

*Kansas Secretary of Agriculture
1982-1986*

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**TO: Representative Carl Holmes, Chairman, House Standing Committee on
Energy & Utilities**

TESTIMONY

House Committee of the Whole Amendment to HB 2446

The Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) enacted by House Bill 2369 in May 2009 was an endorsement of the need to move forward with alternative sources of energy on a planned basis. Kansas is fast becoming a leader in many alternative energy programs as evidenced by the establishment of a world class Siemens facility, the successful operation of many ethanol plants in the state, the nation's leader in design and build of ethanol plants by ICM in Colwich, the Abengoa plant near Hugoton using cellulose inputs, the extremely well organized efforts on promotion of wind energy and the developments of biomass energy by Aloterra Energy of Houston, Texas.

The change to the RPS as outlined in the Amendment is not consistent with the efforts being promoted by both the private and public sector entities. It also implies that our standards after careful deliberation were not correct. Further, it attempts to use a specific incident of the construction of the second generating facility at Holcomb Station as a reason for the change. The issue of construction is being addressed in the courts and action by the House of Representatives does not seem appropriate.

A great deal of thought and effort was dedicated to the development of the RPS in 2009 and the change would impact many energy sectors, both private and public, as they plan for future expansion of their efforts in Kansas. It will have a direct and profound impact on Kansas ability to compete for wind projects as well as to impact supply chain efforts. In addition, PILOT payments for Counties and lease payments for landowners.

Therefore, I recommend the House Committee of the Whole Amendment to HB 2446 not be favorably considered.



Harland E. Priddle
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