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February 10 2012
Pat Apple, Chairman of Senate Utilities
SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 383

Mr. Pat Apple and members of the Senate Committee on Utilities,

Please let me first provide a bit of background on myself and GBA Architects + Engineers. GBA is a full-service professional design firm headquartered in Lenexa. I am a Civil Engineer at GBA and the leader of GBA's Energy Studio, a collaboration of engineers and architects committed to helping clients find energy solutions that best meet their needs. I specialize in turnkey installations of community scale renewable energy systems. I have been an invited guest and speaker on the topic of community-scale wind energy at events and conferences around the county. I have experience with multiple behind-the-meter wind energy and solar energy projects in Kansas.

Today I am speaking in strong support of Senate Bill 383.

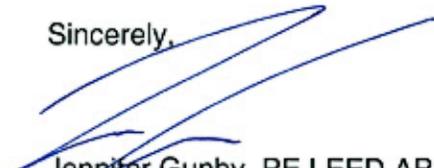
Throughout the last several years I, and other in the industry, have seen many projects in Kansas fail to move forward. One contributing factor is the restrictive cap on the net metering policy.

I know others have submitted testimony to you regarding their specific hurdles with the current net metering policy and to explain the many benefits associated with distributed, or behind-the-meter, renewable energy. Let me expand on their testimonies with two specific themes.

- 1. Economies of scale come strongly into play for onsite renewable energy generation projects.** The proposed amendment would allow eligible Kansas facilities to realize greater benefits of on-site renewable energy generation. For example, a 200kW wind turbine project would cost approximately \$1 million dollars, a 2,000kW (2 MW) wind turbine project would cost approximately \$4 million dollars. That is 10x the benefits and economic savings for 4x the cost.
- 2. A nameplate capacity of 200k highly limits eligible properties.** For example, a 200kW wind turbine would generate approximately 520,000 kWh each year. That is the annual energy consumed by only a 47,000 sqft education building, a 19,000 sqft inpatient health care building, or a 30,000 sqft office building. [Source: 2008 release of the DOE Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (Table E6. Electricity Consumption (kWh) Intensities by End Use for Non-Mall Buildings, 2003)]

Thanks you for your time and for your consideration of Senate Bill No. 383.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Gunby, PE LEED AP