



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 963		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JACOB HUMMEL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2115	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI AFL-CIO		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 131 E. HIGH STREET STE 100			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: mattroesser@moaflcio.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 2:18 PM	

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Honorable Representatives of the committee, The Missouri AFL-CIO supports House Bill 963! This bill not only benefits the workers in the power plants, but every Missourian and the State of Missouri as a whole. Electrical demand is growing at an unprecedented rate, and we must ensure our electrical providers have the necessary tools to continue to generate, transmit, and distribute power across our state; today, tomorrow, and beyond! HB963 will assist in accomplishing that. Thank you for your consideration.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JARED HANKINSON		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65201
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JASON KLINDT		PHONE NUMBER: 816-652-1196	
REPRESENTING: EVERGY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1200 MAIN			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KAYLA HAHN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-3234	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		TITLE: COMMISSIONER- CHAIR	
ADDRESS: 200 MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW THOMPSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092
REPRESENTING: LIBERTY UTILITIES		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 124 EAST HIGH ST		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT E. RAMSHAW		PHONE NUMBER: 314-355-1000	
REPRESENTING: PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS 562		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3640 CORPORATE TRAIL			
CITY: EARTH CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63045
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: WARREN WOOD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-681-7126	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AMEREN MISSOURI		TITLE: VP LEGISLATIVE	
ADDRESS: 101 E MADISON STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 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: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:43 PM	
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**I very opposed to this Bill! This all for the Utility Company and Huge Rater Increases for Missourians.
Defeat this terrible Bill!**



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GRETCHEN WADDELL BARWICK		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 432010			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63143
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES OWEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: RENEW MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 915 E. ASH STREET			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65201
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES OWEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: james@renewmo.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:52 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

January 29th, 2025 Renew Missouri Advocates, Inc. 915 East Ash St. Columbia, Missouri 65201 Re: Written Testimony to the House Utilities Committee re: HB 853 and 963

To Chairman Bromley and Members of the Committee, Renew Missouri, a 501(c)(3) organized to promote clean energy policy for all Missourians, wishes to express its concerns with House Bill 963 in its current form. We are concerned about how the bill encourages choosing gas generation over other fuel sources. The reality is there's a number of bills contemplated by the Legislature this year that views the burning of natural gas as an end-all solution to reliability concerns and economic development. There are things to keep in mind about gas. First of all, its price is volatile. Half of the costs that come with natural gas involve volatility from such elements as weather and trade conditions with other countries. If tariffs are imposed against Canada, for instance, those tariff costs will be absorbed into the price of gas. Further, existing EPA rules limit the size and scope of gas plants and how long they can be in operation. While there is a belief the current administration will ease these regulations, there is no certainty administrations in charge during the course of these plants' life span will reinstate current restrictions. Maybe they will even increase restrictions, leaving short-term investments in gas unusable and an albatross around the neck of customers. Speaking of customers, proponents of increased gas production cite attracting data centers and manufacturing to Missouri as part of their support. But look at companies like Meta or Google or Nucor. They have located new facilities in Missouri due to utilities guaranteeing clean energy sources such as wind and solar will power their facilities. Just this past weekend, the St. Louis Business Journal wrote an article on MasterCard's operations demanding more solar to meet their sustainability goals. The question should not be about whether gas generation will create economic opportunities. The question should center around what type of generation will create economic opportunities. The answer to that is clean energy is critical. Renew Missouri doesn't ask for a vote against this legislation but to rather say, if you are going to pass this legislation, open up the language to allow favorable accounting treatment for all generation. Clean energy and fossil fuel generation. Not to mention battery energy storage systems that have also proven to bolster reliability in other parts of the country. We often hear about whether the Legislature should be picking winners and losers with potential laws. As written, HB 853 and 963 creates winners and losers. If lawmakers wish to take an "all of the above" approach to energy policy, this legislation should address all forms of generation and not simply gas production. With that, Renew Missouri urges you to vote against both HB 853 and 963 in their current iteration and consider amending it to include language more inclusive of all forms of energy generation including battery energy storage. With respect, James Owen Executive Director, Renew Missouri



