

Dear Members of the Senate Utilities Committee

My name is Tony Schmidt and I live in Lawrence. Please vote no on SB279 Tuesday.

There does not seem to be any explanation for this bill than fossil fuel lobbyists, and misinformation from their political operatives. I know Chairman Thompson will likely close the meeting with his doubtful views about the man-made climate crisis, but he is out of step with the American Meteorological Society and the majority of Americans. Expressing those views is like living in another era. Please vote no.

Wind power is largely responsible for our 40% decline in carbon emissions. A new "Economic Impacts of Kansas Wind Energy" report indicates Kansas counties and landowners with leases will receive **\$1.51 Billion dollars in direct economic benefits** for wind farms operating at the end of 2020. An article in today's LJW clearly explains how important wind is to our state's attractiveness to outside business.

Kansas should be producing 300% of our energy needs and exporting the remaining.

Kansas has benefitted from **9,000 direct jobs** during construction and operation and another 12,000 indirect and induced jobs thanks to this growing industry. Wind turbine service technician jobs are projected to be the [fastest growing occupation in the US between 2019-2029](#).

Key provisions of this ten-page bill include some of the most restrictive regulations in the United States. The regulations\* are even retroactive: **Any wind lease signed after July 1, 2011 is subject to a whole new host of rules, including being invalidated if construction has not started or an interconnection agreement is not signed.**

- 12 x system height (turbine tower plus to tip of blade) or 7920 feet from residential property or public building
- 20 x system height or 15,840 feet from airport, federal wildlife refuge, public hunting area or public park
- 10 times system height or 5,280 feet from property line of a nonparticipant
- These requirements impact zoned or unzone land in a county equally
- Requires noise limits of 40 decibels
- Can't have more than 1 turbine per square mile
- Requires shadow flicker modeling for all turbines 1 mile away from occupied structures.

Sincerely yours  
Tony Schmidt  
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