



KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION FY2022 | IN REVIEW



➤ Serving the people of Kansas by regulating the State's energy infrastructure, oil and gas production and commercial trucking to ensure public safety.



About the Commission



Dwight D. Keen
Chair



Susan K. Duffy
Commissioner



Andrew J. French
Commissioner

The Commission consists of three members appointed by the Governor to overlapping four-year terms. No more than two members may be of the same political party. The authority of the Kansas Corporation Commission is derived from K.S.A. 74-601 to 74-631.

The Commission regulates investor-owned utilities operating in the state, the Kansas oil and gas industry and motor carrier safety. The KCC does not regulate most electric cooperatives, water cooperatives, municipalities, wireless telephone, long distance service, cable companies, or internet services.

To carry out its multi-faceted mission, the Commission is financed from assessments, registration fees, operating charges, federal funds, and other fee funding sources. The KCC does not receive funding from the state general fund.

FY2022

BUSINESS MEETINGS

94

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

12

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3

3,413

TOTAL ORDERS ISSUED
BY THE COMMISSION
IN FY2022



The Commission meets bi-weekly at 10 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. The meeting is broadcast live on the KCC's YouTube channel. To preview the agenda in advance, sign up for meeting notifications at:

<https://kcc.ks.gov/>



For more information, access the KCC Legislative reports at:

<https://kcc.ks.gov/commission-activity/reports-to-the-legislature/2023>

The financial aftermath of Winter Storm URI

Winter Storm URI will long be remembered for bitter cold temperatures, record demand for natural gas, and the resulting skyrocketing wholesale prices. The storm lasted less than two weeks, but its impact will be felt for years.

- When the storm hit, the Commission directed utilities to take necessary steps to ensure adequate amounts of natural gas and electricity in order to keep power flowing to customers and to defer the costs. That mandate helped prevent catastrophic consequences such as the loss of life that occurred in other states.
- On March 9, 2021, the Commission opened company specific investigations to examine how each utility was prepared for the winter storm, how each responded, and how the event would impact the utility’s customers. Each utility was required to present a plan to recover the costs while minimizing the impact to its customers.
- Over the past year, KCC staff has been working with utilities to verify the deferred extraordinary costs and establish recovery plans. To date, the Commission has approved seven utility recovery plans with one pending. The goal in each was to spread the costs out over time to lessen the impact to ratepayers.

Utility Recovery Plans

| Company | Extraordinary Costs Incurred | Average Customer impact | Repayment Timeframe |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| American Energies | \$317,914 | Based on usage | 5 years or lump sum |
| Atmos Energy | \$92.7 million | \$5.78 per month | 10 years |
| Black Hills Energy | \$87.9 million | \$11.47 per month | 5 years |
| City of Eskridge | \$1.1 million | \$2.54 per Mcf usage | 10 years |
| Eergy Central | \$122.2 million | \$2.82 per month | 2 years |
| Kansas Gas Service | \$366 million | \$5.64 per month | 10 years |
| Southern Pioneer | \$17 million | \$7.89 per month | 3 years |
| Empire | \$10.8 million* | 7.32* per month | 15 years* |

* Pending Commission review and approval

| | Return of Energy Sale Credits | Average Customer Credit | Refund Timeframe |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Eergy Metro | \$37.8 million* | +\$6.60 per month | 1 year |

Two utilities opt for securitization

The Utility Financing and Securitization Act, passed by the 2021 Legislature, provides KCC jurisdictional utilities with a new financing option to pay for energy transition costs and qualified extraordinary costs. If approved by the Commission, a utility can access special low cost financing secured by ratepayers. Since the cost savings are passed on to customers, securitization can result in substantial benefits to ratepayers.

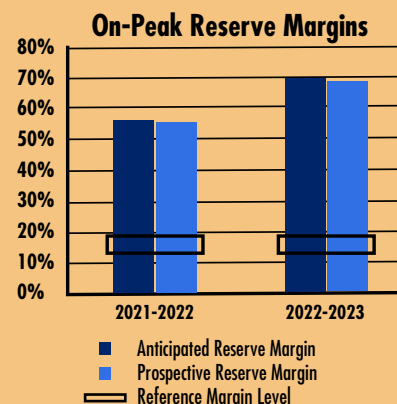
Kansas Gas Service and Atmos Energy chose to recover their extraordinary winter weather costs using securitization. This allowed customers to pay off these costs over a longer timeframe and at lower carrying charges than traditional ratemaking and utility financing would otherwise allow.



Adequate resources expected for 2023

Kansans can rest a little easier this winter. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) issued its Winter Reliability Report in November. It indicates the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) has adequate planning reserves for the winter season.

Kansas is part of the SPP regional transmission organization along with all or parts of Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. It was noted 3,700 MW of natural-gas-fired generation was added to SPP resources since the winter of 2021-2022.

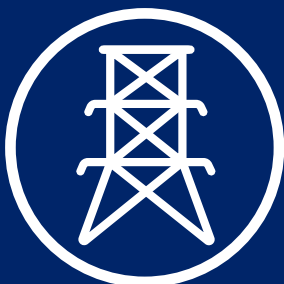


Source: NERC

UTILITIES



- Ensure sufficient and safe utility services at just rates.
- Enforce state and federal pipeline safety regulations.
- Administer Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF).



Electric

The Kansas Corporation Commission regulates the state's investor-owned electric companies: Eversource, Liberty-Empire, and Southern Pioneer. The KCC also has limited jurisdiction over the following: Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, Prairie Wind Transmission LLC, Midwest Energy Inc., and ITC Great Plains LLC.

