

Kansas Renewable Portfolio Standard

"It is good news that we can rely on wind resources to provide energy at competitive prices. We believe it is important to maintain a diverse mix of generation resources, and wind power helps us improve that diversity. Customers want renewable energy choices, and today about 10 percent of the electricity they use is generated from renewable sources."

John Bridson, Westar Energy vice president, generation. December 2014

In May of 2009, Governor Mark Parkinson signed into law HB 2369 which included a provision enacting a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) for the state of Kansas. The RPS requires every regulated public utility to own or purchase renewable generation based on their nameplate capacity. The standard set minimum threshold percentages of the utility's average three-year annual peak retail sales:

- 10 percent for 2011-2015
- 15 percent for 2016-2019
- 20 percent for 2020 and beyond

A key component of the RPS is a one percent cap on the rate impact of complying with this policy. The Kansas Corporation Commission is permitted to exempt any utility that can demonstrate that compliance with the RPS would cause retail rates to increase by one percent or more.

At the end of 2013, Kansas had 21 operating wind farms totaling nearly 3,000 MW of installed wind generation. 1,273.5 MW of wind energy is under construction or has been announced for completion within the next two years. Approximately 52% of our installed wind power is exported out of state to help provide access to long-term, fixed priced, inexpensive, renewable electric generation.

- Percent of Kansas Power from wind in 2013 - 19.4%
- Kansas ranked 8th in the United States in 2013 for percentage of electricity delivered from wind
- Kansas wind projects powered more than 870,000 average American homes at the end of 2013

The Renewable Portfolio Standard sends a clear signal to the world that Kansas values wind energy. The RPS supports an expanding wind industry and continues to help Kansas export this important resource ensuring we continue to be known as the "renewables" state. Kansas communities hosting wind farms receive more than \$10 million dollars annually from wind developers and landowners receive more than \$13 million dollars annually for wind farm land leases.

As America works to implement the Clean Power Plan which is designed to reduce carbon pollution at existing power plants, the RPS serves as a key accountability tool for compliance, lowering Kansas' overall carbon reduction target.

Summary of Kansas Wind Energy

- 21 Kansas Wind Projects at the end of 2013
- 17 Kansas Counties hosting interconnections or wind farms
- 15 different wind project developers
- 2,967.50 MW of wind energy installed in Kansas at the end of 2013
- 1,721 installed wind turbines in Kansas at the end of 2013

