



Kristie Fiegen, Chairperson
Gary Hanson, Vice Chairperson
Chris Nelson, Commissioner

South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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July 2, 2018

Phyllis Hubner

██████████
Avon SD 57315

Dear Ms. Hubner:

This is in response to your comments regarding the proposed Prevailing Winds, LLC facility, Public Utilities Commission docket EL18-026.

Your letter and this response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the online docket. You can access the docket by going to www.puc.sd.gov and clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Dockets, and scrolling down to EL18-026.

Enclosed is a copy of our Siting Guide, available on the home page of our website. This provides information on the processing of siting dockets such as this.

Thank you for sharing your comments about the proposed project with my fellow commissioners and me.

Sincerely,

Kristie Fiegen

From: Mary Walkes [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 1:52 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] EL 18-026

PUC members:

This email is to request to post public comments for the Prevailing Winds Docket EL 18-026

My concerns about this proposal:

1) Health and safety issues for humans, wildlife, and domesticated animals are documented from many of our global neighbors. Methodologically flawed studies sponsored by the industry that will directly benefit from their "results" have cherry-picked the data that omits the obvious: 600 foot tall spinning skyscrapers are not safe. It is my belief that the Public Utilities Commission ensures the safety of these projects prior to their approval.

2) Infrasound issues require an absolute minimum of a 2 mile setback; very likely the height of the new turbines require more than 3 mile setbacks. Infrasound is very different from decibels. Infrasound has no relationship to the " sound of a refrigerator This phrase has been used

repeatedly to reference to the 'noise' associated with wind turbines. Infrasound is acknowledged by the aeronautics industry. The medical 'industry' has diagnoses for health issues brought on by vibrations. The body is sensitive to vibrations; they alert our neurological system to danger. This instigates the "Flight or Fight" syndrome, a necessary physical response to danger. Significant data verify the obvious contribution to ill health when the body is chronically sensing this neurological response to danger. These issues have been presented previously to the PUC in Avon as well as repeatedly to our county commissioners. These negative health effects will directly affect the constituents living in the shadow of this project.

3) The efficiency of wind turbines is less than 40%. Our global neighbors are realizing that they have been "had." Will this tax-payer funded program provide enough power to pay for the resources it extracts from the taxpayers?

4) Wind energy is not "free." A wind turbine never recoups its initial investment. How many times must the taxpayer pay for them? Presently the Bon Homme county gave them a "deal" that has not been offered to any taxpayer in the county. Then our governor gave them a "deal" that none of the taxpayers are privileged to get. Will our PUC protect us from further "deals" that are put on the backs of taxpayers who do not support them?

5) The present contract includes a decommissioning plan for wind turbines that is ridiculously inadequate. After ten years monies for the are SCHEDULED to BEGIN being placed into an Escrow account. After ten years? Will the PUC demand that this is done? How will money for this be extracted from several LLCs that are located elsewhere? Why is not a plan in place for an ESCROW account BEFORE the PUC approves the project. After ten years the corporations that erected these monstrosities

will have been sold many times over. NO ONE will claim responsibility for the junkyards left in the backyards of our children.

6) What protection has been given to the unwitting landowner that signs a contract that can never be reconsidered? We have more protection when purchasing a vacuum cleaner than we do for a 50 year lease on our land, our livelihood. Why are confidentiality clauses in these contracts? What damaging information are they hiding?

7) In the next 15 years, more land will be changing hands than ever before in history. Young professionals disenchanted with city life and corporate challenges have the option to move to the country and work anywhere online. Will they leave the din of the city to return to a countryside that is more of a din than the city? Will clanging turbines, shadow flicker, infrasound, and a cluttered view of an industrial wasteland encourage residents to live here and pay taxes?

8) As these metal junkyards fill spaces that were previously beautiful sunrises and sunsets, land values will decrease and tax income will plummet. The financial straits of the Tripp Wildcats is an apt example of the fallacy of the "economic development ensured" by these carpetbaggers.

9) Eventually some measure of common sense will prevail; Our children or grandchildren will realize the futility of messing our nest. . Presently our water is polluted with Roundup and thousands of other chemicals we have no way of removing, our soil biology is dead or dying from fungicides and other chemical and physical mayhem we continually bombard it with, air pollution abounds, and our vista is quickly becoming a ghostly, whining metal graveyard - a testimony to corruption and enslavement of taxpayers whose representatives have been bought.

10) Please allow our South Dakota state government to be, in the words of Joseph Heckman, PhD, a "Laboratory of Democracy" where the peoples' voices are heard and heeded.

Based on the above reasons, I ask you to deny this permit.

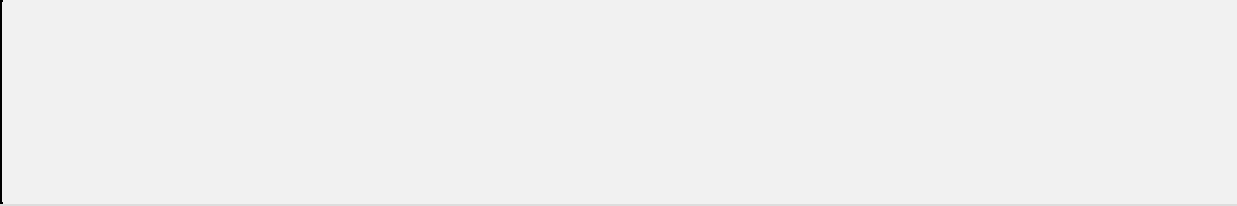
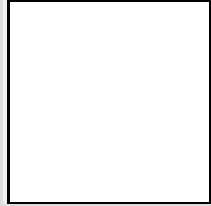
Thank you for your consideration of this message.

Mary Walkes, RN, MSN, CGP

[REDACTED]

Avon SD 57315

[REDACTED]



From: PUC

Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 3:13 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Subject: EL18-026

Ms. Walkes:

Thank you for your message regarding Prevailing Winds siting permit request, docket EL18-026.

Your message and my response will be posted in the open docket so my fellow commissioners and others may read them. Here is a link:

<http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2018/EL18-026.aspx>. Here is a link to the commission's Siting Guide which may be of interest to you:

<http://www.puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/sitinghandout.pdf>.

I appreciate you taking the time to write and share your concerns.

Kristie Fiegen, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

www.puc.sd.gov

From: PUC

Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 5:58 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: EL18-026

Mr. Ratlaff:

Thank you for your message regarding Prevailing Winds siting permit request, docket EL18-026.

Your message and my response will be posted in the open docket so my fellow commissioners and others may read them. Here is a link: <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2018/EL18-026.aspx>. Here is a link to the commission's Siting Guide which may be of interest to you: <http://www.puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/sitinghandout.pdf>.

I appreciate you sharing your views.

Kristie Fiegen, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
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