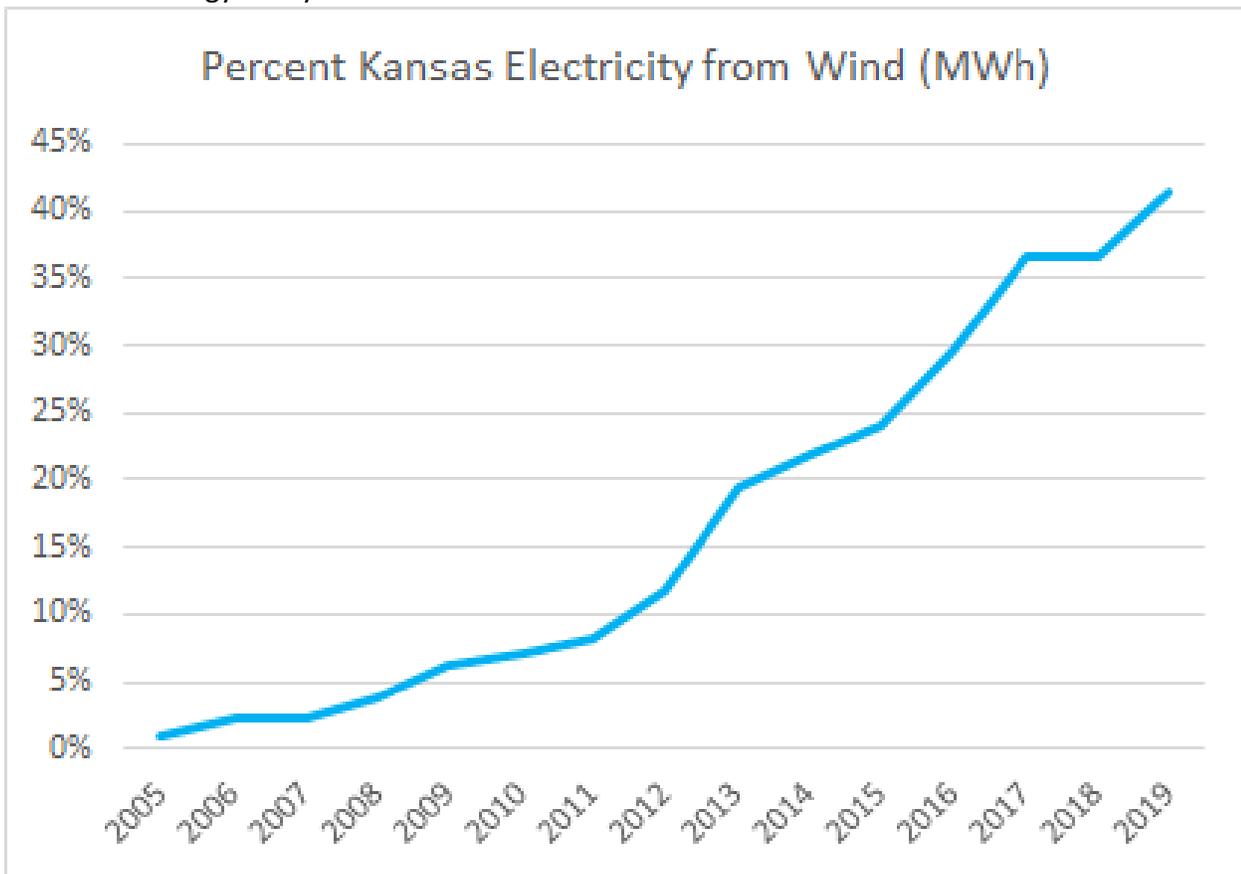


Dorothy Barnett
Climate + Energy Project
SB 49
Neutral – Written Only



Chairman Olson, Vice Chair Peterson, Ranking member Francisco and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to share my neutral testimony on SB 49.

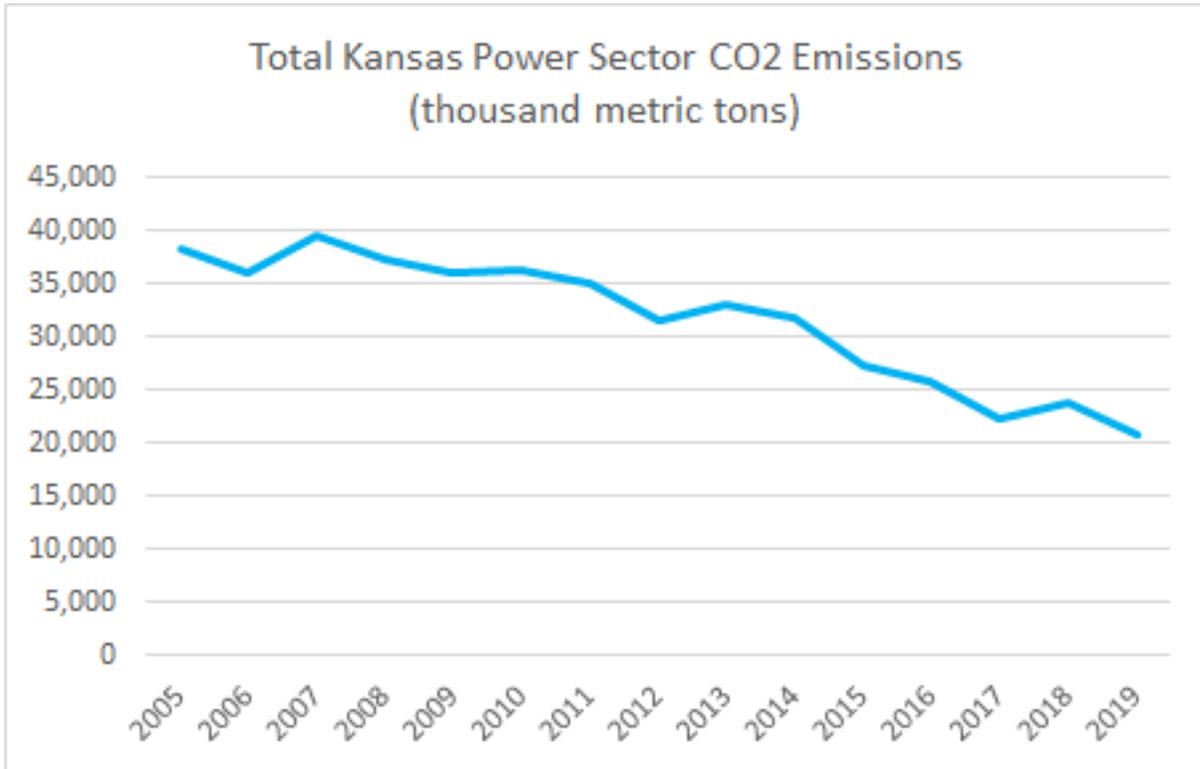
My name is Dorothy Barnett, I direct the Climate + Energy Project (CEP), a fifteen-year-old Kansas based nonprofit. CEP works to support the transition to a carbon free economy through programs and policy. Energy efficiency and renewable energy are not only good for our economy but good for our health and environment as well. Here in Kansas and across the nation, the clean energy economy is growing and according to evidence outlined in a recent report - [The Speed of the Energy Transition](#),¹ we're clearly experiencing a rapid energy transition scenario. More than 45% of our electricity comes from wind energy today.



Wind power is great for the Kansas economy. This rapid growth in wind energy has already created more than 22,000 jobs within the state and generated millions in tax revenue. Clean power investments in Kansas communities generated more than \$31 million of property, state, and local taxes in 2020 alone. Wind energy is also cheaper to generate than coal and, in most cases, fossil gas. In

¹ <https://www.weforum.org/whitepapers/the-speed-of-the-energy-transition>

addition to the economic benefits we've seen, wind energy has helped reduced our states carbon emissions since 2001.



Over the past five years, we've seen significant misinformation and disinformation about wind energy circulating across Kansas. You've heard much of it here in the statehouse. Journalist Michael Thomas has taken a deep dive into this issue showing how a few people are leading the charge to stop wind projects across the country. ² Look at your social media feeds and you'll see a bevy of misinformation being shared. ³

If passed, SB 46 could provide relief to Kansans who are genuinely experiencing annoyance from wind turbine lighting and take away a tool used by the misinformation machine to inflame anti-renewable energy sentiment.

Renewable energy is good for the Kansas economy and our environment and as technology advances we should continue to look for ways to use it as a climate solution.

² <https://www.distilled.earth/p/the-man-who-is-teaching-thousands>

³ <https://www.distilled.earth/p/i-joined-40-clean-energy-opposition>