RECEIVED

FEB 1 5 2018

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner,

My name is Jay Pereboom. My family owns and operates Pereboom's Café and Boomer's Outback in Webster, SD. My father, purchased the restaurant in 1976 and it has been a family-run operation for four generations. We've seen northeastern South Dakota face numerous struggles during the 40 years we've operated our lodge and restaurant and have experienced our share of difficulties during this time as well. Rural South Dakota does not often see major economic development projects, and when it does, the impact is huge for local businesses and communities. I have seen energy development as a huge boost for our local and state economies. I am writing to express my support for one of these major projects, the Dakota Range Wind farm being developed by Apex Clean Energy.

Two years ago, construction began on the Big Stone South to Ellendale (BSSE) transmission line, which is the line Dakota Range Wind will connect to. The construction process for this project brought dozens of construction workers to our area, and businesses saw a huge boost in sales. During this time, our lodge expanded to ensure we could accommodate both the construction crews and our regular tourism customers. Our business has benefited directly from the BSSE transmission line, and dozens of other businesses saw similar impacts—and will keep seeing them—as wind development in South Dakota continues.

As a father, I am also excited for the opportunity for a more stable economy for my children. These energy developments help keep local government from increasing taxes on citizens and help ensure consistently priced energy. South Dakota has some of the strongest wind in the country, and by continuing to harvest the wind, we'll keep making South Dakota stronger for future generations.

I hope the commission considers all the positive impacts that these energy developments bring to South Dakota, and I ask you to allow Dakota Range Wind to move forward.

Jay Janiel Pereboom

WebSter, SD 57274

STREEL MM SEA

ic fer compared the

Public Utilities Commission Capital Building, 1st floor 500 East Capital Ave Pierre, 5D 57501