



MISSOURIANS WANT ENERGY CHOICE

Support for [HB 417](#) (Rep. Don Mayhew) and [SB 487](#) (Sen. Nick Schroer)

Business owners and residents share support for ending the electric utility monopoly to allow competition, cost-savings, clean energy, and options to customers.

ANDREW COUNTY

"With a choice hopefully Evergy will be forced to lower rates." - Yvonna M., Rosendale

ATCHISON COUNTY

"What happened to all the windmills and solar that was supposed to lower our bill, but it just raised it?" - Denton C., Tarkio

BUCHANAN COUNTY

"Competition reduces costs." - Denise B., Saint Joseph

"Having a choice always helps the consumers. It brings prices down, to a mean level." - Nellie P., Saint Joseph

"I am on fixed income, own my home and still can't afford my utilities. Electricity averages half of my income during summer heat and winter cold months. I can't afford to do anything and it is hard." - Pam M., Saint Joseph

"We need a choice!" - Steven N., Saint Joseph

"The current utility companies can charge whatever they want because they have no competition. I would love to be able to switch companies from these over-priced money hungry companies." - Melissa S., Saint Joseph

BUTLER COUNTY

"Where I live, it depends on what side of town you live on as who your electric provider is, no choices, and they raise rates whenever they want with no competition." - Melissa T., Poplar Bluff

CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY

"Competition is good for the consumer." - Russell W., Cape Girardeau

"I believe everyone should have a choice!" - Nancy B., Cape Girardeau

CASS COUNTY

"Energy costs are much too high. Every time Evergy requests an increase in electric rates they always get what they ask for." - Kristine S., Belton

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

"I have ridiculously high electricity bills for no good reason." - Melissa F., Nixa

CLAY COUNTY

"I find it absolutely disgusting that we don't get a choice and the one utility company in my city racks up endless charges because they can." - Amanda H., Kansas City

"I think the existence of monopolies is a failure of the greed part of capitalism and when one entity is allowed to own it all, they do raise prices to get more profit, even if they don't need to. With market competition it keeps prices lower as each company is then competing for your money, instead of having no choice but to pay raising prices." - Heather G., Kansas City

"I think we should have choices and no industry should be monopolized." - Leonor F., Kansas City

"Should have to compete and earn business. " - Kyle J., Kansas City

"Spire has increased the cost of natural gas to the point it is difficult to heat your home. " - Janice G., Kearney

"Utility companies need regulatory checks and balances. It is baffling that for profit companies monopolize our utilities." - Aaron R., Kansas City

DEKALB COUNTY

"They are giving themselves another raise in just two years going up again 14 percent." - Ruby W., Union Star

DOUGLAS COUNTY

"I'm tired of paying over \$200 to keep my house below 80 in the summer." - Samantha B., Ava

FRANKLIN COUNTY

"As a single mother I would appreciate a more affordable option for my electric. " - Camille S., Pacific

"I'm a retired woman on social security and my electric bill is almost 400 dollars a month. Too much for me to pay with all my other bills. I struggle every month." - Teresa S., Villa Ridge

GREENE COUNTY

"A monopoly allows companies to take advantage of the consumer. They are never a good thing." - Jacob C., Springfield

"Energy companies should have to compete. When there is competition we win." - Caleb B., Springfield

"It's getting ridiculous! I can't afford it anymore. One whole paycheck goes to utilities and then I don't have enough for other expenses. " - Nidie P., Springfield

"Monopolies and price gouging are unconstitutional." - Alayna G., Springfield

"Prices are too high! Solar isn't helping like it used to. " - Aaron P., Republic

"You don't have a choice when it's a monopoly. I would like to have a choice." - Eva P., Springfield

JACKSON COUNTY

"Land of free and choices. My electric bill is horrible " - Jana U., Kansas City

"Competition brings prices down." - Julie W., Lees Summit

"Costs are too high for us senior citizens on fixed incomes." - Roger S., Lees Summit

"Free market is always better." - RD A., Independence

"I can't do my laundry till after 8:30 pm every night or my bill raises 35.00." - Patricia C., Kansas City

"I feel like with the current everygy plan, I am paying for someone elses. My bill got so high that I cannot afford it. I want more choices." - Monique S., Kansas City

"I want to save money instead of being squeezed for it." - Aaron W., Independence

"Just want a better deal. I'm tired of getting overcharged." - Caleb G., Grandview

