



Northern Natural Gas  
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## NORTHERN NATURAL GAS SUPPORT OF AN AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 172

Northern Natural Gas owns and operates an interstate natural gas pipeline system extending throughout the Midwest, including approximately 1,726 miles in the state of Kansas. In addition to underground pipeline, Northern also owns and operates in the state ancillary facilities such as meter stations, compressor stations, inspection launchers and receivers, and two underground natural gas storage facilities with associated aboveground facilities.

Northern strongly supports the policy behind Senate Bill 24. The protection of the physical assets of natural gas companies is a critical step in ensuring the reliable supply of natural gas for the energy and heating needs of Kansas communities. Based on the expressed intention of the bill, Northern supports a minor amendment that would extend the protections of the bill to interstate natural gas pipelines. The bill as amended provides criminal sanction against persons who trespass upon critical energy facilities for the purpose of damaging those facilities or those who criminally damage such facilities. The rationale for the amendment is simple: the bill covers natural gas processing facilities and distribution facilities but does not address transmission facilities – the critical link of transportation between the two. If a transmission facility is criminally damaged, impacts are likely to either processors or distribution companies.

Northern proposed the following amendment:

On page 3, starting on line 27, insert the following language:

“(14) natural gas distribution utility or natural gas transmission facilities ~~facility~~, including, but not limited to ...”

Northern thanks the committee for its consideration and support of this amendment that will close the loophole that exists in the current amendment.