

PUC

EL18-026

July 12, 2011

Karen Jenkins, address is [REDACTED], Tripp, SD.

I am not an investor or relative of. I have not leased my land to the developer.

I urge you to protect my husband, myself, and all of those within and around this footprint.

This protection can and will come when **YOU deny this application.**

As you consider the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government, please consider this: **We have not been represented properly by our local government.**

I have participated with others to ask our local government to protect us by establishing safe setbacks. I came to realize the principle of "ex parte communication" was completely ignored.

At the Bon Homme County Zoning Board we pushed for safe setbacks, unaware the developer and investors were working to change the permitting process.\

Conditional Use Permits, requiring a Public Hearing, were in effect.

The Commissioners working with the developer and investors changed the permitting process to require only a Building Permit which does not require Public Hearing.

Had we been more observant we may have been able to prevent this.

Ethically, the Zoning Board should have made it clear to us that changes to the permit process were being considered.

Taken away was our **last chance**, to share our concerns and evidence, **before permitting at the local level.**

Prevailing Winds has not studied the residents in the footprint and surrounding area of Beethoven Wind Farm.

How can they show this project will not pose a serious threat of injury to the environment and the social and economic condition of the “inhabitants” etc.?

In real estate, location is everything, and **we had it**. A few miles from town, a beautiful 8 acre property with a home, barn, and outbuildings. A 360 degree view to enjoy the change of seasons from our home. Everything we had dreamed of.

The landscape and beauty that existed has been substantially and negatively altered forever.

Substantially altered by the Beethoven Wind Farm being built 3 miles west of our property, since the purchase of our home in 2010.

Red warning lights cause alarm and blink constantly in the early mornings and all night.

Towers dominate the western view from our home and from distances miles away look like an abandoned industrial zone when not lit.

Noise from it now present and unwelcome.

As humidity and wind conditions change, I sometimes notice a feeling of pressure in my chest. I’ve experienced ringing in my ears and dizziness. I often wake up with a start

Now we have Beethoven and the threat of Prevailing Wind Park placing nine turbines to the south and southwest within 1 and 2 miles of our property.

Closer turbines put our biggest investment and asset, **our home** and property at risk of being **unlivable and unmarketable**.

Watching the cranes erecting the turbines at Beethoven was devastating.

We have now lived here seven years, two as we dreamed, two of them spent with the construction and startup of Beethoven, and the past three years trying to prevent more turbines from coming.

Unsure of if we will be able to stay or go.

Putting off improvements that would add to the value and enjoyment of our property.

All of this has and continues to substantially impair our lives and our future. To say otherwise would be denying the truth. Yet, we have not been studied.

Finally,

While an ALDS to mitigate the red blinking warning lights is considerate, that system will not change the look of the Industrial Wind Park. The beauty here will be negatively altered forever.

The Beethoven Project and this project will never be decommissioned.

When the turbines are no longer lucrative and are too expensive to maintain they will be abandoned.

You can't squeeze blood from a turnip.

The money to decommission won't be there.

The only way to protect us is to deny this application.

Thank you,

Karen Jenkins

[REDACTED]

Tripp SD 57376

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