



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

Taggart Wall, City Manager, City of Winfield, Kansas

In Support of House Bill 2429

Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chair and Ranking Member,

The City of Winfield strongly supports House Bill 2429. The legislation would provide an urgently needed tool for our community to respond to the significant financial strain caused by the February extreme winter weather event.

As has been widely reported, Winfield has been hard hit by the unprecedented pricing spikes in natural gas over the period of approx. Feb. 13th to Feb. 19th. Over that time period, the City saw daily index prices for natural gas soar over 150 times the normal pricing. This event causes our utility to spend nearly \$10 million on the purchase of natural gas. In a normal twelve-month period the utility spends only \$1.6 million.

HB 2426 gives the City a much needed low-interest avenue to spread the storm specific customer impact of these charges out for a period of up to ten years. Please see the enclosed estimate of customer impact if pricing were to be forwarded over one month.

For both residents, businesses, and industry alike, this could mean the difference in staying afloat financially and keeping Fortune 500 manufacturing jobs right here in Winfield. This bill also provides us a way to apply any future federal relief directly to the cost of this storm by paying those receipts toward the loan program.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Taggart Wall".

Taggart Wall
City Manager



February Billing for January	Potential March Billing Calculation Based on Spiked Pricing
Industrial	Industrial
BASE	BASE
25710.98	25710.98
300 \$ 0.52 \$ 156	300 \$ 0.52 \$ 156
2700 \$ 0.51 \$ 1,364	2700 \$ 0.51 \$ 1,364
22710.98 \$ 0.49 \$ 11,015	22710.98 \$ 0.49 \$ 11,015
\$ 12,534	\$ 12,534
Energy Cost Adjustment	Energy Cost Adjustment
25710.98 \$ 0.05 \$ 1,260	25710.98 \$ 6.88 \$ 176,789
TOTAL \$ 13,794	TOTAL \$ 189,323
Residential	Residential
BASE	BASE
234	234
234 \$ 0.52 \$ 122	234 \$ 0.52 \$ 122
0 \$ 0.51 \$ -	0 \$ 0.51 \$ -
0 \$ 0.49 \$ -	0 \$ 0.49 \$ -
\$ 122	\$ 122
Energy Cost Adjustment	Energy Cost Adjustment
234 \$ 0.05 \$ 11	234 \$ 6.88 \$ 1,609
TOTAL \$ 133	TOTAL \$ 1,731
Small Business	Small Business
BASE	BASE
556.4	556.4
300 \$ 0.52 \$ 156	300 \$ 0.52 \$ 156
128 \$ 0.51 \$ 65	128 \$ 0.51 \$ 65
0 \$ 0.49 \$ -	0 \$ 0.49 \$ -
\$ 221	\$ 221
Energy Cost Adjustment	Energy Cost Adjustment
556.4 \$ 0.05 \$ 27	556.4 \$ 6.88 \$ 3,828
TOTAL \$ 248	TOTAL \$ 4,049