The KCC regularly intervenes in electric matters at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to protect the interests of Kansas ratepayers. The KCC also has representation in transmission matters at the Southwest Power Pool (SPP).

Electric rates are more competitive

Improving the regional competitiveness of Kansas' electric rates is a goal shared by the Commission, the Legislature, and energy stakeholders. While the State has made great progress in the last four years, (the third largest decline in electricity rates out of all 50 states during this time), the Commission will continue to look for ways to make Kansas' electric rates more competitive, while ensuring continued access to safe, reliable electric service.

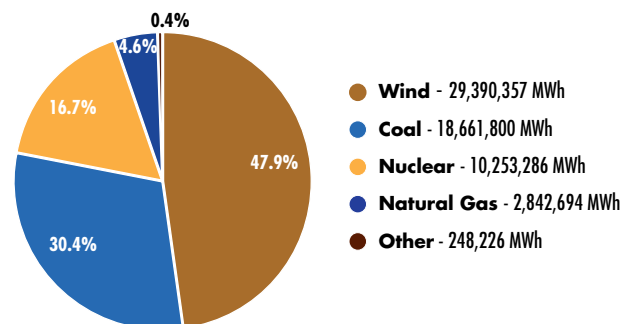
KCC staff expects to provide an update on the current status in the first few weeks of the Legislative Session, including the progress made over the past year. Here are just a few of the highlights:

- Kansas electricity rates declined by 2.29% over the last four years, which is the 3rd largest price decline in the country.
- Kansas ranks 48 out of 50 for highest growth in electricity prices during this period (No. 1 being the highest growth in prices).
- In 2021, average electricity rates in Kansas grew .91% compared to 2020. This ranks 41 out of 50 states for largest increases in prices and is the 10th lowest increase in the country.
- Kansas electricity rates are now 5.63% lower than the national average (compared to 1.8% higher than national average in 2018).

Kansas Electric Generation Sources by Total Megawatt hours

July 2021 to June 2022

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, The Energy Information Administration (EIA)



KCC works with utilities to mitigate costs

Natural gas prices are expected to increase in all regions of the U.S. this winter according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. In the Midwest, heating a home with natural gas could cost 33% more. Heating a home using electricity could go up 8% because natural gas is often used in the generation of electricity.



Higher wholesale natural gas prices, which are deregulated, are the main driver behind the expected increases. Prices are market driven by supply and demand. Utilities pass the costs to consumers without markup or profit and all charges are verified by KCC staff audits.

In order to secure reliable and affordable service for consumers, the KCC proactively works with regulated utilities on ways to reduce the impact of volatile commodity prices by purchasing gas in advance at lower prices when possible and putting it into storage, executing hedging contracts which act as an insurance product against higher overall market prices, or purchasing gas at fixed prices for the upcoming winter.

All gas distribution utilities regulated by the KCC are required to file an annual Gas Purchase and Hedging Plan with the Commission and meet with KCC staff several times throughout the year to discuss it. While gas utilities work to control cost increases and electric utilities are able to generate a substantial portion of their electricity with low or no fuel cost generating resources, it's not possible to avoid all cost increases associated with higher wholesale energy costs, especially when such increases persist over an extended time frame such as has occurred during 2021 and 2022.

Electric vehicle charger rebates approved

As automakers move toward electric vehicles (EV), Kansas consumers have options to make the switch more affordable. On December 6, 2021, the KCC approved an agreement between its staff, the Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) and Evergy to allow the company to offer rebates on the installation of a 240V outlet or hardwired EV charger.



There are two rebate options. Customers who elect a Time of Use (TOU) rate plan qualify for a \$500 rebate. Those not electing the TOU rate will qualify for a \$250 rebate. In addition, new Time of Use (TOU) rates will promote off-peak overnight vehicle charging at lower costs per kilowatt hour (kWh). Commercial customers are also eligible to participate.



Decision expected soon on energy efficiency program

Evergy filed an application with the Commission in December 2021 requesting approval of a portfolio of energy efficiency and demand-side management programs for residential and business customers.

KCC Staff, the Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board, Evergy and other stakeholders were able to reach a unanimous settlement agreement on the programs proposed. However, KCC staff opposed the financial settlement supported by the other parties as being too costly to ratepayers. Staff worked with Evergy on a less expensive alternative for Commissioners to consider along with the original non-unanimous financial settlement. The Commission will issue an order on or before February 14, 2023.



For detailed information on utility regulation, access the KCC Legislative reports at:

<https://kcc.ks.gov/commission-activity/reports-to-the-legislature/2023>

UTILITIES



FY2022

25

Pipeline Safety Penalty Orders

with **\$37,750**
in assessed fines.*

*Fines are payable to state general fund.
The KCC receives no funding from the state general fund.



Natural Gas and Pipeline Safety

KCC Energy Operations and Pipeline Safety staff play an important role in keeping Kansans safe in their homes and neighborhoods. They enforce federal and state pipeline safety regulations ensuring the safe operation of all gas utilities. The staff also provides technical expertise relating to electric utility operations, reliability, safety, electric transmission siting, and electric and gas consumer service, as well as analyzing requested changes to natural gas and electric certificates.

The KCC regulates three large (annual operating revenue greater than \$10 million) natural gas distribution utilities: Atmos Energy Corporation, Black Hills/ Kansas Gas Utility Co., and Kansas Gas Service, a Division of ONEOK, Inc. In addition, the Commission Staff monitors the rate and tariff activities of several interstate pipelines that serve Kansas local distribution companies, towns, and other large volume gas users.

