

House Committee on Energy and Environment

March 11, 2015

House Bill 2373: Renewable Energy Standards Act Sunset
Room 582 N

Neutral Written Testimony submitted by
Robert H. Glass, PhD.
Chief of Economics and Rates, Kansas Corporation Commission

Chair Hedke, Vice Chair Corbet, Ranking Minority Member Kuether and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony before your committee today.

As proposed, HB 2373 (Renewable Energy Standards Act Sunset) would maintain the renewable energy standards requirements at the 2011-2015 level—not less than 10% of the affected utility's peak demand based on the average demand of the prior three years of each year's requirement. Table 1 below shows the current levels of renewable capacity for each of the affected utilities. All utilities are meeting the 10% standard and several are above the 2016-2019 15% standard.

Table 1: Renewable Generation as a Percent of Peak Demand

	Renewable Capacity	2014 Retail Peak	Percent Renewable
KCPL	239.04	1,661.00	14.4%
Westar	713.04	4,804.00	14.8%
KEPCo	129.80	448.00	29.0%
MidWest	56.80	346.00	16.4%
Empire	6.36	60.10	10.6%
BPU	82.40	484.00	17.0%
Sunflower	253.66	758.00	33.5%
Total	1,481.10	8,561.10	17.3%

Since both Kansas City Power & Light and Empire are multi-state utilities, not all of their renewable generation capacity located in Kansas is allocated to Kansas. Both utilities have significantly more renewable capacity than what has been used for Kansas compliance. In addition, Westar has recently obtained 400 MW more wind capacity through a purchase power agreement and KCP&L has recently signed two purchase power agreements for 350 MW of renewable capacity that will be in service in 2016. Once this new capacity is in service, both Westar and KCP&L will slightly exceed 20% in renewable generation capacity.