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jmo.mott.oxford@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2025 6:39 PM	

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I am a 70-year-old retired Missourian, living with a disability, and a former member of the Missouri House of Representatives (2005-12). I have been executive director of two not-for-profits focusing on reducing poverty and also public policy and advocacy manager at an independent living center. I remain active in multiple ministries and not-for-profits that serve the neediest members of my community, and I am honored to currently be the president of the board of directors of the Consumers Council of Missouri (CCM), but I testify here as an individual, not on behalf of CCM. Through the duties of these vocations and volunteer positions, I have learned how the high cost of utilities is often the tipping point for families that are struggling to cover their housing expenses. Low monthly rents almost always mean high heating and cooling bills as substandard and inexpensive housing generally has little insulation, no modern energy-efficient HVAC systems, etc. I ask members of the House Utilities Committee not to move HB 853 or HB 963 forward because Construction Work in Progress (CWIP) legislation risks making our utility bills even higher. In the 1970's Missourians passed a ballot measure opposing CWIP. Missourians do not support socializing risk and privatizing profit when it comes to utility plant construction. We ask you not to overturn the will of the people by passing HB 853 or HB 963. Those of us who are customers of investor-owned monopoly utility companies cannot shop for a better price; we are trapped in a closed system with only one place to buy our electricity, gas, or water/waste water services. We need legislators to act as consumer advocates and guard our household budgets. We need the Missouri Public Service Commission to do the same. Some terrible abuses have happened in states that allow CWIP:- In South Carolina, a CWIP-funded power plant project was completely canceled in 2017, but not before customers had been charged \$9 Billion dollars.- In Georgia, the recent CWIP-funded Vogtle boondoggle had cost overruns of \$17 Billion, and the final cost is more than twice the original estimate. Please do not pass HB 853 or HB 963.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JOHN COFFMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-424-6779	
REPRESENTING: CONSUMERS COUNCIL OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 871 TUXEDO BLVD			
CITY: WEBSTER GROVE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63119
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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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: 1/29/2025 9:53 AM	

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Dear Chairman Bromley 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 963 would allow utilities to charge customers for new natural gas power plants before they are completed and operational. This bill would undo the long-standing ban on Construction Work In Progress (CWIP) that passed in 1976 under Proposition 1 with a 63% of the statewide vote. Due to these concerns and the following reasons, MCE is opposed to this bill and therefore we urge you to vote “no” on HB 963. Under current law a utility must wait for a plant to be in service before it can collect construction costs from ratepayers. These bills would expose ratepayers to cost overruns and possibly being on the hook for the cost of a project that gets canceled and never delivers any power. These are risks that should be borne by investors (shareholders), not captive customers who may not have the ability to pay. Repealing Missouri’s ban on CWIP for gas plants does not guarantee utility corporations will cost customers less or be built any faster than operating under the current regulatory framework, which utilities substantially changed in 2018. Ameren & Evergy do not need CWIP to build gas plants, as both utilities plan to build gas plants in Missouri without CWIP, and gas plants are being built throughout the country without this financing scheme. HB 963 disincentivizes renewable energy sources and long-term environmental sustainability. It appears to prioritize traditional energy sources, such as natural gas, which could lock Missouri into reliance on fossil fuels for decades to come, counteracting efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change. In conclusion, HB 963 prioritizes the interests of electrical corporations over those of Missouri ratepayers. It imposes unnecessary financial burdens, locks the state into outdated energy infrastructure, and undermines accountability and regulatory oversight. Instead of advancing this bill, I urge you to Vote NO on HB 963 and instead support policies that promote affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy solutions while protecting the interests of Missouri families and businesses.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TIM OPITZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: MIDWEST ENERGY CONSUMERS GROUP		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 308 E HIGH STREET, SUITE 3101			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE HATAWAY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-694-7158	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 301 W HIGH STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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