On-Site inspections ensure best practices

Pipeline safety staff conducts on-site inspections of intrastate natural gas facilities to monitor the gas systems for any areas of noncompliance with safety regulations. A typical audit covers the operator's management of the integrity of the pipeline delivery system including a review of emergency response plans, odorization requirements, cathodic protection, leak surveys, and operator qualification requirements.

Engineers and pipeline safety inspectors also investigate any incident where natural gas is suspected to be the cause or there is an alleged violation of the Kansas Underground Utilities Damage Prevention Act (KUUDPA). Their findings are reported to the Commission.

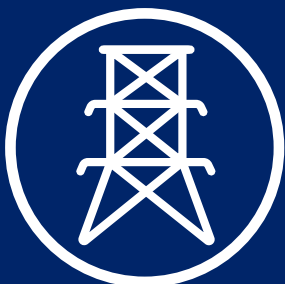
Each year, the KCC hosts a safety seminar for pipeline operations, maintenance and emergency response professionals to update them on rules and regulations as well as offer technical demonstrations and instruction. There were 165 attendees at this year's event.



A demonstration on Electrafusion was one of many learning opportunities offered at the Pipeline Safety Seminar held October 26-27 in Manhattan.

Underground Damage Prevention Statistics for Calendar Year 2021

| LOCATION | TOTAL GAS DAMAGE INCIDENTS | GAS DAMAGES INVESTIGATED | GAS LOCATES REQUESTED | DAMAGES PER 1000 LOCATES |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Johnson County | 240 | 387 | 154,115 | 2.5 |
| Sedgwick County | 143 | 228 | 125,623 | 1.8 |
| Remaining State | 134 | 562 | 288,646 | 1.9 |





Telecommunications

KCC Telecommunications staff is responsible for administering the Kansas Universal Service Fund as well as researching, investigating, analyzing and making recommendations to the Commission on all telecommunications matters. Staff is also involved in Federal Communications Commission cases and participates on National Association of Regulatory Utility Commission (NARUC) subcommittees and Federal-State Joint Boards.

Kansas Universal Service Fund

The Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF) was established by the Commission in 1996, as required by the Kansas Telecommunications Act. Now in its 26th year, the KUSF continues to provide much needed services to Kansans. Those services include telephone discounts to low-income families, phone services and adaptive equipment for persons with disabilities, and network enhancements and upgrades in rural areas.

All telecommunications companies must contribute to the KUSF. Assessments are a percentage of intrastate (within Kansas) retail revenues. Companies are allowed to pass the assessment on to its customers, but not required to. Effective March 1, 2022, the current KUSF funding requirement is \$40.4 million. The carrier assessment rate is 11.44%.



How are KUSF dollars used?*

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Enhancements/upgrades in rural areas | \$39 million |
| Lifeline Program | \$304,687 |
| Kansas Relay 711 | \$241,446 |
| Telecommunications equipment program | \$270,842 |
| Fund administration/carrier audits | \$515,624 |

* Annual budget effective March 1, 2022

Lifeline/ACP keep Kansas families connected

Thanks to the Lifeline program, nearly 29,000 Kansans have access to telephone service allowing them to access healthcare, find jobs, stay in touch with family and call for help in an emergency. Those who qualify, based on income or participation in other assistance programs, receive up to \$17.02 per month in combined federal and state assistance. The state portion of the benefit comes from the Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF), administered by the KCC.

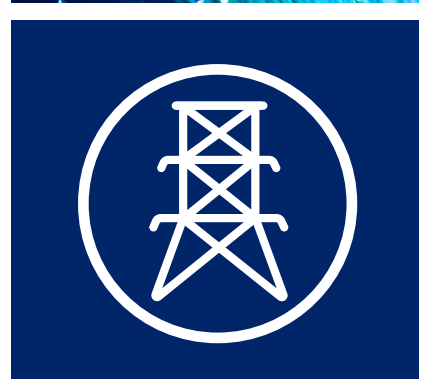
Anyone who qualifies for Lifeline also qualifies for the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). It provides a service discount of up to \$30 per month for broadband service and a one-time device discount of up to \$100. More information on Lifeline and ACP is available on the [KCC website](#).



FY2022
254
 Telecom Orders

4
 Show Cause Orders
 with **\$3,429.39**
 in assessed fines.*

*Fines are payable to state general fund. The KCC receives no funding from the state general fund.



TRANSPORTATION



- > Provide regulatory oversight of motor carriers.
- > Conduct audits, inspections and licensing.
- > Promote safety through education.



FY2022

230

Transportation Penalty Orders

with **\$328,750**
in assessed fines.*

*Fines are payable to state general fund.
The KCC receives no funding from the state general fund.



Preparing drivers for the road ahead

The role of the KCC Transportation Division is to ensure appropriate and effective regulatory oversight of motor carriers, with the goal of protecting the public interest and promoting safety through comprehensive planning, licensing, education, and inspection. Transportation Staff conducts both comprehensive and focused off-site investigations and audits on new and existing motor carriers, taking appropriate action upon discovering unsafe conditions. The staff works closely with the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to reduce crashes involving motor carriers through promotion of safety education.

Education creates the foundation for safe travel

Educating motor carriers about potential hazards they may encounter, as well as teaching ways to mitigate risk and stay up-to-date on compliance requirements, makes travel in Kansas safer for everyone.

