

March 17, 2021

Re: Senate Bill

Dear Senators,

I am in complete support of Kansas Senate Bill 279 and I appreciate all the work you are doing in trying to provide uniformity in the development of wind energy in the state of Kansas. I grew up in Frankfort, in Marshall County. After graduating in 2003 I moved to Topeka to attend Washburn University, where I graduated, and then continued to work in the legal field in Topeka until 2017. That year I had family members develop health issues, so my husband and I chose to move back to Frankfort to help them out. My parents were kind enough to sell us 5 acres off one of their farms and we were able to build our dream home. We spent \$600,000+ building our dream and then found out last year (2020) about the potential wind farm coming through our county. To say we were devastated is an understatement. If we would have known this prior to building, we NEVER would have built where we did.

It has become a nightmare as we have watched our County Commissioners completely disregard any feelings/concerns of non-participating landowners. We asked our County Commissioners to put a reasonable setback in place for the wind turbines in our county, but they denied that request and proceeded with approving the wind farm. Money is the root of all evil and that has become very apparent in this community. Some of the “good ole boys” I have known all my life are being blinded by dollars signs. It is unfortunate that a large corporation can prey upon us non-participating landowners by offering the participating landowners consistently better offers/deals. I do not want to tell other landowners what they can or cannot do with their land, but I have real concerns about the development of 500-foot-tall wind turbines around our property. Currently, the landowners on three sides of us have signed up with NextEra. We built with the thought of having a rural life, enjoying the wildlife around us, continuing the farming on our family’s land, etc. Now we know that that possibility is being taken away from us – ultimately by our County Commissioners.

I feel that this Bill makes it fair/consistent for every Kansas citizen; not just for those receiving money from the wind developers. Thank you so much for all your effort in trying to protect all citizens.

Valerie Krohn

Marshall County, Kansas