

January 25, 2021

Testimony of Kate Lorenz for Senate Bill 24  
Written-only Opponent to SB 24

Dear Chairman Thompson and members of the Senate Utilities Committee,

My name is Kate Lorenz and I live Lawrence. Under today's current high emissions, my hometown is projected to have a climate similar to Gainesville, Texas, within the next few decades (<https://fitzlab.shinyapps.io/cityapp/>). For this reason, and many others, I am writing to submit testimony opposing Senate Bill No. 24.

We need a clean-energy transition as quickly as possible to slow emissions and preserve as much as we can about our Kansas climate. Within that transition, jobs and energy access are crucial considerations. Preserving the bottom line for fossil fuel companies, which have continued to harm our environment while spreading disinformation about climate change and their industry's culpability, should not be on that list.

Yes, we need to support utility access for Kansans with lower incomes. However, I disagree that safeguarding access to dirty, polluting energy is the solution. We should show leadership by investing in renewable energy and using legislative policies to outline an equitable transition, rather than creating roadblocks while the carbon in our atmosphere climbs higher and higher.

Renewable energy is becoming more affordable, more efficient, and more profitable. Jobs in fossil fuel will run out no matter how forward- or backward-thinking our state policies are. So let's look forward and create safer, more sustainable jobs for Kansans that they can take pride in.

**We are not just talking about our children and our grandchildren anymore.** Kansas could turn into Texas within my lifetime. I urge you to support Kansans and our future – or, more accurately, our present – by rejecting this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kate Lorenz

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