

Testimony in Support of HB2321

Urban Transmission Line

By LaWanda DeShazer (wanwan@sbcglobal.net)

House Chairman Chairman Seiwert and Committee Members

Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications and Committee

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.

Representative Gail Finney and others have been seeking a remedy to insure 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