

## Kansas Wind Industry Under Attack

Wind Energy Works for Kansas - with 42 wind farms generating 44% of our electricity, Kansans know wind energy has been good for our state, environmentally and economically. Wind power is largely responsible for our 40% decline in carbon emissions and the “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. Kansas landowners receive approximately \$33.6 million dollars in land lease payments annually.

Our state has benefitted from 12,000 direct and indirect jobs during construction and operation 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. (link to Cloud County Community College wind program)

For the past three years misinformation about the health, safety, property tax value, and wildlife impacts of wind farms has been making its way across Kansas. A variety of interests have used this anti-science, non-peer reviewed material to try and stop wind energy development. Dr. Chris Ollson’s [testimony](#) clearly counters the misinformation heard in the Senate Utilities committee this legislative session.

[SB 353](#) follows the path of anti-wind bill [SB 279](#) in 2021 and [HB 2273](#) from 2019. There have been eight anti-climate bills introduced this year! SB 325, SB 324, SB 323, SB 374, SB 383, HB 2488, SB 350.

A hearing on SB 353 was held on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Testimony is available [here](#).

Some key provisions of this six-page bill include some of the most restrictive regulations in the Country:

### Wind turbine setbacks

- 10 x system height (turbine tower plus to tip of blade) or 5280 feet from non-participating landowner’s property line, public building, airport, federal wildlife refuge, public hunting area or public park.
- These requirements impact zoned or unzone land in a county equally
- Requires noise limits of less than 35 decibels
- Does not allow for ANY shadow flicker at existing or new facilities.

This bill is not designed to help protect the safety and welfare of Kansans, but to stop wind development completely. **Contact your Representative and Senator today and tell them you SUPPORT wind energy.** We need continued growth in renewable energy to support our economic recovery and protect our environment.