



Testimony Provided to the
Senate Utilities Committee - March 10, 2015

Mark Lawlor, Clean Line Energy Partners

In Opposition to S.B. 253

Chairman Olson, Vice-Chairman Peterson, Ranking Member Francisco and Members of the Committee,

As a member of the Wind Coalition and employee of the wind industry, I respectfully appear before you in opposition to S.B. 253.

This bill appears to be a solution in search of a problem that does not exist. As we know, the relevant utilities are either in compliance with the renewable energy standard, or will soon become fully compliant.

Kansans have benefited from this standard which has brought more than \$5.5 billion of capital investment to the state, created over 3,000 jobs and pays more than \$9 million in annual land payments. The industry also distributes millions of dollars to local counties each year.

Utilities have invested in renewable energy that is sourced here in our state, created Kansas jobs, benefited rural communities, all without appreciable impact on ratepayers. In fact, this wind energy translates into savings for electricity customers. Kansas lies in the Southwest Power Pool, where wind power saved customers \$1.2 billion in 2013 alone.

Repealing this standard will only serve to drive a growing renewable energy industry to other states. Like all industries, the renewable industry relies on a stable investment environment when allocating resources. Continuous efforts to change the rules of the road have sent the wrong message to investors. This is not the environment we strive to create here in Kansas. Please vote to protect Kansas jobs and oppose S.B. 253.

I am happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.

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