



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 475		DATE: 2/12/2025
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Rural Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BEN TRAVLOS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-3819
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 734 SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 12:00 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JACOB KNAEBEL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-298-2332
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 3118 EMERALD LANE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: MARK FIEGENBAUM		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-8580
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FARM BUREAU		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 702 SOUTH COUNTRY DRIVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 12:05 AM
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I Opposed this Bill. I Oppose the use of Eminent Domain.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kortniehuddleston@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 10:21 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 475, a bill that would ban the use of eminent domain for wind and solar energy projects. This legislation would harm Missouri’s energy progress, and I urge you to vote “no” on this bill. HB 475 would severely limit Missouri’s ability to transition to clean, renewable energy sources. By blocking the use of eminent domain for wind and solar development, this bill would make it extremely difficult for utility companies to build the infrastructure needed to harness these sustainable energy sources. This is a direct setback for our state’s efforts to reduce reliance on foreign oil and fossil fuels, which is essential for our economic and environmental well-being. Missouri has the potential to be a leader in renewable energy, but HB 475 would halt that progress and keep us tied to outdated, polluting energy systems. Eminent domain has historically been used for public utilities to serve the greater good, ensuring that critical infrastructure can be built even when some landowners are unwilling to cooperate. While it should always be used carefully and with fair compensation, it is a necessary tool for projects that benefit the public, such as renewable energy development. Wind and solar power are not just private ventures—they are public benefits that provide clean energy, create jobs, and reduce harmful emissions. HB 475 unfairly targets renewable energy projects while ignoring the significant advantages they bring to our communities. Additionally, this bill sends a troubling message to businesses and investors interested in bringing renewable energy projects to Missouri. By specifically excluding wind and solar from eminent domain, HB 475 creates unnecessary obstacles to innovation and economic growth. It weakens our state’s ability to compete in the fast-growing clean energy sector and risks leaving Missouri behind as other states embrace renewable energy. In summary, HB 475 is a misguided and damaging bill that would hinder Missouri’s progress toward a cleaner, more sustainable energy future. I urge you to vote “no” on HB 475 and support policies that promote, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy in our state. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-581-0561	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100			
CITY: UNIVERSITY CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 4:20 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Dear Chairman Van Schoiack and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill 475 prohibits the use of eminent domain for the production of wind and solar. Our state desperately needs to increase our renewable energy production to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels and to limit the state's contribution to climate change. Government must balance the various land use needs of our state in determining when to use eminent domain and for what purposes. Putting further limitations on the ways in which the government can develop wind and solar conflicts with our need for more energy self-reliance. As such, Missouri Coalition for the Environment asks the Committee to vote "no" on HB 1475. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVENUE, SUITE 100			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/11/2025 12:55 PM	

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February 12, 2025
 Chairman Dean Van Schoiack
 House Special Committee on Rural Issues
 201 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 317-A
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Chairman Van Schoiack and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill 475 prohibits the use of eminent domain for the production of wind and solar. Our state desperately needs to increase our renewable energy production to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels and to limit the state's contribution to climate change. Government must balance the various land use needs of our state in determining when to use eminent domain and for what purposes. Putting further limitations on the ways in which the government can develop wind and solar conflicts with our need for more energy self-reliance. As such, Missouri Coalition for the Environment asks the Committee to vote "no" on HB 1750. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott, JD Director of Policy and Strategy
 Missouri Coalition for the Environment
 mvatterott@moenvironment.org (314) 727-0600, ext. 111



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 10:19 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I urge you to oppose HB 475, a bill that would prohibit companies from using eminent domain for wind or solar power development. This legislation is a significant step backward for Missouri’s energy future, and I urge you to vote “no” on this harmful bill. HB 475 would severely restrict Missouri’s ability to transition to clean, renewable energy sources. By prohibiting the use of eminent domain for wind and solar projects, this bill would make it nearly impossible for utility companies to develop the infrastructure needed to harness these abundant, sustainable energy sources. This is a direct attack on our state’s ability to decrease its reliance on foreign and fossil fuel-based energy, which is critical for both our economic and environmental future. Missouri has the potential to be a leader in renewable energy, but HB 475 would stifle that progress and keep us dependent on outdated, polluting energy sources. Eminent domain is a tool that has long been used for public utilities to serve the greater good, ensuring that essential infrastructure can be built even when individual landowners are unwilling to cooperate. While eminent domain should always be used judiciously and with fair compensation, it is a necessary mechanism for projects that benefit the public, such as renewable energy development. Wind and solar power are not just private interests—they are public goods that provide clean energy, create jobs, and reduce our carbon footprint. HB 475 is an overreach that unfairly targets renewable energy projects while ignoring the broader benefits they bring to our communities. Furthermore, this bill sends a dangerous message to businesses and investors looking to bring renewable energy projects to Missouri. By singling out wind and solar for exclusion from eminent domain, HB 475 creates unnecessary barriers to innovation and economic growth. It undermines our state’s ability to compete in the rapidly growing clean energy sector and risks leaving Missouri behind as other states embrace the transition to renewable energy. In conclusion, HB 475 is a misguided and harmful piece of legislation that would hinder Missouri’s progress toward a cleaner, more sustainable energy future. I urge you to vote “no” on HB 475 and support policies that encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy in our state.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ZACH MONROE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-508-2467
REPRESENTING: AMEREN		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 101 MADISON STREET		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2025 12:00 AM
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