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Testimony in Support of House Bill 2588

Presented by Amanda Stamm, Vice President of Energy Operations

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Chairman Fagg and members of the committee, my name is Amanda Stamm and I'm Vice President of Energy Operations for Cromwell Environmental Inc., DBA Cromwell Solar in Lawrence, Kansas. I write to you today in support of HB2588 which calls for increasing the net metering capacity and system size limitations imposed on Kansas residents and business owners by investor-owned electric utilities. This bill is important as it would give Kansas residents and business owners the opportunity to appropriately size their renewable energy systems to meet their needs and become more self-reliant. Increasing the net metering capacity allows this to be a feasible option. With little to no choice on which electric utility we buy our energy from and in a time of increasing grid-instability, the ability to have adequately sized self-generated renewable energy systems becomes pertinent to the resiliency of Kansas.

The State of Kansas and Utilities alike have goals of increasing solar production, limiting our dependency on fossil fuels and diversifying our source of power generation, however, our current net-metering policies are some of the more restrictive in the country and are counterproductive to this overall goal. With most utilities nearing their current net-metering cap, it will become increasingly more difficult to achieve our energy goals. Supporting HB2588 will continue to move Kansas in a forward direction in achieving its own goals and allows its residents the ability to contribute to the stability while ensuring their own energy needs are met.