

**Farris, Michele**

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**From:** Bonrud, Pam  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2005 12:35 PM  
**To:** Cremer, Karen; Farris, Michele; Bettmann, Martin  
**Subject:** FW: Groton Comments for Record

Not sure what to do with these as they came in after you left.....

-----Original Message-----

**From:** PUC  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2005 11:57 AM  
**To:** Sahr, Bob; Bonrud, Pam; Forney, Heather; Johnson, Dustin (PUC); Hanson, Gary (PUC)  
**Subject:** FW: Groton Comments for Record

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**From:** Matt Astleford[SMTP:MASTLEFORDSC@QWEST.NET]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2005 11:58:02 AM  
**To:** puc@state.sd.us  
**Subject:** Groton Comments for Record  
**Auto forwarded by a Rule**

To Whom it May Concern:

As a South Dakotan concerned with the economic and public health benefits of wind energy development in our state, I would like to submit comment for the record in regards to Basin Electric's proposed new 100 MW natural gas-fired turbine near Groton.

As an Organizer and Lobbyist for the South Dakota Chapter of the Sierra Club, I can inform you that our volunteers support the development of wind energy, but as you know, the issue of transmission capacity must be addressed first. With Basin's current proposed plan for additional power generation, it is clear that there is transmission capacity for moving newly generated power to its consumers. In addition, the area of the proposed site is one of the prime wind development regions in our state.

We would like to see wind energy development included in this proposal. By adding wind energy development to this proposal, it would diversify the energy options for Basin's customers, help stabilize energy prices if the price of natural gas would escalate, and help booster a growing industry and economic opportunities for the future of our state.

Thank you,  
Matt Astleford  
SD Sierra Club