The KCC conducts free educational safety seminars every week. The classes are designed to help new motor carriers get off to a great start and to educate out-of-compliance motor carriers, about current rules and regulations.

The classes are held virtually, a format that has been popular among attendees and staff alike. Without the need to travel, the Transportation Division can conduct more seminars and motor carriers have easy access from any location with the only requirement being a computer or smartphone.

Motor Carriers are notified of seminar dates at the time they apply for KCC authority. Information is also available on the KCC website and is included in various transportation association newsletters and websites.

Local assistance is never far away

Motor carriers in rural areas don't have to look far for assistance. The KCC employs a team of Special Investigators (SIs) located in assigned regions throughout the state. The SIs are involved in teaching at educational safety seminars, doing roadside inspections, and offering local assistance to motor carriers in their area. That assistance may range from answering questions in the field to conducting individual "refresher" safety programs when requested by a motor carrier.



Investigators are located in the following cities: Concordia, Colby, Garden City, Hutchinson, Parsons, Lawrence, La Crosse, Paola, Topeka and Wichita.

For detailed information on motor carriers, access the KCC Legislative reports at:

<https://kcc.ks.gov/commission-activity/reports-to-the-legislature/2023>

Operation Safe Driver Week

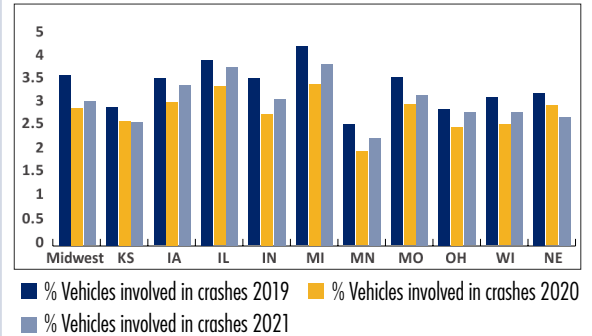


KCC Transportation Special Investigators partner with the Kansas Highway Patrol to enforce regulations and promote safety throughout the state. This video was created to share tips for staying safe on the road during Operation Safe Driver Week July 10-16. Click on the image to watch.



Safety & Compliance

% Vehicles Involved in Crashes



The Transportation Division's focus on safety is showing results. In comparing accident data from 10 similar states, Kansas has ranked second lowest over the past three years.

Inspections identify safety risks

Kansas motor carriers don't know when a roadside inspection might take place. That's by design. KCC transportation investigators want to ensure drivers and their vehicles are safe for travel at any time, not just when an inspection is anticipated. The inspection list is long, but the items checked are not trivial. All are important to safe travel. When a violation is found, the company has 15 days to show proof the defect has been corrected. If the deficiency poses an immediate threat to safety, out of service (OOS) violation is issued and the vehicle cannot be operated until the problem is corrected. Failure to comply with an OOS order could result in state fines up to \$5,000 and federal fines of up to \$25,000.



Roadside Inspections & Out-of-Service (OOS) rates

| KANSAS INSPECTIONS | FEDERAL | STATE | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Driver's Inspections* | 112 | 38,400 | 38,512 |
| with Driver OOS Violation | 4 | 2,437 | 2,441 |
| Driver OOS Rate | 3.57% | 6.35% | 6.34% |
| Vehicle Inspections** | 112 | 27,713 | 27,825 |
| with Vehicle OOS Violation | 13 | 4,240 | 4,253 |
| Vehicle OOS Rate | 11.61% | 15.30% | 15.28% |
| Hazmat Inspections*** | 20 | 3,095 | 3,115 |
| with Hazmat OOS Violation | 0 | 204 | 204 |
| Hazmat OOS Rate | 0% | 6.59% | 6.55% |

* Driver Inspections were computed based on inspection levels I, II, III and VI.
 ** Vehicle Inspections were computed based on inspections levels I, II, III and VI.
 *** Hazmat Inspections were computed based on inspection levels I, II, III, IV, V, and VI, when HM is present.

Inspections uncover violations that can put both drivers and vehicles out of service until the issue is remedied.

Kansas scores high in Unified Carrier Registration compliance

CY2022 Midwest Region as of 10/12/2022

| JURISDICTION | REGISTERED CARRIERS | PERCENT COMPLIANT |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Nebraska | 8,542 | 85.95% |
| Missouri | 14,517 | 84.16% |
| Ohio | 24,371 | 80.86% |
| Illinois | 33,542 | 85.17% |
| Indiana | 16,842 | 82.72% |
| Iowa | 10,509 | 82.24% |
| Wisconsin | 11,549 | 80.12% |
| Michigan | 13,697 | 83.77% |
| Minnesota | 14,717 | 79.90% |
| Kansas | 9,109 | 96.30% |
| Nationwide | 657,141 | 72.45% |

Source: National Registration System

Roadside Inspection Items

| DRIVER: | VEHICLE: | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Driver's license ✓ Medical examiner's certificate and waiver ✓ Alcohol and drugs ✓ Driver's record of duty status ✓ Hours of service ✓ Seat belt ✓ Driver vehicle inspection reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Brake system ✓ Exhaust system ✓ Frame and suspension ✓ Lamps - turn signals; brake, tail and head lamps; lamps on projecting loads ✓ Coupling devices ✓ Safe loading ✓ Steering mechanism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tires, wheels, and rims ✓ Van and open-top trailer bodies ✓ Windshield wipers ✓ Emergency exits on buses ✓ HM requirements |



Source: KCC Motor Carrier Class - Procedures for Safety Compliance

CONSERVATION



- Regulate oil and natural gas exploration and production.
- Inspect, license and monitor drilling and production operations.
- Oversight of abandoned well plugging and site remediation.