"My electricity bill is extremely high and we can barely afford it. We could not take another \$17 a month." - Brian M., Blue Springs

"Prices are too high." - Barbara M., Independence

"Retired people can not keep up with the prices." - Robert T., Kansas City

"The game of monopoly is just that.. a game. Not providing options for families to regulate spending on necessities such as energy, water, heat, etc.. These companies do not care about the individuals they are hurting."
- Monica B., Kansas City

"There should be choices of providers. For fare competition for reasonable rates." - Linda K., Kansas City

"We, as consumers should have a choice and a possibility for lower rates." - Tera S., Independence

"We've done everything that the company has suggested to lower our bill. Even limiting usage during certain times. I'm tired of still seeing my bill go sky high still. We need a break." - Kathy C., Grandview

JASPER COUNTY

"Prices are too high and there's zero competition to bring the rates down." - Tonya E., Joplin

"The monopoly is terrible. My electric bill usually runs \$90 a month. Since liberty decided to put a new meter in my bill has jumped \$150-\$300 and they tell me it's the meter trying to correct itself. I think they want to get my average higher so they can say this is your average. if customers haven't the ability to expect fair pricing and we can't turn to another utility because of underhanded practices we are doomed.." - Mark C., Joplin

JEFFERSON COUNTY

"Anytime you only have one provider you're going to get high prices. We need to have competitive electricity and the state of Missouri." - Kathryn T., Fenton

"We need clean energy solar wind options. " - James L., High Ridge

"Energy choice could be more affordable to our pocket books. We could have a big conglomerate or we could go to the smaller electric companies that could give us a more affordable deal." - Melissa M., Cedar Hill

"Energy is through the roof. I stayed down in my basement all summer so I could keep the upstairs at 84 thinking I would save but they would charge more for the kilowatts in the summer. They also charge you just to be a customer and they said the \$2.42 charge every month is to pay for their envelopes, I'd like to know who they are buying the envelopes from we definitely need some competition" - Chris R., Barnhart

"I am tired of these big companies having power over us and make us pay what they want for our energy. This has got to stop" - Pamela I., Festus

"I've always said it's not fair that we only have one choice." - SueAnna G., High Ridge

"Older people cannot afford an increase." - Hilda E., Cedar Hill

JOHNSON COUNTY

"So tired of the high bills and peak hours and no choice in how I operate my home and can't save money!" - Sharon S., Kingsville

KNOX COUNTY

"Ameren keeps changing rates. Their peak hours are not saving anything. The rates unless I am wrong are only during the week day. If they choose for you your peak hours are from 1pm to 8pm when kids and family are home." - Starla N., Edina

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

"Competition will control prices." - John S., Wellington

"The monopoly these electric companies have over us has got to stop. We need a choice in Missouri. Just like anything else to make it more cost effective for consumers there needs to be competition. Missouri is a conservative state. Lets act like it and do the right thing for your constituents. Give us the opportunity to decide. "

- Deanna R., Napoleon

LAWRENCE COUNTY

"It's ridiculous and unfair. No company should hold a monopoly on anything. I worked for a company that represented utilities in Texas the options and rates were amazing. I used to tell customers how lucky they were to have options, because where I live you don't have an option and the leading company does whatever it wants and consumers have to say in the matter. " - Kandi E., Miller

"Let me choose my own options when it comes to utilities." - Summer H., Aurora

"Liberty keeps raising rates without quality service. - Wanda M., Aurora

"Our rates are too high." - Kathryn P., Mount Vernon

"We need competition." - Ron S., Aurora

MCDONALD COUNTY

"Remember the Bell Telephone monopoly? Maybe an anti-trust lawsuit similar to the one that ended that monopoly and brought prices down is what is needed here!" - RD W., South West City

MILLER COUNTY

"Choice makes customers happy." - Kathy W., Eldon

NEWTON COUNTY

"I used to sell Texas electricity. It's nice to choose your provider. More competitive fair prices. " - Mary B., Joplin

NODAWAY COUNTY

"They just had a 5 million increase in expenses and asked for 109 million in increased revenues. Absolute nonsense! Plus they pay me 1/10th what they charge me for my solar contributions. " - Douglas K., Maryville

PETTIS COUNTY

"Monopolies should be illegal." - Teresa C., Sedalia

PLATTE COUNTY

"Can't afford my bill and it keeps going up." - LuAnn S., Kansas City

"Choice over monopoly." - DL L., Kansas City

"Every is monopolizing the entire two state area. They overcharge and tack on all kinds of different fees. People deserve to have a choice on who their energy provider is." - Melanie J., Kansas City

