
From: PUC

Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 10:04 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: EL19-003

Mr. and Ms. Holborn,

Thank you for your message and letter relaying your concerns and frustrations about the proposed Crowned Ridge project and the resulting negative affects you believe projects such as this will bring. The commission is required by law to base our decisions on actual evidence presented in the docket process. We cannot make these decisions based on feelings or hearsay or internet searches.

By law, we must take several factors into account when considering whether or not to grant a wind siting permit. The primary duty of the commission is to ensure the location, construction, and operation of the facilities will produce minimal adverse effects to the health, safety, and welfare of the environment and citizens. The standards we must follow are defined in South Dakota Codified Laws and Administrative Rules. Here is a link to state statutes governing the commission, available on the commission's website home page: <http://puc.sd.gov/statutes-administrativelaw/>.

Again, the commission's decisions must be based upon evidence that is presented to the commission by parties of the docket. If commissioners and PUC staff were not to follow these laws, if we were to pick winners and losers based on the feelings of others or of our own, *that* would reflect a lack of virtue and integrity. It would also go against the oath each commissioner took after being elected: to follow the laws of the state of South Dakota. These laws were voted on and enacted by the South Dakota Legislature.

Your message and my response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the EL19-003 docket so my fellow commissioners and others can access them.

Gary Hanson, Chairman
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov