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MIAMI CO CLERK

Good afternoon,

My name is Mary Koch

I live at 27333 W 215th Street, *Spring Hill, Ks*

I stand before you in full support of the incorporation of the city of Golden.

I ask you to please vote yes to incorporate the city of Golden.

I have lived in northern Miami County for 30 years and have experienced all aspects of living in this rural setting, the beauty of living in nature and the need to be self reliant.

In Dec of 2020 we became aware that land had been purchased a quarter of a mile from our home by NorthPoint, a developer that builds warehouses, that the city of Edgerton had annexed this land 640 acres and were preparing to rezone this acreage from rural residential to industrial use. The residents in proximity felt gut punched and went to work to let Edgerton know that this was not a good plan. In several meetings in Edgerton we spoke in front of the Planning Commission and the City Council and they either made fun of us or ignored us they were clearly only interested in accommodating NorthPoint. We asked Johnson County and Miami County

representatives and our State representatives for help all said there was nothing they could do, Edgerton had all the say in the matter.

It has been a gut wrenching 6 months. In an effort to protect the rural area that we all love from the pernicious, cancerous industrial sprawl into our beautiful rural residential area, a very resourceful, intelligent and passionate group of rural residents, who are not interested in living near warehouses or experiencing the negative impact that warehouses bring, have explored every avenue. In the end, the only solution found viable, is the formation of our own city. The only way the residents can have a voice. The only way the residents can participate in the democratic process that we have been promised in the Constitution.

The reason I am vehemently opposed to industrial development into this rural residential area is that it is an existential threat to the environment. This area that is in such close proximity to Hillsdale Lake, is the source of drinking water for thousand of people. Hillsdale Lake also supports the areas wildlife. If we allow industrial sprawl into this area the run off from the land covered with concrete will have a negative impact for generations to come. The Payday for wealthy developers today must not alter the health and well-being of humans and the wildlife that inhabit this area for generation to come.

We all know that the 640 acres that Edgerton has voted to rezone from rural residential to industrial is only the beginning. It will be no time before more large acreages will be purchased in the area with no regard or respect for those living on smaller acreages or the impact on the environment. The developers will promise tax dollars for the county and jobs. We can not be so naive as to believe that either of these promises are true.

I can't say it strongly enough. If this industrial development is allowed to sprawl over our beautiful rural area this area will be devastated. It will evolve from being the jewel of northern Miami/southern Johnson county i being the armpit of Kansas.