

**Written Testimony of Westar Energy,
Before the House Energy and Environment Committee
In Support of HB 2516
February 1, 2016**

Westar Energy supports HB 2516. Asbestos remediation work has sufficient dangers to require expertise to protect both workers and those that will occupy those areas after remediation. Sufficient KDHE oversight remains in place to maintain high standards for asbestos workers even with removal of certification language in HB 2516. Beyond that, it is appropriate that the fees associated with licensing and oversight of this regulated area go to support the KDHE air program, establishing a natural connection so that the air program gets more support as its role increases and less as it diminishes.