

Senator Mike Thompson, Chair Utilities Committee,

We are asking you and others on your committee to please consider and pass this bill to protect the rural citizens in Kansas from the close threat of wind turbines to us, our health, and our property values.

Our story:

We live in Nemaha County and had a neighboring land owner lease his property to a wind company (Invenergy) a couple of years ago. He did not even live remotely close to the land near us that he was leasing. I am not against property rights, but we need safe distances that protect those of us who are concerned about how they will affect our own personal property, our health, and our safety. We would have lived within 1/4 mile of potential turbines while the leasing land owner lived several miles away from them.

Approximately 10 years ago, another wind company, Juwi, tried to develop our area as well. They planned to put their massive power plant within 100-200 yards of our home on the neighbor's land next to us. The neighbor's home was at least a mile away. The neighbor would have received several thousand dollars a year in compensation while we would have received nothing living in the shadow of this giant power plant. Not only that, but our health and safety would have been threatened. The wind company did not even notify us that this was in the plans which was very inconsiderate. Thankfully the company was unable to develop our area.

For the past 15 years, we have lived with the constant threat of Big Wind in our local community without much of a voice in an un-zoned county.

Please consider and pass this bill that would give safer setbacks and restrictions to the rural non land owner and other land owners who do not participate. We have no protection in these un-zoned counties in KS.

Thank you!

Brandon & Heidi Edelman