

26 May 2011

South Dakota's Public Utilities Commission
Steve Kolbeck
Gary Hanson
Chris Nelson

RE: Black Hills Power Wind Farm/Belle Fourche

Greetings Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure to offer my support for the Black Hills Power Wind Farm near Belle Fourche.

As you examine the merits of this proposed facility, and move toward a declaratory ruling on the subject, I know that you will take into consideration all the positives that will result from this project.

*Twenty megawatts of production may be insignificant in some circles, but out here in western SD, that amount of clean, renewal energy is a big deal.

*Moving our state closer to producing more renewable energy is always a plus.

*Black Hills Power (and Light) has always been a great neighbor and good corporate citizen.

*\$38 million in project investment is a much needed boost to our regional economy.

I am confident that you collectively and individually will study the issue and make a sound and fair determination.

I just wanted to lend my support to the project.

With personal regards,

Tom