

Date: January 25, 2023

Bill: SB49

Type of Testimony: In Person and/or Written Testimony (January 26th)

Proponent

FROM:

Gayla Randel, State of Kansas Taxpayer and Registered Voter
785-587-4960

TO: Senate Utilities Committee, State of Kansas

I support SB49 because rural residents should not have to put up with this infringement on property enjoyment. In fact, wind developers know this is an unpleasant requirement of turbine builds. Wind developers COULD have added this control on their own, but they do not. They COULD have but didn't! Today, lobbyists will likely try to state adding these to turbines is too expensive, however remember this... THEY decided NOT to install them when being built in the past. The cost is an excuse for something they should have added to begin with. Wind developers are making millions at Kansas expense so adding lighting controls now should not be an issue.

SB49 passage will mitigate this issue for future wind developments, but adding lighting controls on EXISTING turbines are vital to returning Kansas night skies. The reason you know the need to add lighting controls at all is because people like me have shared what it's like to have the blinking lights around us.

I would request the following SB49 additions:

- Penalties identified for noncompliance to ensure wind does indeed take this bill seriously.
- Required documentation of request application submission to the FAA within six-months of a project filing with the agencies overseeing electricity production and management such as the FAA or Southwest power pool to expedite the application process.
- Add a statement that establishes a reporting process with the attorney general's office (or like agency) if compliance is being broken so residents can report to our state officials what is happening in the field.
- In the same manner, allow a one-time 24-month delay, not repeated and add turbines must be turned off due to noncompliance until the lighting is installed.
- SB46 fails to be strong enough to hold developers accountable without the above.

This is my fourth year giving testimony with no outcome. Let this be the one of several statues protecting the rights of non-participating citizens of Kansas.