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**From:** PUC

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2019 5:20 PM

**To:** 'bdjohnson@iw.net' <bdjohnson@iw.net>

**Subject:** EL19-003, EL19-007, EL19-012

Mr. Johnson,

Thank you for your message relaying your concerns about proposed wind energy projects and property values in the state. As a former real estate broker, appraiser, and auctioneer for over 30 years, I am keenly aware of property valuation methods. The commission is required by law to base our decisions on actual evidence presented in the docket process. We do not have the liberty of making decisions based upon our feelings. If you have evidence regarding property values that you believe should be considered by the commission then you should apply for party status in the proper and timely fashion or inform intervenors to wind dockets that you possess evidence regarding valuation. The method and deadline for applying for party status are discussed at every public input meeting and are included on the Public Utilities Commission's website.

The PUC has three wind dockets currently being reviewed and processed for which my fellow commissioners and I have yet to vote as to whether or not to issue requested siting permits: Crowned Ridge, docket EL19-003; Triple H, EL19-007; and Sweetland, EL19-012. Party status application deadlines have expired for these dockets; however, there may be time for you to provide evidence to the EL19-012 intervenors.

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. Again, our decisions must be based upon evidence that is presented to the commission by parties of the docket.

Your message and my response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the dockets specified above, so my fellow commissioners and other interested individuals can access them. This Siting Guide explains the commission's processing of siting dockets such as this, <http://puc.sd.gov/commission/dockets/electric/2019/e119-003/e119-003sitinghandout.pdf>.

Gary Hanson, Chairman  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
[www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov)