

## **Kansas Corporation Commission; HB 2487**

**HB 2487** makes several changes to law regarding issuance of certificates of public convenience by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). The bill:

- Clarifies that entities seeking to construct electric transmission lines in Kansas must obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity prior to transacting business;
- Extends the time frame for the KCC to issue a decision on a common carrier or public utility's application for mergers and acquisitions from 180 days to 300 days, with provisions for a mutually agreed upon waiver or extension of the time period;
- Directs the KCC to expeditiously process every common carrier or public utility's application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity; and
- Modifies the term "certificate of public convenience" in KSA 66-131 to read "certificate of public convenience and necessity."

In addition, the bill gives the KCC explicit authority, on its own or in association with others, to intervene or otherwise participate in state or federal proceedings on any matter the KCC reasonably believes pertains to its official duties. In addition, the KCC has discretion to file *amicus* briefs with any court in Kansas or the federal government, after conferring with the Attorney General.