"Utilities are outrageous and I would like to have more than one option." - Cecilia D., Kansas City

POLK COUNTY

"Ameran is nothing but scammers. They lie, cheat and take advantage and you have no choice but to take it and pay them to do so... This cause can honestly make a difference because it's greatly needed" - Jennifer M., Burns

"I desire competition to keep rates reasonable and affordable. " - James J., Humansville

"I just believe a monopoly is never a good idea." - Kimberly C., Bolivar

"Its awful and killing our town. We have lost so many businesses this year because they cant afford to operate under Liberty utilities." - Jacquelynn R., Bolivar

"Our utility bills are outrageous." - Rhonda M., Humansville

RANDOLPH COUNTY

"I hate the fact that I do not have a choice in who my utility company is. The only one available in my county is Ameren, and my average bill is \$400 a month, with up to \$900 during the summer months. This is a marked increase over even last year. How is anyone supposed to afford this??!" - Rebecca S., Moberly

ST. CHARLES COUNTY

"Ameren is out of control and now Spire is following their footsteps. We need cheaper utilities. I'm next door to a cheaper utility but my area was monopolized so I have no access to save money. " - Angelica E., O'Fallon

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

"I'm sick of high rates." - Geri M., Osceola

ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY

"I want a choice of utility companies. Not just here's the deal, accept our price or have no electric." - Deborah C., Bismarck

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

"It makes no sense that my bill is over 400 in the summer months. I'm on a fixed income." - Heather H., Saint Louis

"They keep getting raises and have no consideration for those who pay for their raises. We never have any say in any of it and we have no choice but to keep paying higher prices. Tired of it. " - Laura O., Saint Louis

"A proposed 15% rate increase by Ameren. That's nuts. We need alternatives." - Frances B., Chesterfield

"Ameren's rates go up every year, and they are quick to disconnect your service if you are a month late in paying the bill." - Catherine R., Ellisville

"Anytime a corporation has a monopoly they can treat their customers anyway they want. I have received 3 disconnection notices within the last two months, each requiring almost \$400 payment. I have paid over \$1000 in two months for service. That is insane. As long as I don't have another source for electricity I have no choice but to pay." - Donna A., Saint Louis

"Competition can mean lower energy costs." - Amy B., Valley Park

"Ameren is monopolizing it's the only one we have. There is no other electric company we can call and their rates are ridiculous." - Flora R., Florissant

"Hate it. Have been saying for years we need choices " - Lora D., Saint Louis

"I need solar." - Sunny G., Hazelwood

"I thought that monopolies were against the law!!" - Phyllis L., Black Jack

"I would like more choices in our utilities " - Colleen T., Ballwin

"It would be better if we had options so that you could get a better chance of being able to sign up with who would work with you so you could afford your bills and not have to sacrifice whether or not you have to do without your medicine or pay your utility bill. " - Glenease R., Saint Louis

"It's about time consumers have choices!" - Elizabeth M., Ballwin

"Some rates appear to go up extremely high , sometimes I feel they're taking advantage of us seniors. I've been to my place and I live practically in a small matchbox apartment and it's just me. They charge me over 100.00 !!! I pay it but being taken advantage of is not nice at all! I've always paid my bills. It's hard making ends meet as a person on disability. People don't care about us." - Dorothy H., Saint Louis

"The state commission that approves each and every utility request for an increase in Missouri.....grants the request. I do not believe the requests are considered without prejudice." - Wylma D., Saint Louis

"There needs to be competition. Right now we are hostages for rate increases we have no say in. " - Charla M., Florissant

"There should be no monopolies of any kind in the United States!" - Connie T., Saint Louis

"Utility bills are just way too high I need a break because I'm overwhelmed." - Michael H., Saint Louis

STODDARD COUNTY

"If you want electric you have to go with Ameren the highest and I at least want a choice." - Tracy F., Dexter

VERNON COUNTY

"We may have to move into a tiny home to continue to have electricity. It's outrageous how much we have to pay to have basic needs in life." - Deb B., Schell City

WARREN COUNTY

"I'm on a fixed income and the rate is out of control." - Kimberly T., Warrenton

WASHINGTON COUNTY

"I think it's illegal last I heard about monopolies. How they get by with that I don't understand. Competition makes prices go down. Amren puts in at least once or twice a year for rate hikes and never gets turned down. " - Richard B., Cadet