FY2022

334

Conservation Penalty Orders

with **\$663,680**
in assessed fines.*

*Fines are payable to state general fund.
The KCC receives no funding from the state general fund.



Oil & Gas

The KCC Conservation Division regulates, enforces laws, and supervises activities associated with the exploration and production of oil and natural gas. Conservation staff works to prevent degradation of land and water resources, prevent waste in the production of crude oil and natural gas resources, and protect correlative rights of mineral owners and royalty interest holders. The Conservation Division's main office is located in Wichita, with District Offices in Chanute, Dodge City, Hays and Wichita.

KCC awarded \$25 million well plugging grant

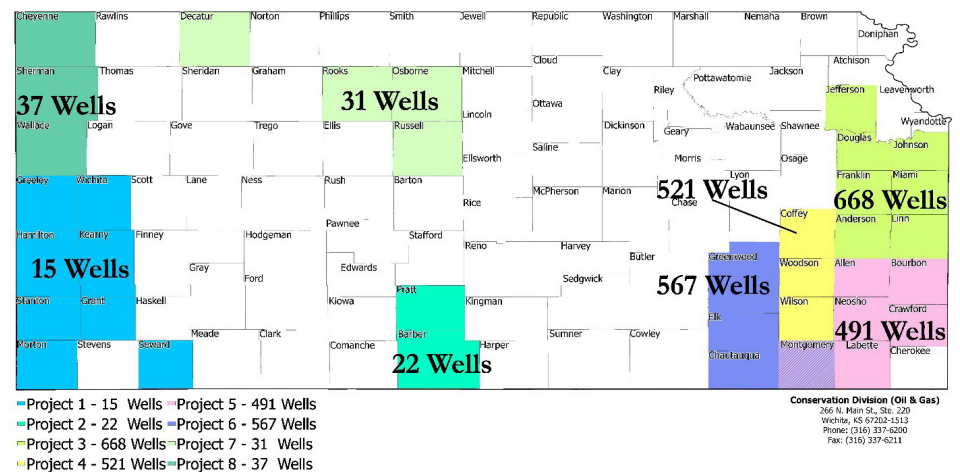
The KCC was awarded a \$25 million initial federal grant in August to help plug abandoned wells in the state. The initial grant is part of \$1.15 billion earmarked under the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to help states remediate abandoned oil and gas wells. A total of \$4.7 billion has been allocated over the next eight years to plug abandoned wells in the U.S. The KCC is eligible to receive another \$33.6 million in future formula grant funding.



The initial \$25 million grant could pay for up to eight projects involving the plugging of more than 2300 abandoned wells over the next two to three years. Four projects are located in Eastern Kansas. The other four are located in Central and Western Kansas. A map showing the locations appears below.

While federal grants will help reduce the total number of abandoned wells in Kansas, they are insufficient to address the entire problem. The KCC will still rely on oil and gas industry generated funds to plug the thousands of wells remaining after the federal program expires in order to adequately protect Kansas fresh water resources. More than 11,000 abandoned wells have been plugged since the establishment of the state well plugging fund in 1995.

KANSAS' FEDERAL PLUGGING PROJECTS PREVIEW



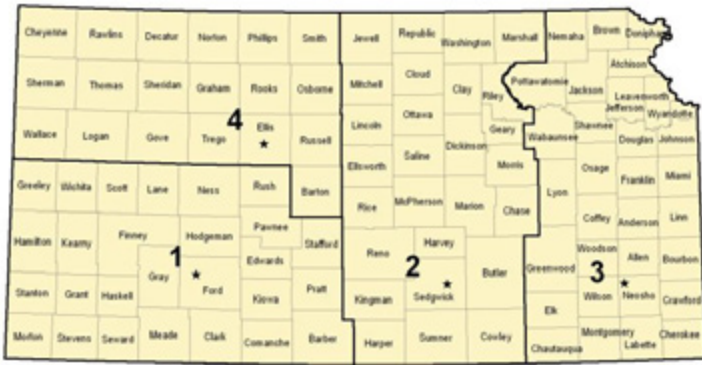
Current state of abandoned wells in Kansas

At the close of 2022, there were 5,290 wells requiring action in the abandoned well database. That number could increase as field staff responds to complaints, new well location techniques are adopted, and companies become insolvent.

A well is considered “abandoned” when it has been permanently taken out of production, is not properly plugged to prevent possible air or groundwater pollution, and the rightful legal owner cannot be determined or located to take responsibility.

When an abandoned well is discovered, KCC staff investigates to determine if it poses a threat to public safety or the environment. The wells are monitored and plugged, in order of priority.

