



SOUTH DAKOTA FARM BUREAU[®]

March 4, 2020

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

RE: Docket EL19-027

Dear Commissioners Hansen, Nelson, and Fiegen,

South Dakota Farm Bureau is a proud supporter of wind energy development in South Dakota. Wind energy has offered our members an opportunity to diversify the income they are receiving from their land as well as help generate renewable energy for their operations and the state at large.

Wind energy development has a positive impact on the rural communities that many of our members call home. Our members support their local communities and their local economies. Additional revenue coming in from a wind lease means additional revenue for local grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants.

South Dakota's rural schools, counties, and townships are also beneficiaries of the tax revenue generated by wind farms. This revenue helps address the need to maintain and update our roads and bridges and continues to support the high-quality education our children receive. This additional tax revenue is especially crucial given the many challenges our townships and counties are facing when it comes to maintaining infrastructure given the excessive amount of moisture the state received last year.

South Dakota producers are known for generating homegrown, renewable sources of energy, and wind energy is one of those sources. South Dakota Farm Bureau would respectfully ask you to continue to support wind energy development in South Dakota.

Sincerely,



Scott VanderWal, President
South Dakota Farm Bureau



Krystil Smit, Executive Director
South Dakota Farm Bureau