

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing you about my concerns with the proposed wind farm for the Charlies Mix/Bon Homme county area. I am against the project.

I grew up at [REDACTED] Wagner, SD 57380 on land homestead by my great grandfather. When my father took over the family farm, he also purchased the quarter section to the west. As a little girl I would spend as much time as possible outside. Running around the stock dam, playing in the shelter belt, eating mulberries and ice skating in the pasture after a winter thaw and refreeze was my youth. Also I would ride my bike over to the "other place" and just look at; to quote Lewis and Clark "the boundless horizon". This time outside developed me into a person who loved and respected the outdoors. Just like so many other South Dakotans I had/have a love and connection with the land.

I attended school in Wagner, I went to college and graduated with a bachelor degree from South Dakota State University, and worked in Custer State Park for many years. As life developed I got married and followed my husband to SE Nebraska where I have lived for the last 25 years. I work as a Safety, Health, and Environmental compliance person for a chemical company as a compliance auditor. This job has allowed me in the last 18 years to travel all over this wonderful country of ours. I have seen many many beautiful places but my heart has always longed to come home. I am and always will be a South Dakotan.

As my business travels have taken me to Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado; I have watched the landscape I love be marred by the constant spinning of the new "Giants in the Earth" wind turbines. Traveling to Hays, KS one time I counted when I crossed the first shallow of a wind turbine until my vehicle crossed the last one, it was 45 miles. Add another 20 miles on each side for the sight line and the spinning blades of wind farms are all the eye can see for 85 miles. I recently made my annual trip to Hays and there are even more now. Once they built "just a few and that will be it" they later come back and keep adding because the impact is already there and; as the power companies say, the infrastructure is already in place so it is the idea spot. I do not believe this company will stop at their additional 60 turbines, for proof of this just look south to Nebraska. They will be back in a year to add "just another 100 more". It hurts my heart to see the land I love being destroyed.

And why is it being destroyed? MONEY. Study after study reveals they cost more to build, install and maintain than the energy they produce in the life cycle of a single wind turbine. What makes them so profitable? The millions and millions of dollars in government subsidies. The Governor of South Dakota just gave the project 4 million dollars of hard working tax payer money to destroy the very thing South Dakotan's love the most, the land. And you can talk green energy all day long but the math and science don't add up. Especially when there is a "PAID FOR" hydroelectric dam 20 miles away that has a moratorium on the amount of electricity it can produce. I have done my research and I'm not fooled by the "talking points" of investors and power companies.

So why is a Nebraskan writing you? I have been deeded the 80 acres I love with all my heart. The address is [REDACTED]. Wagner, SD. Since the land has been turned over to me I have made some improvements as I WAS planning on building my retirement home there. I paid local contractor Blaha

Gravel over to dig out the small stock dam to improve wildlife habit and complete other dirt work. I paid the local family farmer o redo the fence area and other small projects. I have paid an Avon contractor to extend the water line and hydrant out past the new fence line for the cattle. I have paid Bouza Construction to build a pole barn on site. And I have spent hundreds and hundreds of dollars locally at Bomgaards, Valley Pump, The Food Center and other business in Wagner as I travel home about every 2-4 weeks for the last 6 years to visit my dad, cousins and work on my land. Every penny I have received from the farm income I have re-invested into my land and the Wagner area.

I have now halted all money spending because of this project. I work will a gentleman from Elgin, NE who went home for his father's 80th birthday party. Sitting outside on the porch all he heard was (whoo, whoo, whoo) of the neighbor's wind turbine blades turning. He told me he doesn't even like to go home anymore; it always gives him a headache and makes him feel funny. With the talk of sound wave impacts, headaches and fainting spells from blade flicker, and reports of restless sleep syndrome from people who currently live close to the Beethoven project (people I've known my entire life) and reduction in wildlife; why would I build my lifelong dream home in the area or invest another dollar in Charles Mix county and the state of South Dakota? It appears elected and government officials are more concerned with money then the health and welfare of its state residents. Who is looking out for us? Who is going to protect us who cannot fight the millions and millions of dollars being poured into this project so a select few can line their pockets? The county commission says their hands are tied and are going to "talk" to the project's lawyer to see if they can get some concessions. Who is going to protect us? All we have it you.

I was at the first PUC meeting in Avon two years ago and again at the meeting in July 2018. All I heard was the same thing. People who are for the project are investors and 90% don't live in the footprint and many not even in the area and people who are against it live in the footprint; have ALL the impact; and gain nothing but physical and financial hardship and broken dreams. Having traveled all over the US, I know there are a heck of a lot nicer and easier places to live then South Dakota. If this wind farm expansion goes through I am planning on taking the profit from my farm land, my personal income and future retirement monies and spend it elsewhere outside of South Dakota.

Again I am against the wind farm located in Charles Mix and Bon Homme counties.

Sincerely

Lori Cerny



Dorchester, NE 68343