

# **Testimony in Support of HB2321**

## **Urban Transmission Line**

**By LaWanda DeShazer ( wanwan@sbcglobal.net)**

### **Senate Utilities Chairman Mike Thompson and Committee Members**

The ability to live in an aesthetically pleasing and environmentally safe home is a staple of every neighborhood home in America. Unfortunately, we have seen an infringement of this basic expectation in Wichita when Evergy installed 105 ft transmission poles. I am furnishing testimony as a proponent of the bill.

Representative Gail Finney and others have been seeking a remedy to ensure that communities are fully aware of equipment being installed and have a voice to express concerns. HB2321 is a great start. It makes provisions for citizens in the following ways but not limited to:

- (1) Provide notice of the preliminary construction plans to the city in which such urban electric transmission line is proposed to be constructed.
- (2) Provided notices at least six months prior to any anticipated construction
- (3) provide the preliminary construction plans and show the proposed location of all poles including dimensions
- (4) Hold an open house regarding the proposed urban electric transmission

The Bill will allow for a measure of transparency, but it would be even more transparent to have an amendment that would cover less than 2 ½ miles if dealing with large transmission poles in any urban area regardless of the population size.

As a citizen of Kansas, I support HB2321 and urge that it be approved and ultimately signed by the governor during this 2021 session.

Thank you in advance,

LaWanda DeShazer  
Community Advocate  
Wichita, KS