

South Dakota Corn Growers Association 4712 S. Technopolis Drive Sioux Falls, SD 57064

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501

April 8, 2019

Dear PUC Commissioners:

On behalf of the 1,150 members of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, we submit this letter in support of the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm.

Renewable energy projects are vital to the environment, economy and well-being of South Dakota and our nation as a whole. The Deuel Harvest North project would generate an estimated \$8 million annually in payments to landowners, property taxes, staff salaries and local businesses. During a time that commodity prices are low and the agricultural economy is sputtering, the payments to farmers would be extremely beneficial.

This wind project also would have a major economic impact on rural communities and the region, providing nearly 400 jobs during construction and 15 full-time positions once operating. More than \$150 million would be invested directly over the life of the project.

Wind energy has already established a successful track record in South Dakota. Existing wind farms generate needed, affordable energy and provide additional income for landowners. Our state has an abundance of wind and room for more wind farms. Wind energy is also an unlimited, clean fuel source, much more ecofriendly than burning fossil fuels for electricity.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

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Sincerely,

Doug Noem President Lisa Richardson
Executive Director