

As I sit here writing this, I look back to the Evidentiary Hearing and sometimes wish I would have been called as a witness. My husband and I have so much at stake here. Our farm has been in my husband's family for over 120 years. This is our life. We cannot just move to another location should the PUC grant the permit for the Prevailing Wind Park. We work here 24-7, we live here, we are always here. We cannot leave for the day and come back in the evening or vice versa. Already we are having health problems from the Beethoven Wind Farm. Since the turbines went into operation, we (my husband and I) have not been able to sleep decent. I have gone from 8-10 hours of sleep to 4-6 hours. Usually 4 hours and sometimes I don't sleep at all. We have headaches. I very seldom had headaches in the past. We are crabby. My husband has had several bouts of vertigo and also wakes up all tense and grinding his teeth at night. This is all happening since the Beethoven Farm went into operation. The closet turbine is 1.3 miles from our house and much closer (.8 miles) to our property line. As farmers, the property line is very important to us as we are not in our residence but out on the property all day then return to our house in the evening hours. There is no escaping from these monster turbines. Our life is here, day after day. We are small farmers and do not have any outside help. We very seldom are gone for more than 12-18 hours especially both of us at once. It has been 25 years since we were both gone together for more than 24 hours. We attempted being gone for 4 days for the Evidentiary Hearing, but had to make a quick trip home on Wednesday to take care of some livestock getting home at 10:30 p.m. and returning to Pierre at 4:00 a.m.

I am asking you to deny the Prevailing Winds Park project because I do not think we will be able to continue to farm should more turbines be put in our neighborhood. We will be surrounded by 4 turbines within a mile (2 as close as  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile) and a total of 11 new turbines within 2 miles. This is not counting the existing Beethoven turbines. The new turbines are to be much bigger and more powerful. We will have to deal with shadow flicker which will really cause chaos with my husband's vertigo. I fear we will experience less sleep than our 4 hours. I really fear the mistakes we will make from the lack of sleep. Farming is dangerous enough without the lack of sleep. Will I find my husband caught in a PTO or auger because of his lack of sleep or getting dizzy from the vertigo? Worse, will our *kids* find him wrapped up in a PTO or auger or pinned between a tractor and other equipment? Listening to Vickie May's testimony really scared me. That could be my life in the near future. I pray that the PUC will look out for us and stop this from happening.

There are way to many unknown factors to this project. The decommissioning of the turbines is so unclear. What if they are not taken down? I never actually heard S Power say they **would** remove 4 feet of cement but they possibly **may** remove 4 feet of cement. Even with removing 4 feet of cement, what will grow on 4 feet of soil and 10 feet of cement. I am guessing weeds. What can be done in that area? Can't put up a house with a basement. Can't even use for a cemetery. What will happen to our beautiful state? Scott Rueter testified that the turbine that caught fire by his place has not been removed even after a year.

As I sat at the Evidentiary Hearing, I couldn't help but notice that all of S Power's expert witnesses were getting paid \$500+ an hour. Here we were just small farmers away from our business for four days. Not only were we not making money, we were probably losing money because there was work to be done on the farm. Even better, the expert witnesses have never spent a night sleeping near a turbine. I would say the expert witness were actually the ones that have been living near the turbines and have experienced first hand what they are like.

How can S Power claim to do all the testing for sound and shadow flicker showing results when they admitted that they have never gone back to the site after the turbines were running to check how accurate there figures are? I want and need evidence that this will not harm my family and livestock.

Has anyone ever test for infrasound?

Why are some of my neighbors having the same problems as we are? Why has this all started after the Beethoven Wind Farm started operating?

Our community has seen so many changes in the past 2+ years. At the first meeting in Avon with the PUC, my only comments I made were how the wind company came into our community and divided the neighbors. (You can go back and listen to your recordings). It has only gotten worse since then. Now we don't talk about politics, religion, or turbines. Some neighbors refuse to talk with others. Businessmen are afraid to be in favor or against the wind farms in fear of losing customers. Some don't want to do business with so and so because they are in favor of this project. Even worse, family relationships are being destroyed.

I am asking the PUC to deny this project at least until more studies are done to prove that the turbines are not causing any health problems. If you feel that the the project should go forward, please make at least a 2 mile setback, not from the residence but the property line . We are 1.3 miles from the nearest turbine now and that is to close and the new turbines are much bigger and more powerful.

We have such a beautiful state. Do not ruin it by allowing the monstrous turbines to cover the land. Have you considered denying all future wind projects and making South Dakota a state where people can move to and not worry about a wind farm ruining their lives. This would make more sense to me. There are people out there like Vickie May who want to know that there next home will not be surrounded by turbines in the future.

Lori Fuerniss

[REDACTED]  
Delmont, SD

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