

Verbal Proponent Testimony SB 49

David Fisher
1272 West 1250 Road
Centerville, KS 66014
913-226-8284

Senate Utilities Committee
Proponent Testimony for SB 49
Chairman Olson and members of the Senate Utilities Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to speak and for your service to Kansas. My name is David Fisher, I am a proponent of SB 49 and a retired business owner from Centerville.

SB 49 will help protect my property value. My family knows firsthand how Wind turbine lighting can be annoying and ruin the night sky. Our home is 17 miles from the nearest turbine in the Allen County. Our night view to the south has been ruined by the constantly flashing red lights on top of 59 wind turbines. Turbines could be built much closer to our home and the lights would be devastating. Fortunately there is a solution called Aircraft Detection Lighting.

As a former commuter pilot and flight instructor, I understand the importance of obstruction lighting on wind turbines. The lighting only needs to be on when there is an aircraft in the area instead of all the time. This is a simple solution that is FAA approved and being installed at wind facilities throughout the United States, Germany and Canada.

Yet in Kansas the flashing lights are on all night long. Commercial wind developers are pinching pennies by not installing this cost effective system which could provide a dark sky 97% of the time. They are simply not being good neighbors. ADLS is not cost prohibitive.

As an example:

Allen County Wind Development Capital Cost:	\$278,000,000
Average cost per turbine:	\$4,711,864
Estimated ADLS maximum System Cost for entire development:	\$1,200,000

The ADLS system cost is \$1.2 million compared to the \$278 million dollar investment. This results in only ½ of 1% of the total cost. EDP renewables could have protected the night sky for 1,000 square miles by installing ADLS.

This system was available when Prairie Queen was built, why didn't they install it? Because the state of Kansas didn't require it. We need SB46 and SB49 now, we need to protect the citizens of Kansas. This will not limit industrial wind development; this will protect our night skies. I encourage you to make Aircraft Detection Lighting a requirement on new and existing Wind Turbine Developments.