

Testimony Submitted for Senate Bill No. 279  
Senate Utilities Committee hearing held on March 22, 2021

Chairman Thompson and members of the Senate Utilities Committee:

Please consider passing Senate Bill No.279. Setbacks for wind turbines needs to be mandated and these minimums need to be set for the safety and proper placement of these industrial facilities. Every line of this Bill is very valuable but some of the key items that are very important are:

- Page 2, lines 23 thru 28 are very instrumental relating to the distances from residential property, public building, property lines, etc... These distance minimums will help protect a non-participating land owner from many things but not limited to: shadow flicker, noise, ice throw, limitations for future building of structures or houses on their property, etc.
- Page 3, line 23 relating to sound. Very important to require a study before construction and to require studies after construction which I believe are addressed later
- Page 3, line31 relating to shadow flicker
- Page 4, line 10 relating to aviation lighting. This lighting can be seen for miles and miles away. Where I live I can see lights in Kingman County, over 30-40 miles away and they do not shut off.
- Page 4, line 15 relating to decommissioning. This is crucial for the protection of the property and the communities these are built in. The proposed requirements for a letter of credit, bond or other protection is a must to ensure that when the day comes they are not used anymore they are just not abandoned in place.

There are many other very valuable items to this bill that help protect residents, land owners, counties and the state from wind energy. We are not against renewable resources but they need to be properly placed. New home growth is CURRENTLY being affected or halted in our area due to fear of turbines being allowed to be built to close to properties. Home sale values have also decreased. I have done a personal survey of economic impacts in our area and just the fear has stunted growth. It is not good for area which is the SE corner of Reno County if we want it to continue to grow with new young life like it has been. Please protect us and pass Senate Bill No. 279.

Sincerely

Member of Reno County Citizens for Quality of Life

Jason Seiwert  
14202 East Maple Grove Rd  
Mount Hope, KS 67108