
From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 10:54 PM

To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

Subject: [EXT] docket EL18-026 Prevailing Winds

Please poste on docket EL18-026 Prevailing Winds

Lori Fuerniss

[REDACTED]

Delmont, SD 57330

[REDACTED]

As I sit here writing this, I look back to the Evidentiary Hearing and sometimes wish I would have been called as a witness. My husband and I have so much at stake here. Our farm has been in my husband's family for over 120 years. This is our life. We cannot just move to another location should the PUC grant the permit for the Prevailing Wind Park. We work here 24-7, we live here, we are always here. We cannot leave for the day and come back in the evening or vice versa. Already we are having health problems from the Beethoven Wind Farm. Since the turbines went into operation, we (my husband and I) have not been able to sleep decent. I have gone from 8-10 hours of sleep to 4-6 hours. Usually 4 hours and sometimes I don't sleep at all. We have headaches. I very seldom had headaches in the past. We are crabby. My husband has had several bouts of vertigo and also wakes up all tense and grinding his teeth at night. This is all happening since the Beethoven Farm went into operation. The closet turbine is 1.3 miles from our house and much closer (.8 miles) to our property line. As farmers, the property line is very important to us as we are not in our residence but out on the property all day then return to our house in the evening hours. There is no escaping from these monster turbines. Our life is here, day after day. We are small farmers and do not have any outside help. We very seldom are gone for more than 12-18 hours especially both of us at once. It has been 25 years since we were both gone together for more than 24 hours. We attempted being gone for 4 days for the Evidentiary Hearing, but had to make a quick trip home on Wednesday to take care of some livestock getting home at 10:30 p.m. and returning to Pierre at 4:00 a.m.

I am asking you to deny the Prevailing Winds Park project because I do not think we will be able to continue to farm should more turbines be put in our neighborhood. We will be surrounded by 4 turbines within a mile (2 as close as $\frac{3}{4}$ mile) and a total of 11 new turbines within 2 miles. This is not counting the existing Beethoven turbines. The new turbines are to be much bigger and more powerful. We will have to deal with shadow flicker which will really cause chaos with my husband's vertigo. I fear we will experience less sleep than our 4 hours. I really fear the mistakes we will make from the lack of sleep. Farming is dangerous enough without the lack of sleep. Will I find my husband caught in a PTO or auger because of his lack of sleep or getting dizzy from the vertigo? Worse, will our *kids* find him wrapped up in a PTO or auger or pinned between a tractor and other equipment? Listening to Vickie May's testimony really scared me. That could be my life in the near future. I pray that the PUC will look out for us and stop this from happening.

There are way to many unknown factors to this project. The decommissioning of the turbines is so unclear. What if they are not taken down? I never actually heard S Power say they **would** remove 4 feet of cement but they possibly **may** remove 4 feet of cement. Even with removing 4 feet of cement, what will grow on 4 feet of soil and 10 feet of cement. I am guessing weeds. What can be done in that area? Can't put up a house with a basement. Can't even use for a cemetery. What will happen to our beautiful state? Scott Rueter testified that the turbine that caught fire by his place has not been removed even after a year.

As I sat at the Evidentiary Hearing, I couldn't help but notice that all of S Power's expert witnesses were getting paid \$500+ an hour. Here we were just small farmers away from our business for four days. Not only were we not making money, we were probably losing money because there was work to be done on the farm. Even better, the expert witnesses have never spent a night sleeping near a turbine. I would say the expert witness were actually the ones that have been living near the turbines and have experienced first hand what they are like.

How can S Power claim to do all the testing for sound and shadow flicker showing results when they admitted that they have never gone back to the site after the turbines were running to check how accurate there figures are? I want and need evidence that this will not harm my family and livestock.

Has anyone ever test for infrasound?

Why are some of my neighbors having the same problems as we are? Why has this all started after the Beethoven Wind Farm started operating?

Our community has seen so many changes in the past 2+ years. At the first meeting in Avon with the PUC, my only comments I made were how the wind company came into our community and divided the neighbors. (You can go back and listen to your recordings). It has only gotten worse since then. Now we don't talk about politics, religion, or turbines. Some neighbors refuse to talk with others. Businessmen are afraid to be in favor or against the wind farms in fear of losing customers. Some don't want to do business with so and so because they are in favor of this project. Even worse, family relationships are being destroyed.

I am asking the PUC to deny this project at least until more studies are done to prove that the turbines are not causing any health problems. If you feel that the the project should go forward, please make at least a 2 mile setback, not from the residence but the property line . We are 1.3 miles from the nearest turbine now and that is to close and the new turbines are much bigger and more powerful.

We have such a beautiful state. Do not ruin it by allowing the monstrous turbines to cover the land. Have you considered denying all future wind projects and making South Dakota a state where people can move to and not worry about a wind farm ruining their lives. This would make more sense to me. There are people out there like Vickie May who want to know that there next home will not be surrounded by turbines in the future.

Lori Fuerniss

[REDACTED]

Delmont, SD

[REDACTED]

From: PUC

Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 4:16 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: EL18-026

Ms. Fuerniss,

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the Prevailing Wind project.

