

Members of the Senate Utilities Committee,

Kansas is in the enviable position of having an abundance of two crucial resources: sunlight and wind. Due to the phasing out of fossil fuels, wind and sunlight will play increasingly critical roles in our energy future.

Therefore I was surprised to read SB279 which purports to protect property and people, but in reality, clearly is written to squelch wind energy development. The extreme setbacks and needless restrictions will sharply curtail this industry and chase it to another welcoming state.

Rural Kansas is losing its population due to lack of jobs. Our small towns are dying. However, the wind energy industry has already provided 9,000 direct Kansas jobs during construction and operation of facilities, and another 12,000 indirect jobs. Wind turbine technician jobs are projected to be THE fastest growing occupation in the U.S. during the next ten years. Kansas landowners with current wind farm leases will receive \$1.51 Billion dollars in direct economic benefits.

The economy of this state is dying. We **need** this industry that brings jobs, money and clean energy!

Please vote for Kansas....vote NO on SB279.

Sincerely,  
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