gathering system users across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to share the views of our membership. We respectfully ask that you take favorable action on the bill before you today.