

February 5, 2018

Broken K Ranch, Inc.

Kenneth L. Kittelson, President

[REDACTED]
Henry, SD 57243

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FEB 08 2018
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Utilities Commission

Capitol Building, 1st Floor

500 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinions of the Dakota Range Wind project. I have lived in the Codington County for over 30 years and am excited for the economic impact this project will have on our community.

The project will benefit not only the landowners participating in the project, but also all citizens of Grant and Codington Counties and will help the overall health of the state by reducing pollutants and carbon dioxides emissions into the air. I ask the commission to vote in favor of the project and put the interest of the citizens and future generations first in this decision.

Dakota Range Wind will bring in tens of thousands of dollars, which our community can use to improve our schools and infrastructure and give citizens some much needed tax relief. I know many of the farmers in the community have struggled over the last few years, this will give them a continuous and predictable stream of income. The project will also allow the county to not raise taxes, in the near future, because of the payments the county will receive from the project. As a result of the tax payments from this wind project, project it will allow the county to hold the line on property taxes.

The developer of Dakota Range Wind, Apex Clean Energy, is a reputable organization and the Dakota Range Wind team has proven to be competent and transparent in their years of working with community members. From researching their previous projects, it is clear that quality, safety and integrity are core principles of the organization.

I ask the commission to vote for a brighter future for South Dakota and to vote in favor of Dakota Range Wind.

Thank you,

Kenneth L. Kittelson, Pres.

Kenneth L. Kittelson, President

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**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

February 5, 2018

Glenda Kittelson

[REDACTED]
Henry, SD 57243

Public Utilities Commission Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners:

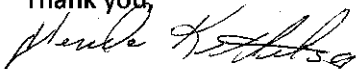
There have been many questions about the proposed Dakota Range Wind development and the impact it will have on our community. Some people are concerned that their electricity prices will increase because of the wind project. From my research and my dealing directly with the developers, I know this is simply untrue. Wind technology has improved immensely in the last decade and there is good reason that wind development is thriving in South Dakota.

Wind energy is cheap, the fuel to run its generators, the wind, is free! Once construction of a wind farm is complete, the costs to maintain the turbines for the next two to three decades is relatively cheap. This keeps wind energy costs predictable and affordable. Buying wind allows Xcel Energy to keep their rates a bit lower for everyone, if they must raise rates, because other costs are rising, they won't have to raise them much because the wind in their system is predictable and won't experience cost fluctuations.

Some people are concerned that the wind tax credit is just going to put a bunch of money in certain people's pockets, but that's not true either. The tax credit offered by the feds is paid for in kilowatts hours generated. In other words, no one gets any discount on their taxes until the project is built and operating, and the discount is only available if the turbines are generating energy. What the tax credit really does is allow wind companies to sell their energy for less money – making it even cheaper for consumers like us.

The Midwest is harnessing this natural power source and wind farms are being developed all over the Midwest and South Dakota. Our community will benefit for decades to come and this sustainable power source will help to power tens of thousands of homes. The benefits of this project will be felt by the community for over three decades. The taxes produced from this farm will allow the county to not raise citizens taxes for many years and allow for improvement in schools and public safety also. There will also be dozens of landowners who will have steady payments for decades from the turbines and transmission lines on their property. Our community has not seen an economic boom like this in decades, and this wind farm will help our community for generations. I ask the commission approve Dakota Range Wind's permit.

Thank you,



Glenda Kittelson

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

South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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1-800-332-1782

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puc@state.sd.us

February 8, 2018

Kenneth and Glenda Kittelson

[REDACTED]
Henry SD 57243

Dear Kenneth and Glenda:

This is in response to the letters you submitted regarding the Dakota Range Project Permit Application filed with the commission on Jan. 24, 2018.

I encourage you to follow along as this docket is processed. You can access it at www.puc.sd.gov by clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Electric Dockets, and scrolling down to EL18-003.

Your letters and my response will be posted in the commission's public, online docket, EL18-003, under Comments and Responses.

Thank you for your interest in the Dakota Range Wind Farm and Transmission Permit Request process. Enclosed is a document titled, Information Guide to Siting Energy Conversion & Electric Transmission Facilities. It may be helpful in explaining the PUC's processing of siting dockets such as this one.

Sincerely,

Kristie Fiegen, Chairperson

attachment