

**From:** [Roland, Le"Shyeka](#)  
**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Pass the Climate Plan, Shut Down Hawthorn Coal Plant, and Say No to Methane Gas  
**Date:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 2:02:13 PM

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**From:** Dawson Sims <djsims16@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 2:20 PM  
**To:** cc 1 <cc1@kcmo.org>  
**Subject:** Pass the Climate Plan, Shut Down Hawthorn Coal Plant, and Say No to Methane Gas

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Dear city council,

Hello, my name is Dawson Sims, and I am a recent graduate of UMKC's Environmental Studies Program as well as library worker in the Kansas City community.

I am writing urgently to ask each to vote YES on the Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan as written, *without* any concessions to Evergy or Spire.

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (1) and the International Energy Agency (2) are very clear in their most recent reports - **if the world is to achieve its goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C, we must rapidly shut down existing coal, oil, and gas production and distribution, and there can be no new fossil fuel infrastructure.**

While the recently-passed Inflation Reduction Act will throw a lot of needed federal dollars at clean energy, it fails to provide for a rapid and just transition *away* from fossil fuels. This is where local government must step in and act. KCMO has the opportunity to do just this through the Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan by preserving the provisions which:

- call for the rapid shut down of Evergy's Hawthorn Coal Plant,
- exclude Spire-written policies favoring so-called "renewable natural gas,"
- and increase funding for building electrification and energy efficiency, particularly for low-income and vulnerable residents.

I know that Evergy and Spire have lobbied behind closed doors to have these provisions removed. I am asking you to be courageous on behalf of the people you are elected to serve by standing up to these unaccountable utility monopolies and saying no to dirty energy in Kansas City.

We are counting on you to pass the CPRP and give us a shot at a livable future.

Don't let us down.

Sincerely,

Dawson Sims  
he/him/his

(1): <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/apr/04/its-over-for-fossil-fuels-ipcc-spells-out-whats-needed-to-avert-climate-disaster>

"The IPCC states that existing and currently planned fossil fuel projects are already more than the climate can handle. More projects will lock in even greater emissions and our journey to climate hell. The IPCC warns fossil fuel investors they are on track to lose trillions of dollars if governments act as they must."

(2): <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/may/18/no-new-investment-in-fossil-fuels-demands-top-energy-economist>

"Exploitation and development of new oil and gas fields must stop this year and no new coal-fired power stations can be built if the world is to stay within safe limits of global heating and meet the goal of net zero emissions by 2050, the world's leading energy organisation has said."