

HB 2241: RPS (Renewable Portfolio Standards) DEBATE February 12, 2013
To the Honorable Rep. Dennis Hedke, Chairman of the House Committee, Energy &
Environment, and Committee Members;

The current RPS debate in both the House and Senate is important for more reasons than just dollars. Continuing to spend taxpayers money on an unreliable, inefficient, expensive, and negligible (look at the ACTUAL electricity produced and used, NOT what is PROJECTED by the wind companies) source of electricity is wrong.

But even more important than the dollars is the basic question: How long is the government going to continue to try to make “Winners” out of companies or ideas just because they have presented a “green” PR picture or are currently politically favored?

By continuing the RPS as required in current Kansas law, the government is doing just that. Even worse, the agreement that convinced the legislature to pass the current RPS requirements (the compromise to let Sunflower Electric build their conventional plant) is being totally disregarded because of environmental groups holding the progress of that plant hostage in continued lawsuits. This is a “Win-Win” for the wind companies and a “Lose-Lose” for the state and utility ratepayers and taxpayers.

Consider this analogy: We are ranchers and raise beef. It would be just as logical to legislate an RBS (Required Beef Standard) that requires every store to purchase XXXX amounts of beef every year, REGARDLESS of what we charged for it, or if we produced it reliably or efficiently or whether or not they even needed it.

Furthermore, in order to fill this RBS (Required Beef Standard), ALL taxpayers and consumers would be required to pay extra to raise this beef, pay for transportation, and support our business, EVEN IF WE COULDN'T MAKE IT WORK WITHOUT THIS GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENT AND HANDOUT. Keep in mind, that while some crops do enjoy government support in order to provide cheap food, the beef industry is expected to be successful on its own; in other words, to actually be a competitive business that succeeds in the marketplace on its own merits. And yes, we in the beef industry are proud of that fact and want to stay independent of the government.

But we are very disgusted at the thought being forced through taxes and increased utility rates to have to support the wind industry through the RPS mandates, the PTC mandates and even the latest “cash up front” proposals to help build wind complexes that can't begin to compete with conventional electricity in efficiency, reliability, or cost.

Please, vote to abolish or drastically reduce the RPS mandates currently in place.

Thank You,
Rose & Kent Bacon
1181 Four Mile Road
Council Grove, KS 66846
Ph. 620-767-7048 email>rkcattle@tctelco.net

