

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2021

The Honorable Richard Glick
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Chairman Glick,

We write today with grave concern regarding the natural gas crisis facing the state of Kansas and states across the Midwest. On the heels of a deadly winter storm throughout the Midwest, increases in energy demand continue to strain the electric grid, resulting in severe natural gas supply shortages.

The surge in energy demand across Kansas this past week has caused electricity outages, rolling blackouts, and controlled service interruptions. Our offices have received information from Kansans whose utility bills for natural gas have increased exponentially due to inadequate supplies and unprecedented price increases for natural gas. Several smaller cities in Kansas have received notices for exorbitant gas bills that are higher for the past week than the amount budgeted for the entire year. This crisis has forced utility providers to find alternative energy sources for residents and customers to heat their homes and keep businesses operating with reliable power sources.

Natural gas prices that are 100 to 200 times normal pricing are unacceptable and will devastate Kansas families, businesses and localities. Several businesses in Kansas have simply shut their doors and told employees to go home rather than stay open and take the chance of an outrageous natural gas bill.

We appreciate that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) have opened an initial joint inquiry on the impacts of extreme winter weather on grid operations. Kansas Governor Laura Kelly has submitted a request to FERC along with the Chairman and other Commissioners of the Kansas Corporation Commission to ensure that Kansas consumers are protected from the severe negative economic consequences of this crisis. We respectfully request that you consider the Governor's request immediately.

We must ensure there is an adequate supply of affordable energy and natural gas for families, farmers, and businesses in Kansas and the Midwest. We look forward to working with you and stand ready to assist.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this unprecedented emergency situation.

Sincere regards,



Ron Estes
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress