Written-only Opponent to SB 279: Dan Wancura, Private Citizen, Overland Park

Dear Chairman Thompson and members of the committee,

I don't interject into legislation very often, but when something as bad as SB 279 comes up, then I need to speak up. First let me state that wind power is very obviously good for Kansas. It has created a lot of jobs in the rural part of the state (where job creation has been challenging) and it offers a solid source of reasonably cheap and very clean energy. So what's not to like about it?

SB 279 is a curiosity. It's a dictionary of regulations placed on wind power. Why would the committee leader put this forward? Are his constituents in Shawnee clamoring for it? Given Shawnee is mostly suburban, why would they care about regulating rural based wind farms? Plus it went 53% for Biden who is very support of wind power and I'm sure his constituents knew that when they voted for him.

Why would a Republican Senate committee, normally pro-business and opposed to excess regulation, want to kill an industry that has been very good for Kansas?

Wind farms have not gone up without regulation. Any obvious issues would have been opposed right from the start. They are already regulated. Adding regulation like that in SB 279 is not only puzzling, its wrong, its bad for business. One part of the bill, section 3.6, states the density of a wind farm must not be more than one turban per square mile. Any engineer could tell you that makes zero sense. Other regulations within are along these same lines.

This bill is without warrant and should be called out for what it is, a regulation heavy, business killer attempting to boost some other industry that has not been named.

Dan Wancura Overland Park, KS dwancura@everestkc.net