

March 17, 2021

Chairman Jeff Longbine Kansas State Senate 235-E Capitol Building Topeka, Kansas 66612

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Good morning, Chairman Longbine, and members of the committee. My name is Jared Geiger, Vice President of Rates and Regulatory Affairs for the Colorado/Kansas Division of Atmos Energy Corporation.

Atmos Energy wants to take this opportunity to thank the Kansas Legislature and leadership for providing additional financing options for the extraordinary fuel costs incurred by Kansas utilities to serve their customers during the recent weather event in February 2021.

We operate our utility to serve our customers, and we are thankful to be working with the KCC to ensure that the impacts of the recent winter storm do not present an extraordinary challenge to Atmos Energy customers in Kansas.

We support the Substitute for SB 245 so that securitization can be analyzed by utilities and their regulators as an option when determining a cost-effective method of mitigating the rate impacts of these fuel costs.

Atmos Energy is the nation's largest natural-gas only utility. In Kansas we are privileged to serve more than 135,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. In the northeast, we serve the communities of Olathe, Kansas City, Overland Park, and others. To the southwest, we serve communities including Johnson City, Ulysses, and Syracuse. We also serve the southeast communities of Independence and Coffeyville. In the central part of Kansas, we provide service to the communities of Anthony and Caldwell, as well as Ness City, Herington, and many others.

As we continue to explore options that are best for our customers, we welcome any potential customer cost savings provided through the Substitute for SB 245 and appreciate your time in considering this important issue.

Thank you, Sincerely,

Jared Geiger Vice President, Rates and Regulatory Affairs, CO-KS Division Atmos Energy Corporation