

Letter to the editor:

The energy-money driven minds of Messrs. Kyle Wetzel and Wayne Walker are closed to the real issue of the Flint Hills/wind energy discussion: permanent destruction of a one-of-a-kind landscape.

Less than 4% of the original tallgrass prairie remains on this continent and the majority of it is in the Kansas Flint Hills. Topping the Flint Hills ridges with gigantic wind turbines is the same as interjecting turbines into the Tetons, the Black Hills, Death Valley or the Grand Canyon. The Flint Hills landscape is as unique a jewel as those National Parks, with one major exception: it is unprotected from industrial development.

To make the insult even worse, in order to attract wind energy development, our Kansas state government permanently gave away ANY tax money relative to wind power.

Is alternative energy important? Of course it is, as part of an over-all energy strategy. And that strategy must include SANE siting requirements which include the placement of wind factories on already disturbed (farmed) ground. NOT atop an irreplaceable piece of America.

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