



February 14, 2013

Clean Line Energy Partners Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 2241

The wind industry has brought millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs to Kansas in recent years, due to the state's vast wind resources and clear state policies supporting wind energy, like the renewable energy portfolio standard. The wind resources of Kansas could attract billions of dollars of investment and thousands of jobs, if state policies remain attractive.

Changing the policies that wind energy companies rely on at this point would be a mistake. There are plenty of states willing to absorb the investment Kansas would surrender by rolling back policies that promote growth. The renewable energy portfolio standard is both easily attainable and cost effective for the state's utilities to meet. But this standard plays an important role beyond supplying Kansas consumers with abundant, cheap, and clean power. The standard is also a policy position demonstrating the state's leadership in wind energy development. If the legislature were to repeal or roll back this standard, it will send a negative signal to the wind industry that Kansas is actively rejecting its previously held leadership role. In fact, industry publications have already picked up on the fact that such legislation has been introduced.

Clean Line Energy Partners is one of the investors in Kansas wind. It is our belief that Kansas can greatly benefit from its abundant wind resource and become a leader in exporting wind power to other states. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line would deliver 3,500 MW of Kansas wind power to states farther east and bring significant economic benefits to Kansas. Specifically, the Grain Belt Express Clean Line would facilitate approximately \$7 billion of investment in new wind farms and create roughly 500 permanent jobs, most of which would be to operate and maintain the wind farms in Kansas. This transmission line will deliver low-cost renewable energy to states that are also seeking to meet their renewable energy standards. Changing state policies that demonstrate a move away from leadership is not in the best interest of Kansas or Clean Line's investment in the state.

Kansas wind energy is cost effective, and the economic benefits have been substantial to many parts of the state. Moving Kansas away from a leadership role on wind would cost the state and limit future investment.

Respectfully Submitted,
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