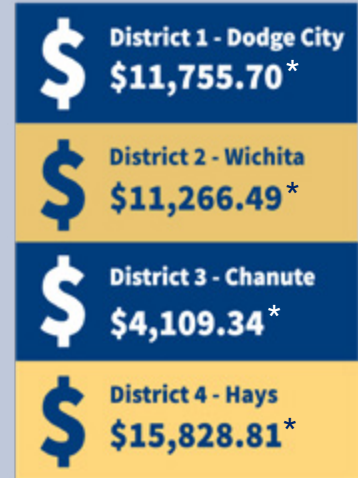
| ABANDONED WELLS IN KANSAS | | 2022** | 2023** | CHANGE |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|--------|--------|
| DISTRICT 1 | | | | |
| Priority One | 6 | Total Wells Requiring Action* 5,477 | 5,290 | 187 |
| Priority Two | 0 | | | |
| Total | 6 | | | |
| DISTRICT 2 | | | | |
| Priority One | 104 | Total Wells Plugged with State Funds* 10,913 | 11,121 | 208 |
| Priority Two | 3 | | | |
| Total | 107 | | | |
| DISTRICT 3 | | | | |
| Priority One | 4,687 | | | |
| Priority Two | 404 | | | |
| Total | 5,091 | | | |
| DISTRICT 4 | | | | |
| Priority One | 86 | | | |
| Priority Two | 0 | | | |
| Total | 86 | | | |



* Since creation of the Abandoned Well Plugging funds in 1996.
** Calendar year

What does it cost?

The cost to plug an abandoned well depends on where it is located. Wells in western Kansas are typically deeper and cost more to plug. In the eastern part of the state, they tend to be shallow.



* Based on 5-year average

How to report an abandoned well

Oil and gas drilling in Kansas began in the 1860s. Record keeping by early operators was not as precise as it is today. It is not uncommon for older abandoned wells to be discovered by landowners who were unaware they existed.

The KCC is actively looking for abandoned oil and gas wells. Staff investigates these wells in order to determine if they pose a risk to public safety or the environment.

If you find an abandoned well, please report it. A [form](#) on the KCC website makes it easy.

For detailed information on oil and gas regulation, access the KCC Legislative reports at:

<https://kcc.ks.gov/commission-activity/reports-to-the-legislature/2023>

Remediation sites prioritized based on risk

The KCC Conservation Division manages an inventory of contamination sites that have varying degrees of impact to groundwater, surface water, soil or wells. These sites have no responsible parties related to oil and gas exploration and production activities. The current evaluation period, January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, ended with no sites resolved or added, resulting in a total of 47 active sites. The 2023 Remediation Site Status report contains a description and evaluation of each site.

| IMPACTED RESOURCES | NO. OF REMEDIATION SITES |
|--|--------------------------|
| Groundwater, Surface Water, Soil & Well Problems (Cavity, Abandoned) | 67 |
| Public Water Supply | 7 |
| Domestic Supply | 20 |
| Stock Supply | 12 |
| Irrigation Supply | 9 |

Note: Some sites have impacts to multiple resources.

| IMMEDIACY LEVEL | NO. OF SITES |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Low & Low to Moderate | 20 |
| Moderate | 9 |
| Moderate to High & High | 14 |
| Other (Under Remediation) | 4 |
| Total | 47 |

ENERGY



- > Energy audit and grant assistance for small business and ag producers.
- > Classroom teaching tools and student activities.
- > Efficiency ideas for everyone.



Energy Division

The Kansas Corporation Commission Energy Division continues to encourage energy efficiency, help make small businesses more successful, and provide innovative educational opportunities for K-12 students. The Division is funded through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) State Energy Program (SEP) funds. The KCC has contracted with the Kansas State Engineering Extension since 2016 to provide technical and program implementation support.

Energy audit program helps small business owners reduce costs and apply for grants

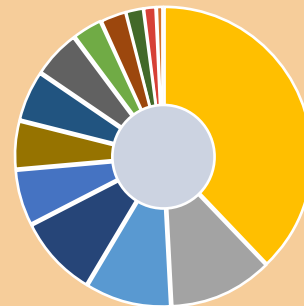
Small business owners located in areas with a population of less than 50,000 and agricultural producers are eligible for no cost energy audits, renewable energy site assessments and assistance applying for federal programs such as Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grants. Nearly 95% of participants who applied were awarded a grant.

Energy Audits by Industry FY16-FY22

148
Small Business/Ag Producer
Energy Audits

71
REAP grant
recipients

\$1.2 M
Awarded

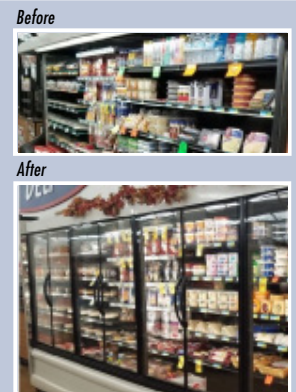


| | | | |
|------------------------|----|----------------|---|
| ■ Grocery store | 56 | ■ Real estate | 8 |
| ■ Food processor | 17 | ■ Manufacturer | 5 |
| ■ Agriculture producer | 14 | ■ Other | 4 |
| ■ Retail | 13 | ■ Services | 3 |
| ■ Lodging facility | 9 | ■ Gas station | 2 |
| ■ Restaurant | 8 | ■ Automotive | 1 |
| ■ Medical facility | 8 | | |

Grocery stores find efficiencies

Since 2016, 64 rural grocery stores in Kansas have been evaluated for energy efficiency projects. Generally, lighting and refrigeration consume the most energy – often accounting for more than 50 percent of total energy use.

John's Market in Troy, Kansas replaced fluorescent lighting with LEDs and swapped open-topped dairy, produce, and meat coolers with efficient closed-door coolers. Kansas Energy Program calculations indicated a 54% reduction in energy use resulting in \$13,800 in annual savings.



