

TO: Senate Energy Committee

FROM: Joe Spease, CEO WindSoHy,

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RE: SB 318, KETA bill

DATE: January 21, 2016

Respected members of the Senate committee,

I am deeply concerned about SB 318, the bill that would kill KETA, the Kansas Electric Transmission Authority. This bill will do great harm to our economy and to the farmers and ranchers of western Kansas. KETA should be strongly supported instead of foolishly eliminated.

The Kansas economy is suffering compared to neighboring states and the nation as a whole. The greatest hope for our economic growth is with expansion of our wind power projects in western Kansas. To make that growth possible we will need additional transmission lines that connect Kansas with other states so that our exceptional wind power resource can be exported.

In order for the efficient development of transmission lines in Kansas we must have KETA.

Attempts to kill KETA are attempts to kill the future of the Kansas economy. How can any responsible legislator support such a bill? And attempts to kill KETA are a slap in the face to the farmers and ranchers of western Kansas. Wind power project development is the greatest hope for bringing needed revenue and economic support to our farmers and ranchers in western Kansas. How can any responsible legislator support a bill that does such harm to our farmers and ranchers?

I strongly urge you to kill SB 318 and instead give additional support to KETA. That is what is best for Kansas.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this important bill.