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Proponent Testimony for SB478
SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

March 7, 2022

Chair Senator Thompson and members of the committee,

SB478 is definitely an excellent bill; as it is necessary to bring relief for the citizens that have to view the continually flashing red lights from nearly 4,000 turbines across the state.

In Southeast Kansas from a location in Labette County near where I live what you see in the daylight will dramatically change when the sun goes down. The sky is then lit by one great long line of flashing red lights that seem to run for miles, and they blink as if in unison continually every few seconds, every day, from dusk till dawn. That's because from this view you are literally seeing many of the 139, and 26 alternate turbines navigational lights blinking from Neosho Ridge Wind turbines located in Neosho County, Kansas.

What is concerning is this view is nearly an entire county away from the Apex's Neosho Ridge Wind Development. What the Neosho County Commissioners allowed when they okayed the Apex's wind development and did not require a radar-activated lighting system for that project they made a decision that not only affected their county but one that resulted in effecting those living in surrounding counties around them.

To our west these lights can be seen miles across Montgomery County, and into Allen Counties, to our south clear to the Oklahoma line, across Labette County to our east, into Cherokee County.

From different areas, one sees different views, take for instance on 169 highway near Thayer, Kansas because the Neosho County project itself has numerous turbines, some close to the highway it is a little creepy driving during the day, but after sundown, it is distracting with the lighting on the turbines flashing with different patterns of each turbine that has 2 lights, some flash quickly, others a bit slower, some appear synchronized, others appear random.

This adds to a hypnotic effect when driving at night or the loss of tranquility when trying to enjoy outside on one's own property!

Apex chose not to use radar-activated lighting when developing the **Neosho Ridge Wind turbines in Neosho County, Kansas** they made an excuse of the cost, and from previous testimony before the committee, it was disclosed to you that the amount was minimal in comparison to the cost of that development.

What price do you put on doing what is best for area residents, and being a good neighbor? These lights are disturbing the neighboring residents of many counties; anyone living within miles of the turbines that are forced to view them is subject to the loss of tranquility from the constant blinking red lights as they negatively impact the beauty of our rural areas of the state.

Their lights are causing a distraction for those driving down certain sections of highways read the facebook posts below.

Currently, the Neosho development is not willing to place radar-activated lighting on their turbines and it will more than likely take a state law to force them to do so.

What is excellent about SB 478 is the Radar Activated Lighting system will continue to protect the aircraft and at the same time alleviate much of the annoyances that certain citizens are forced to view every day, from dusk till dawn. It is excellent as it will keep the situation that we are in currently from happening in future projects.

It is a good bill, it is a good neighbor bill as a good neighbor would look to see what it could do to continue their work and at the same time work to alleviate what they could do to help their neighbors. So would a good wind energy company look to what it could do to continue their work and at the same time work to alleviate as much of the annoyance that citizens are forced to view them every day, all night long.

Please read the following comments made on a Facebook page concerning citizens of surrounding counties and the state of Oklahoma driving through the **APEX's Neosho Ridge Wind turbines located in Neosho County, Kansas.**

Please vote yes on Senate Bill 478, restore to us the loss of tranquility and in doing so you may save a life of a distracted driver by voting yes on this bill.

Debra Witwer Cramer
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Copied Facebook messages

10h

Driving through Thayer, KS or the Neosho County industrial turbine facility invasion in the day time is bad enough but driving through at night with all of the red blinking lights...was absolutely disturbing! How do some people think this is ok to do to our neighbors and our rural agriculture land? 🤔

#SUPPORT SB478

👍👍👍 22

15 Comments 6 Shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share

Totally agree!!! 🤔 2

Like Reply 10h

It is so creepy! Makes me feel I'm in another world... a great dislike!!!

Like Reply 9h

yes!!

I told Eddie I couldn't get through there fast enough! I felt like I was in the twilight zone and no matter how hard I tried to focus...I couldn't. 🤔

Like Reply 9h

I live 5 miles west of neodesha and can see them easily.

Like Reply 2d

Welcome to my world... before they put those ridiculous things in we had a peaceful country night sky & now our evening skyline looks like an army of red blinking Rudolph noses are invading 🤔

Like Reply 2d

I can't look at them. The last time we drove that way at night, I had to keep my eyes closed because I was afraid they would trigger a seizure. Now if we have to go that way, I have to make sure someone else is driving.

Like Reply 3d

1

Heather Biggs Sorry to hear they do affect you that way. You have a chance to help yourself and others as there is a Senate Bill to be heard next week in Topeka that will require that all turbines in the state of Kansas have radar-activated lighting t.. See more

Like Reply 2d

1

I agree 2

Like Reply 2d

I don't live in that part of Neosho county but about five miles away. Those lights are horrendous!! I don't hear the sound the windmills make but have several friends that live it everyday. I hate it for them!!

Like Reply 2d

2

It is creepy! I teach in Chanute and hate to come or go at night!

2