

County asked to approve Jake braking ban

(KNZA)--A rural Hiawatha resident is requesting the Brown County Commission approve a Jake braking ban.

Virgil Wiltz, who lives just south of the the Hiawatha City limits on U.S. 73 Highway, made the request during Monday's meeting. On hand for the discussion was Brown County Sheriff John Merchant.

Wiltz, speaking to commissioners by phone, said over the last few years there has been big increase in semi truck traffic on the highway, with more semi's hauling grain to Atchison. He said it's really loud when truckers use their Jake brakes to slow down as they are entering the city limits.

Wiltz said he believes the installation of signage prohibiting the practice would help cut down on the amount of Jake braking.

County Attorney Kevin Hill said it would require commission approval of a resolution. He said commissioners could limit it to a specific road and not make it countywide. Hill said the Sheriff's Department would have to enforce the resolution.

Discussion was held on limiting it to the area's outside the Hiawatha and Horton city limits on U.S. 73 Highway.

Hill said he will draft a sample resolution and send it to the county clerk for the Commission to review at next week's meeting.

