

Testimony on House Bill 2177

To

Senate Natural Resources Committee

By

Julie WestHoff, Senior Project Manager
Kennedy/Jenks Consultants

11 March 2015

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am an environmental consultant and member of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Environmental Remediation Advisory Board. Last year, I also participated in the Voluntary Cleanup Program Stakeholders Committee. I am a proponent of House Bill 2177.

As a member of the Advisory Board and Stakeholder Committee, I worked with KDHE, other consultants, and industry representatives to evaluate the Voluntary Cleanup Program and, in particular, look for ways to move environmental sites to closure. House Bill 2177 allows KDHE the flexibility to address environmentally impacted sites in a manner that is safe for the environment, but also allows the regulated community an opportunity to conduct a risk analysis of a site, with the ultimate goal of closing the site in a timely manner.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I thank you for your time and attention. I will now stand for questions.