NOMINATION LETTER

Energy Markets and the Macroeconomy Conference

December 10–11, 2026

November 6, 2025

To the Conference Selection Committee:

I am writing to nominate myself, Enock W.N. Bulime, a Ph.D. student in Economics at Kansas State University, to attend the Energy Markets and the Macroeconomy Conference as a graduate student participant. I expect to complete my doctoral studies in 2027, and I have submitted a research proposal examining the local employment effects of clean energy investments under the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act.

My research directly addresses the conference question: "How do public expenditures, subsidies in energy markets—including policies such as those in the US Inflation Reduction Act—affect regional and national economic aggregates such as output, employment, investment and growth?" The study exploits quasi-experimental variation in IRA investment allocation across U.S. counties, using facility-level data from the Clean Investment Monitor merged with administrative employment records from the BLS. I examine heterogeneous employment effects across counties with different manufacturing capabilities, fossil fuel employment histories, and proximity to other clean energy investments. This analysis speaks directly to questions of spatial heterogeneity in macroeconomic responses to energy policy and labor market transitions in energy communities.

My research background demonstrates sustained engagement with energy-macroeconomy interactions. I have published "Delivering double wins: How can Africa's finance deliver economic growth and renewable energy transition?" (with Regean Mugume, 2024, *Renewable Energy*), which examines how financial systems can simultaneously support economic growth and clean energy deployment. I have also analyzed energy price shocks and their macroeconomic effects in my work on Uganda's fuel prices during the COVID-19 crisis. Additionally, I have co-authored multiple analyses for the IMF Public Financial Management Blog on fiscal sustainability and policy responses to economic shocks, providing me with frameworks to understand the fiscal implications of large-scale energy transition investments.

Attending this conference would allow me to receive feedback from leading scholars on identification strategies and heterogeneous treatment effects in my dissertation research, engage with international perspectives on energy transitions that could inform my analysis of U.S. policy, and connect my work on the IRA with my broader research on energy-growth linkages across different stages of economic development.

My research has been published in peer-reviewed journals including *Renewable Energy*, *International Journal of Educational Development*, and *African Development Review*. I have presented at the Centre for Study of African Economies Conference at the University of Oxford and maintained policy engagement through work with the Economic Policy Research Centre and collaborations with the IMF, IFAD, and FAO. I am a member of the American Economic Association, American Political Science Association, and International Studies Association.

I am eager to contribute to and learn from the intellectual exchange this conference will foster. Thank you for considering my nomination.

Sincerely,

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