

My name is Dr. Travis Davis and I am a proponent of Senate Bill 279. I live in the Southwest part of Pratt County in the middle of a Next-Era windfarm project that went online in 2019. This is the 2nd windfarm invasion in Pratt county. In the initial wind farm project, members of my community fought tremendously hard against it, using their personal finances to fund the fight, to no avail. Once one project has passed, windfarms, like NextEra know they have cart blanche for any future projects, which is exactly what happened in the second projects zoning board and commission meetings. I have read through the Senate Bill 279, finally someone at the state level is stepping up for all the citizens of the great state of Kansas that we call home, to established statewide rules & regulations. They are a must, so individual county zoning boards & commissions cannot set their own rules as they go. Pratt County Zoning Board and County Commission are both a prime example of that, with multiple zoning board members benefitting directly from the projects and at least 1 of the 3 County Commissioners as well. They allowed these invasions to happen with no regard for Non-participating rural homeowners, who have Absolutely NO say in the matter nor do they benefit in any way from the projects! Of the hundreds of turbines in Pratt county, there is not a single solitary Watt of so-called renewable energy that goes to the county! So, how does it benefit the county again? Covering the county and its available space with wind turbines and no energy benefits? Or when the Turbines reach the end of their useful life span? Along having No county or state Taxation on these Multimillion-dollar, Subsidized Projects.

The Pratt County set back is 2500', which is ridiculous and provides an up close, personal experience, for these mammoth wind turbines, their visual pollution, the Blinking Red lights in all directions every 1.5 seconds all night from Dusk until Dawn, shadow flicker and then there's the blade & gear box noise! The average daily noise varies from that of a continuous train, to 18 wheeler road tire noise, to a helicopter landing pad and some days it's like they are testing jet turbines around my home. Within other boundaries, such as city limits, there are noise and nuisance ordinances in place to protect their homes, but why are non-participating rural homes any less important? Let me remind you, No benefit for the non-participating rural homeowner. Wait, the Pratt County Zoning Board did have one little nugget for the non-par homeowner, because they allowed Wind Turbines to be so close to your home, there is a county resolution requiring wind farms to provide visual vegetative mitigation (trees, which the homeowner must keep alive) for any non-participating homeowner with wind turbines within 1 mile, for who wants it. To aid in Mitigating the Wind Turbines close approximation to your home. Yet, Next-Era Windfarm went against the county resolution and the precedent established in the prior Pratt County windfarm project of homeowners receiving visual vegetative mitigation. We were told No by Next-Era to any visual vegetative mitigation! When brought to the attention of the county commissioners, they did nothing to enforce the resolution. Therefore SB 279 must pass!

Here are some of the numbers showing the sheer volume of turbines around me and my neighbor's homes and their daily impact, which Cannot be appreciated on paper!

There are:

- * **4 within the minimum 2500 radius**
- * **7 within 1 mile**
- * **AND 22 WITHIN 1.9 MILES!**
- **This is 21% of the entire 106 Turbine, 40,000-acre project**

These are real people and their homes, which are engulfed with wind turbines, your constituents and county/state taxpayers who live and work in your community, not absentee landowners from states on the other side of the country! To truly appreciate their impact, you need to see, first-hand, these massive wind turbines, their impact and how turbines are funneled, purposely positioned directly around non-participating homeowners. Please carefully consider Senate Bill 279 that would establish needed regulations and boundaries to properly protect all non-participating landowners' properties and especially their homes, because it may be your home in the next project.

Recommendations/Amendments:

1. Applicant shall hand deliver notice in writing of application to all land/homeowners within the area.
2. Make it at minimum, 20 times the system height or 15,840 feet for both any residential property (home), building and property line of nonparticipating real property (utilizing a radius from closest property point to said turbine) equal to a public park.
3. Placement of Wind Turbines monitored by an independent surveyor; Proper surveying prior to, during & after construction to make sure turbines are placed where the developer states and at their expense.
4. Provisions for any non-par homeowner with turbines within a 15,840 feet radius of their homes:
 - a. Visual mitigation, Trees; type, amount of the homeowner's choice with installed irrigation, billed to and paid for by the developer (So no tax implications for the non-par homeowner)
 - b. Equal financial compensation for every turbine within that area for the life of the project
 - * And make both retroactive for any current and/or existing project in the state from their start date
5. Blinking lights only when aircraft approach and make retroactive for all turbines
6. A solid Decommission plan, so they are not simply abandoned.

In closing, I would like to personally Thank you for stepping up to address the issues with current and ongoing Wind farm projects across our state. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dr. Travis Davis