



LINDSBORG

KANSAS

Proponent Testimony Provided to the
House Financial Institutions and Rural Development Committee
March 3, 2021

Greg DuMars, City Administrator, Lindsborg
Lucas Neece, Assistant City Administrator, Lindsborg

In Support of House Bill 2429

Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chair and Ranking Member,

The City of Lindsborg strongly supports House Bill 2429. The legislation would provide an urgently needed tool for our municipal utility and others like us to respond to the significant financial strain caused by the February extreme winter weather event.

In Lindsborg, we are facing wholesale electricity costs that are approximately 8 times higher than a regular February. For a customer who normally pays a bill of \$80, that would mean a bill of \$640. We are doing everything we can to not pass that cost along to our customers in one month, as many households are not able to cover that kind of an unexpected expense. The same is true for our large customers, including USD 400, Bethany College, Bethany Village, and Lindsborg Community Hospital. None of them are well positioned to respond to an extraordinary utility bill, and our community vitality depends on them remaining strong.

The proposed low-interest loan program in HB 2426 would enable us to recover these costs over a 10 year period, maintaining our electric reserve fund to be prepared for further disasters either from the market or from spring storms.

Thank you for your consideration and we urge your support of HB 2429.

Sincerely,


Greg DuMars, City Administrator


Lucas Neece, Assistant City Administrator