




SUNFLOWER ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Testimony in Support of HB 2362
House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
February 21, 2013

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation supports passing HB 2362 and modifying current Kansas law regarding habitat for threatened and endangered species.

Sunflower supports efforts to protect the environment and public health. However, we believe current Kansas law overreaches regarding habitat and is more restrictive than the federal process for threatened or endangered species.

In 2009 Sunflower was notified that complying with the current species habitat law would add \$10,000 to a project for an entrance gate modification at our Holcomb Station in Finney County, a relatively minor project in terms of land disturbance. Moreover, this expense was to mitigate habitat reconstruction for the long-nosed snake, a species that is not listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Sunflower, like many cooperatives, is involved in generation, transmission, and rural development projects that improve our communities. State regulations that add unnecessary burden—financial and regulatory—to projects harm the competitiveness of our state and add unnecessary costs for our cooperative members.