Your message and my response will be filed under Comments and Responses in docket EL18-026, <http://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2018/EL18-026.aspx>, so my fellow commissioners and others may read them. Here is a link to the commission's Siting Info Guide on our website that you may find helpful: <http://puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/sitinghandout.pdf>.

Kristie Fiegen, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov

From: Bartunek, Katie <Katie.Bartunek@k12.sd.us>

Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 12:06 PM

To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

Subject: Docket EL18-026

Please place attachment on the Docket for EL18-026 Prevailing Winds

Katie Bartunek

Kindergarten

Wagner Early Learning Center

[REDACTED]

Wagner, SD 57380

[REDACTED]

Katie Bartunek

Avon SD 57315

Docket EL18-026 Prevailing Winds

After listening to the evidentiary hearing, when did Prevailing Winds provide proof that there will be **NO** interference with health, safety, and welfare of families living within the mapped area of the proposed wind turbines?

Where was the proof for the 586 feet tall wind turbine to be safe at the setback distance that Prevailing Winds has proposed?

As with a lot of things, people tend to jump on a band wagon for something unaware of how it can negatively impact the health of people down the road. I am an educator, it is my profession to speak up for our youth for they do not yet have a voice of their own. How will this impact the health of the next generation of South Dakotans? That question is one that has yet to be answered, because many of the studies that Prevailing Winds has brought forth have been ten years old. So, wouldn't we as South Dakotans be smarter to error on the side of safety and caution when it comes to our own health?

Please protect residents like my family and future generations of South Dakotans, living within the footprint, from **UNSAFE SETBACKS**.

From: Jim Kaufman <jmk@midstatesd.net>

Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 3:15 PM

To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

Cc: Gregg Hubner <gregghubner@gmail.com>; Kelli Pazour <kepazour@icloud.com>

Subject: [EXT] Letter to PUC

Attached please find a letter for Docket #EL18-026 Prairie Winds

Jim Kaufman

[REDACTED]

Delmont, SD 57330

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

November 4, 2018

Public comments for the PUC docket EL18-026

To the SD PUC:

I am James Kaufman of [REDACTED] Delmont, SD 57330

My email is [REDACTED]

My phone numbers are [REDACTED]

My wife Julie and I live 2 miles from several turbines of the Beethoven Wind Farm.

I am writing this letter to express my concern for our own health and the well being of our community and ultimately our state concerning the wind Energy industry.

My wife Julie and I listened to the majority of the testimony that was brought before the PUC in Pierre and to say the least, it was a joke and it seemed that S-Power and Prevailing winds were not held to higher standards. It also seemed that the council for the wind power people were successful in striking from the record some good and revealing testimony that was brought by very credible witnesses. Also, prevailing winds lied when they said under oath that they visited ALL residents living in the proposed foot print. No one from PW ever visited Julie and I for our input and/or opinions. There were many issues that were not addressed.

Prevailing Winds did not prove anything that would support their case for the turbines. They did not prove that the 600 ft towers would not interfere with the health and well being of the people that would be forced to live in the shadows of these behemoths. They did not prove that the value of the surrounding farmland would not be negatively impacted. They did not prove that the turbines would not seriously injure the environmental, social and economic condition of the inhabitants or prospective inhabitants. They did not prove that these turbine towers wouldn't seriously physically injure people that might come into contact with falling blades or even ice throw. They did not prove that the project will not interfere with the orderly development of the region. More emphasis was given to eagles and whooping cranes than people. Wouldn't it be better to ere on the side of safety and caution NOW than have to deal with health issues and environmental disasters later?

The evidence became very real to us when 4 witnesses drove to Pierre to testify on their health related issues caused by wind turbines, I don't think that they drove all that way to just make up a story and lie. There has been many studies and real documented scientific proof that the turbines do cause serious health problems due to infrasound's ultra-low frequency in both humans and animals. My wife and I too are experiencing health issues that we didn't have before the Beethoven turbines. We have spent thousands for testing to find out what is causing Julies health conditions that she didn't have before Beethoven. This is frustrating for us. I can only imagine what it will be like to live a mile from 600 foot towers.

Wind energy was introduced under false pretense as a green, renewable energy because the production of the turbines and towers themselves cause more CO2 to make than they will ever displace or take out of the atmosphere. The power is terribly expensive at a time when we don't actually need it. We are sitting on an ocean of natural gas and clean coal that is ultimately more reliable than wind that sometimes doesn't blow.

I would hope that the PUC would wise up to the fact that the wind energy isn't about harvesting the wind but harvesting the subsidy money from us taxpayers. I also hope that the PUC

understands that peoples lives, health and well being is more important than money. Have you asked yourselves the question, WHY DO THE DEVELOPERS HAVE CONFIDENTIALITY CLAUSES IN THEIR CONTRACTS TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM COMPLAINING OR EVEN TALKING ABOUT THE CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT??

I have a neighbor who has been my best friend for life until now. This is real. Even if the wind farm doesn't go through, I will forever feel indifferent towards my neighbor because he is to receive a wind tower on his land roughly a mile and a half from our home. The damage has been done between him and me and our friendship will not likely ever be like it once was. That makes me sad.

Please, as you consider this project, PLEASE, PLEASE, think about us out here at ground zero.

Respectfully submitted:

James and Julie Kaufman