Before the House Energy and Utilities Committee
Comments of Tom Day, Legislative Liaison
Kansas Corporation Commission
Senate Bill 419
March 6, 2012

Chairman Holmes and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill 419. The Commission is supporting SB 419, as amended.

Senate Bill 419 requires the Commission to determine the annual statewide retail rate impact for the affected public utilities to meet the renewable energy portfolio standards found in KSA 66-1258. The bill requires the KCC to submit a report on or before March 1 of each year beginning in 2013 to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Utilities and the House Energy and Utilities Committee.

Prior to the amendment in Senate Utilities committee, the Commission had concerns to make the report to the legislative committees an apples-to-apples comparison from one company to another. The Commission's economics staff spent hundreds of hours and 434 pages trying to get a good handle on the cost of wind about 4-5 years ago. Similarly, the compiling of information and creation of this report will not be an easy process, unless there is full cooperation by the utility companies. Some information that will be submitted by the companies will be confidential, which the Commission will not be able to disclose in the report, thereby giving this legislature only aggregate retail rate information.

The amendment to Senate Bill 419 allows the agency to promulgate rules and regulations or issue an order setting out the parameters for the information required to fulfill the amendments to KSA 66-1260. This amendment will certainly assist the Commission to develop the determination of the annual statewide retail rate impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee and I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.