



DWEA State Initiative: **Kansas**

Overview

Zoning and permitting issues are minor in most areas of the state. Governor Brownback and other top cabinet positions are very pro wind for distributed and utility projects but recently approved a rollback on net metering. BTI Wind Energy has been lobbying at the state level to improve the landscape for distributed wind.

The Kansas market size is phenomenal for DW. Wind Resource is good across the eastern third of the state and great over the western two thirds with many Ag, Industrial, Commercial opportunities for DW projects based on geography, organization/facility size, and adequate population. Growing base of DW installations. A very windy state with tons of farming; great market opportunity. State has some strong stakeholders. Kansas State University and Colby Community College has NREL approved wind test sites. Ruth Miller, KSU, leads Kansas' Wind for Schools program, cooperation from the state's largest IOU for installation of WfS projects. Momentum building for private, municipal and utility cooperation to streamline projects; for example, all REA's adopted a single, standardized interconnection agreement to facilitate clear communication between all parties and reduce overall project timelines.

The average cost of energy ranges for \$.08/kWh to \$.15/kWh with the outlook for the cost of power to rise sharply over the next four years. These rates combined with the Kansas wind regime make many DW projects economically viable.

Priorities

- 1) Restore/expand RE Tax Credit
- 2) Financing RE through extended leases
- 3) Statewide net metering

Lobbying Services: In conjunction with Harvest the World Network

Timing: KS legislature runs from Jan – April 2015; deadline for filing bills is Feb 2015