

Chairwoman McGinn and members of the Committee,

I am one of the future Kansans that has their farm and home at risk of being demolished by Nextera. They approached us last July pushing my brother to sign a lease for transmission lines on the 80 acres across the road from my house, I am a co-owner and his POA, he was admitted to a nursing home right after this incident since I was worried he could no longer be alone for even a minute or risk being taken advantage of, he suffers from moderate to severe dementia. I am 4th generation on the farm. It was my great grandpa's, I live in his 1877 house, my grandkids are the 6th generation living there. The 80 acres at risk, seen in the attachment below, has currently been 1/2 pasture and 1/2 soybean. This acreage contributes 25% of our farm income, without it my farm will not pencil out. Can they take 25% of my income or yours? Even taking part of it will make it unusable to produce what it does now, it is income generating! After paying taxes, raising families and working hard for over 100 years I can not understand how this is possible.

SB312 is needed to serve as a local check on the power of eminent domain being used casually by out of state companies with no connection to Kansas beyond the dollar signs they see that they can siphon from us. I hope that I can count on you to support SB312. As we've seen with the questionable methods the Kansas Corporation Commission used to determine need and award the winning bid, Kansans need a local advocate that values the livelihoods and property of Kansans at least as much as the energy needs of other states. The decision to exercise eminent domain should never be used when other options are available as reasonable alternatives. In this case NextEra is going to use eminent domain to seize property over a 92 mile swath of property to "save" \$10 million on a \$500 million dollar project. The cost of eminent domain acquisitions and lost economic productivity or property values was not factored into that \$10 million dollar savings. I'm asking you to please pass this bill to protect not just those Kansans in the way of an unneeded power line (other options exist besides cutting an entirely new right of way) but to protect future Kansans who will have to fight similar battles on later dates.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dave and Laurie Shuck Douglas County Ks.
John Fairchild via POA