

**Testimony of  
Mark Schreiber  
Director Government Affairs  
Westar Energy  
On Senate Bill 120  
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Good morning Chairman Emler and members of the committee, my name is Mark Schreiber. I am the Director Government Affairs for Westar Energy.

Senate Bill 120 makes energy efficiency a more prominent factor when designing, building or buying new construction. Westar Energy supports SB 120 because energy efficiency is not just the responsibility of the utility companies nor of individual Kansas residents. The wise use of electricity must be a cooperative effort. My company has formed an internal group to specifically examine the many ways we can encourage our customers to save energy. Our primary target is to reduce peak load. This load tends to be the most expensive to serve since we must meet that load with natural gas fired power plants. Westar has also recently enhanced its website information on energy efficiency with educational and interactive features. In addition, we are developing a DVD for customers to watch to further educate them on how to save energy and use it more efficiently.

Senate Bill 120 will provide standards that builders can follow and cities can adopt if they choose. The bill also makes it easier to modify the energy efficiency disclosure form since it will not be part of the statute. Homebuyers could view the form at the time the home is offered for sale, prior to closing and at any time when requested. The form provides information about the energy efficiency for new homes. Buyers can then make informed decisions when they are shopping for what is arguably the largest purchase of their lives. Home appliances, air conditioners, furnaces and cars display their energy efficiency rating so consumers know what level of efficiency to expect from their purchase. The use of a standard form to identify the home energy rating would be equally important during the decision-making process for homebuyers.

In conclusion, Westar Energy supports SB 120. Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee this morning.