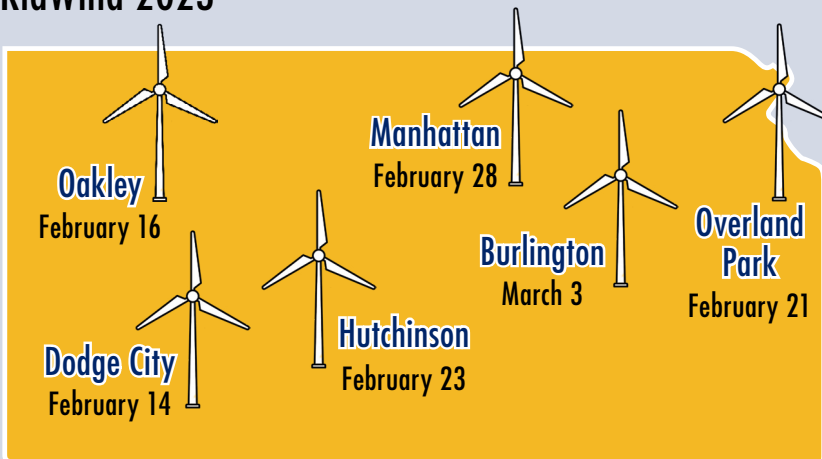
Sample photos representative of updates

KidWind Challenge on track to break records!

The Kansas KidWind Challenge is gaining momentum! The event has grown from one regional challenge with 56 students in 2016 to six regional events with 196 student participants in 2022. Registration in the 2023 event is already showing signs of exceeding previous records.

To participate in the KidWind Challenge, students in grades 4-12 form teams and work together to design, build and test a wind turbine using the materials of their choice. Each team's turbine is put to the test in a wind tunnel. Scoring is based on turbine performance, a knowledge quiz, a presentation to judges where the team explains its design process, and an instant challenge. More information and registration links are available on the [KCC website](#).

KidWind 2023



Introducing the Kansas National Champions

Three 2022 Kansas Kidwind teams prevailed in regional contests, faced off against fierce competition at the state finals and then went on to win awards at the National KidWind Challenge in San Antonio, Texas. Thanks to these hardworking teams for representing Kansas so well on a national stage!

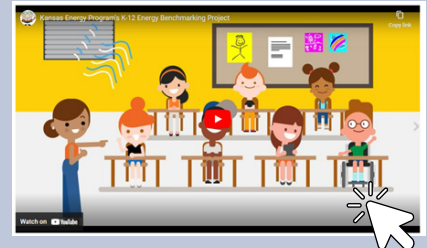


Take a look!



KidWind

KidWind is about wind energy. It's also about STEM and all the life skills that derive from the practical application of STEM in our lives – problem solving, teamwork, and the thrill of scientific discovery. It is also a lot of fun as you'll see in this video.



K-12 Benchmarking Project

The K-12 Benchmarking Project provides school districts with an opportunity to save thousands of dollars in avoided energy costs. Teachers receive an all-inclusive energy efficiency curriculum that can help reduce energy usage. The Program includes professional equipment and guidance from energy experts – all at no cost to the school.

Watch the video above to find out more.



FY2022

1,635
Complaints

\$210,752.16

in disputed charges
returned to customers

1,114
Public
Comments
recorded



Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (PACP)

The KCC Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (PACP) supports the core mission of the agency by educating and protecting the general public on regulatory issues. PACP staff assists Kansas utility customers when they have questions or need help in resolving a service and billing issue with a regulated utility. In addition, the staff provides information about assistance programs and encourages community involvement and input through public hearings and comment sessions on matters important to Kansans.

Community outreach plays an important role

Public input is an important part of the regulatory process. PACP plans and promotes public hearings and comment periods on issues important to Kansas ratepayers, giving them a forum to share their opinions and get more information. Rate change requests from utilities are the most common matters discussed at public hearings. However, public meetings are also held on some types of transmission line siting projects.

Public Hearings may be held virtually (offering members of the public an opportunity to be an active participant from home) or in-person. For those that prefer to watch without participating, livestreaming and recordings are available for online viewing on the KCC YouTube channel.

In addition to public hearings, the Commission offers many convenient ways for the Kansans to submit a public comment on rate cases and other dockets with comment periods – online, email, via letter or a phone call to the Public Affairs office.

Identifying needs and offering help

PACP staff is instrumental in making Kansans aware of programs and services available to help them. Explaining the protections offered by the Cold Weather Rule, phone and internet discounts offered by the Lifeline program, and making referrals to public assistance agencies are just a few examples.

STAY WARM. STAY CONNECTED.

Cold Weather Rule
November 1 – March 31

The **Cold Weather Rule** is designed to keep your utilities connected during the winter months, even when you're unable to pay your bill in full. Contact your utility company to see if you qualify to make payment arrangements under the Cold Weather Rule.

