

Good Evening Commissioners, I am Marsha Hubner. Prevailing Winds map has approximately 17 turbines within two miles from my home.

I have repeatedly heard from the Commission that you do not make decisions based on your opinion, only on the law. Mrs. Feigen just Tuesday at the Dakota Range Ad Hoc meeting you made the statement that the word 'reasonable' has different interpretations. I agree. And I would contend that so do the words ***serious injury, substantially impair, and unduly interfere***. I don't think there is a question that 63 more giant wind turbines will cause some injury to the environment, inhabitants and development of this region. The question is, will it be ***serious and substantial? In any case shouldn't you error on the side of caution?***

Commissioner Nelson, you have said that South Dakota ranchers and farmers have always been good stewards of the land, therefore they should have the freedom to do whatever they want to do with it. I agree. But I also think we would all agree that that freedom stops at their property line. If there wasn't a problem with wind turbines encroaching neighboring property owners, we wouldn't be here tonight. The Bent Tree wind project in Minnesota just last May bought out several homeowners because of long term complaints on noise, and many other projects are now offering good neighbor agreements to quiet the complaints from non-participating home owners. At last Tuesday's meeting you asked for a contingency to make it "slightly more palatable to those living in the footprint. Is that all we can hope for? The health effects from infrasound are real and cumulative, more and more people are getting sick from living near a turbine. If it wasn't for the confidentiality clause, we would have been made aware of this much sooner. Isn't having to leave your home from serious health issues SERIOUS and SUBSTANTIAL?

Commissioner Hanson you have made a comment that," we just don't know how all the purposed Wind Energy Projects (literally thousands of turbines) will impact wild life in this state. And when we do know, it may be too late." I so agree. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife also have serious concerns. What we **do** know is that this particular Wind Project puts endangered birds and bats at risk. Plus this whole footprint is in the center of the Central Flyway and is in the Mississippi Flyway,

and possible whooping crane migration routes. How could it not have SERIOUS and SUBSTANTIAL impacts?

Commissioner Nelson you have talked about your unwillingness to usurp local governments. I appreciate that. But at that same AD Hoch meeting you asked for the decibel limits be lowered from 50 to 45. Then added you would only ever do that with the applicant's permission. ^{It has become obvious} ~~It has become obvious~~ that applicants dictate our zoning laws. The pressure put on these local governments by professional Wind salesmen is unprecedented. And the health effects of wind turbines of this size is also unprecedented. Where are the studies not paid for by Wind that PROVE it is safe? Your commission's comments about putting contingencies and policies "in the incubator" make it clear you do not know how turbines will affect us. Do you have any idea how that makes us feel? I did not sign up to be an experiment. What is at stake for me and many others is being able to live in our homes. **I am trying to understand how Wind Energy Corporations are given the benefit of the doubt over people forced to live in the footprint.** They may not care about South Dakota or its inhabitants, but I know you do.

We all need to step back. If all the wind project applications in South Dakota are accepted to date, what will this state look like, be like? What's the collateral damage? When the commission grants a permit, you are in essence, promising me and others living in the footprint that we will NOT experience any harm that is ***serious or substantial?*** ***Can you in good conscious make that promise?*** Please don't let the **South Dakota we all grew up in become only a memory by your decided definitions.** Just maybe you were put in this position for such a time as this.

Thank you

