



February 4, 2023

Chairman Sen. Joel Carter Jr.,  
Vice-Chair Sen. Rita Potts Parks,  
Members of the Committee  
400 High Street,  
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Chairman Carter, Vice-Chair Potts Parks, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of 86 organizations and companies in opposition to Senate Bill 2341, which would grant incumbent electric utilities the right of first refusal (ROFR) to build and operate new electricity transmission projects. It grants the utility monopoly power to build transmission lines in an era when it is a norm that all other businesses face market competition. Granting this monopoly power would lead to high inflationary electricity costs for consumers for decades to come.

Where competition has been allowed to occur nationwide, transmission competition has been shown to lower costs by as much as 30%, which would save consumers money each month on their utility bills. Studies have verified similar findings.<sup>1</sup> In a climate of record inflation, driven in large part by spiraling electricity costs, we cannot afford to turn our backs on competition. Competition drives down construction costs and increases innovation, both of which benefit households and businesses which in turn will drive a robust economy for Mississippi.<sup>2</sup>

We urge you to reject SB2341. Stand up for consumers and not the monopoly power of the incumbent electricity utility.

Thank you for protecting consumers in the State of Mississippi from higher costs.

Sincerely,

*Paul N. Cicio*

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Chairman, Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition  
<https://electricitytransmissioncompetitioncoalition.org/>

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<sup>1</sup> Brattle Group: Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission, [https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726\\_cost\\_savings\\_offered\\_by\\_competition\\_in\\_electric\\_transmission.pdf](https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726_cost_savings_offered_by_competition_in_electric_transmission.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Brattle Group: Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission, [https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726\\_cost\\_savings\\_offered\\_by\\_competition\\_in\\_electric\\_transmission.pdf](https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/16726_cost_savings_offered_by_competition_in_electric_transmission.pdf)

## **MEMBERS OF THE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COALITION**

Ag Processing  
Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC)  
Aluminum Association  
American Chemistry Council  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Foundry Society  
American Iron and Steel Institute  
Anbaric Development Partners, LLC  
Ardagh Group  
Arglass Yamamura  
Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers, Inc.  
Arkansas Forest and Paper Council  
Association of Businesses Advocating for Tarrif Equity  
CalPortland Company  
Can Manufacturers Institute  
Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates  
Carolina Utility Customers Association, Inc.  
Century Aluminum  
Chemistry Council of New Jersey  
Coalition of MISO Transmission Customers  
Coastal Energy Corporation  
Commercial Metals Company  
Council of Industrial Boilers Organization  
Delaware Energy Users Group  
Digital Realty  
Domtar Corporation  
Eramet Marietta Inc.  
Formosa Plastics Corporation, USA  
Foundry Association of Michigan  
Glass Packaging Institute  
Illinois Industrial Energy Consumers  
Indiana Cast Metals Association  
Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers  
Industrial Energy Consumers of America  
Industrial Energy Consumers of Pennsylvania  
Industrial Energy Users-Ohio  
Industrial Minerals Association-North America  
Iowa Business Energy Coalition  
Iowa Industrial Energy Group, Inc.  
Iron Mining Association of Minnesota

Large Energy Users Coalition (NJ)  
Lehigh Hanson, Inc.  
LS Power Development, LLC  
Maine Industrial Energy Consumer Group  
Marathon Petroleum Company  
Maryland Office of People's Counsel  
Messer Americas  
Metalcasters of Minnesota  
Michigan Chemistry Council  
Midwest Food Products Association  
Minnesota Large Industrial Group  
Multiple Intervenors, NY  
National Council of Textile Organizations  
National Retail Federation  
NextEra Energy  
North Carolina Manufacturers Alliance  
Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia  
Ohio Cast Metals Association  
Ohio Chemistry Technology Council  
Ohio Energy Group  
Ohio Manufacturers' Association  
Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers  
Olin Corporation  
Owens-Illinois  
Pennsylvania Energy Consumer Alliance  
PJM Industrial Customer Coalition  
Portland Cement Association  
Public Citizen, Inc.  
R Street  
Resale Power Group of Iowa  
Retail Industry Leaders Association  
Riceland Foods, Inc.  
Rio Tinto  
Steel Manufacturers Association  
Texas Cast Metals Association  
TimkenSteel Corporation  
Vallourec STAR LP  
Vinyl Institute  
Virginia Manufacturers Association  
West Virginia Energy Users Group  
Wisconsin Cast Metals Association  
Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group