Kansas 2021/22 Consumer Information
Department of Commerce

Available Assistance Programs
for Housing & Energy Related Needs of Kansas Citizens

| Utility Assistance – help paying your utility bill | Agency / Organization / Website | Phone / Fax Number | Area Served |
|---|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| Low Income Energy Assistance Program 1100 West 15th St., Ste. 310-202 | Energy Department for Children and Families http://www.dcf.kansas.gov/energy/energyassistance.aspx | 800.422.0043 | Statewide |
| Weatherization Program Kansas City, MO, for info on how to apply for weatherization services www.kansasweatherization.org | Center of Hope www.centerofhope.org/join-the-team | (785) 260-9228 | Geographic Districts |

Lifeline

Lifeline connects eligible low-income families and individuals to the services they need to live, learn, earn and participate fully in their communities. Federal and state discounts of up to **\$17.02** per month on phone or internet services are available.*

811
Know what's Below.
Call before you dig.
Find out more!

Advocating for Kansas customers

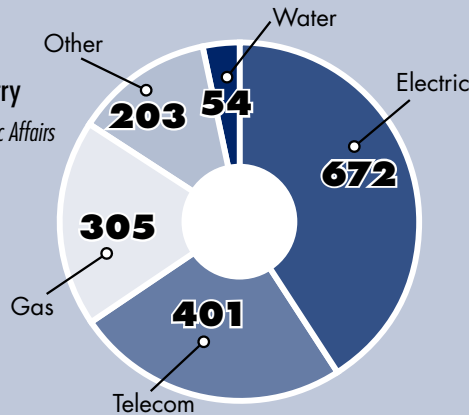
Consumers from all parts of the state turn to the KCC for help with utility issues. Our Public Affairs staff answers consumer questions, investigates complaints, and works to reduce the amount of time it takes to resolve disputes between the customer and the utility.

Nearly 80% of complaints worked are resolved in one day.

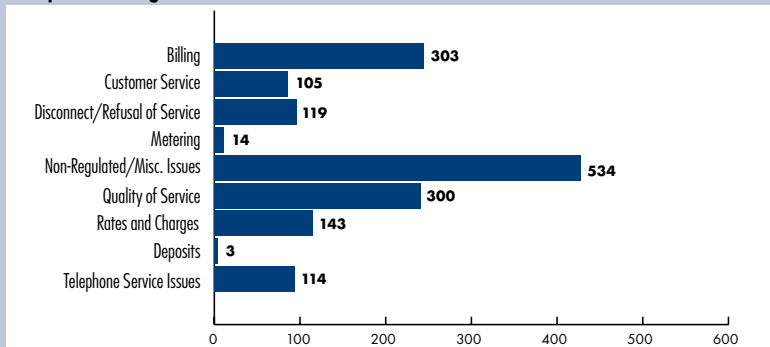
Utility Complaints by Industry

received by the Commission's Public Affairs and Consumer Protections staff in FY2022.

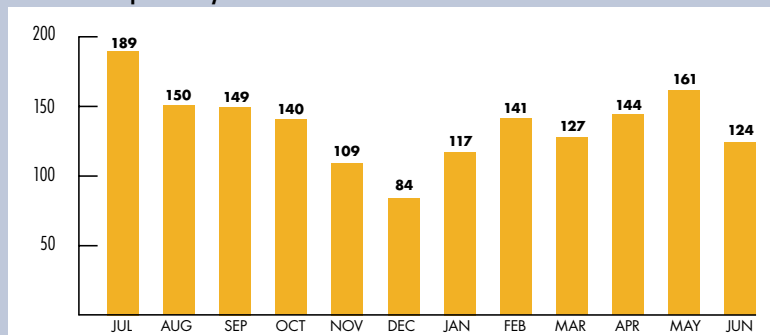
Total Complaints
1,635



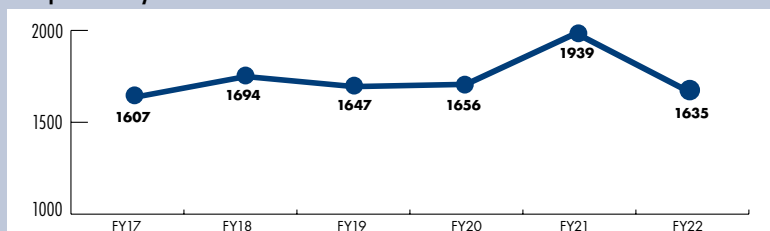
Complaint Categories



FY2022 Complaints by Month



Complaint - 5 year Trends



Need assistance? We're here to help.

Utility Assistance Programs

Consumer Information

File a Complaint



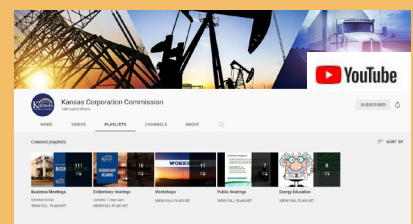
For more information contact PACP at:

800-662-0027 or 785-271-3140

1500 SW Arrowhead Rd., Topeka, KS 66604

public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov

Commission Events



View live or later

- > Commission Business Meetings
- > Evidentiary Hearings
- > Public Hearings
- > Informational Workshops

Subscribe to Commission meeting notifications



KCC | Quick Reference

Main Office

1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604-4027
(785) 271-3100

Consumer Inquiries/Complaints

(800) 662-0027
(785) 271-3140
public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov

Conservation Division

266 N. Main St., Ste. 220
Wichita, KS 67202-1513
(316) 337-6200

Transportation Division

(785) 271-3145
transportation@kcc.ks.gov

Legislative Contacts

> Lynn Retz, Executive Director
(785) 271-3170
(785) 806-4047
l.retz@kcc.ks.gov

> Peter Barstad, Legislative Liaison
(785) 271-3188
(785) 633-6226
p.barstad@kcc.ks.gov

KCC Website

<https://kcc.ks.gov/>

Visit our website to find:

- > Business meeting calendar
- > File a utility complaint
- > View a Docket
- > Latest regulatory statistics
- > Legislative Reports
- > Details on public hearings and comment opportunities
- > Energy Education resources



Follow us on Twitter and YouTube



We serve the people of Kansas...

