

To: Kansas Senate Utilities Committee

Subject: SB 279

I want to state my strong opposition to SB 279. If enacted it ends the rights of Kansas land owners to financially benefit from wind, a free, clean, abundant Kansas natural resource. Generating electricity from wind not only provides income to farmers and ranchers, but to Kansas rural communities, many of which suffer from the trend of lower populations, fewer jobs, and less revenue. As a electric consumer I cannot understand why the legislature would take up a bill to cut off the growth of the lowest priced electrons available to Kansas homeowners and industry. As a land owner, I cannot understand why the legislature would take up a bill that is clearly designed to limit Kansas ability to compete for out of state business, which in todays environmentally aware markets often include a check box for growth in clean energy.

Among the fastest growing jobs in the nation are green energy jobs, this bill indicates no interest in being part of that new economy. This bill is loaded with unnecessary requirements, such as the set back from airports, that is the FAA's field of expertise, it's bureaucratic redundancy for the state to expand on these regulations, and with what data to support it? The many requirements and set backs in this bill, even if half as much, have but one goal, damage commerce, destroy a market, keep farmers and ranchers from profiting, starve local communities from income and additional jobs.

I urge all Senators, especially rural Senators to vote against SB 279, there are some farming operations in your districts that are in a tough financial spot. Lease payments off wind energy could be the difference for some. Don't take that possibility away.

Thank you,

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