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**From:** [jimnewcomb2@gmail.com](mailto:jimnewcomb2@gmail.com)

**Sent:** Thursday, 08 March 2018 21:56:50 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**To:** PUC

**Subject:** [EXT] Comment for Docket EL 18-003

Please add the attached to the comments for Dakota Range I & II. Thank you. JIM

Jim Newcomb, Founder

SummitWind, LLC | Wahpeton Wind, LLC

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000871

March 9, 2018

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

500 E Capital Ave, Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Docket EL 18 – 003, Filed 1/24/2018

Dakota Range I, LLC and Dakota Range II, LLC

Grant and Codington Counties, South Dakota

TO: PUC Commission and Staff

I am writing to support the PUC Approval of the Dakota Range I and II projects. Currently I am working on the Development of a nearby wind plant and am quite familiar with the communities, landowners and public entities involved in this project and in this area. Initially, in 2006, I began making contacts in the area with landowners and community leaders plus regulators. I see excellent work by Dakota Range in the Docket. In scope the footprint appears to be adequate to accommodate 300+ MWs.

This will be an exciting completion for the people involved and a significant strengthening of the financial welfare of impacted landowners, townships, the two counties and local school districts. The communities will grow. The landowners inside the footprint will have a secure additional “crop” income. The wind has value and the conversion of its energy to electricity comes with little interference and a fuel cost of zero. This creates an 80% dispatchable supply to the grid operator while maintaining low costs and stability for offtakers.

This footprint and development plan highlights critical issues and the caution necessary in ecology, roads, archeological/historical, safety, sound levels and other factors. The landscape view will change. Many consider it a dynamic, positive change – a few may not. However, I notice progress in the neighborhood with cell towers, radio and TV transmission towers, electrical transmission lines, crop sprayers, cattle yards – even a Walmart. They all cause change, provide jobs and help us survive in the country.

Appreciate your work to approve this project for Dakota Range I and II.

Jim Newcomb, Co-Manager

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**From:** PUC  
**Sent:** Friday, March 9, 2018 9:57 AM  
**To:** 'jimnewcomb2@gmail.com' <jimnewcomb2@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** EL18-003

Mr. Newcomb:

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

I encourage you to follow along as this docket is processed. Here is a link to the docket, EL18-003, <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2018/EL18-003.aspx>, and here is a link to the PUC's Information Guide to Siting Energy Conversion & Electric Transmission Facilities, <http://puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/sitinghandout.pdf>. It is helpful in explaining the PUC's processing of siting dockets such as this one.

Your letter and this response will be posted in the commission's public, online docket under Comments and Responses.

Thank you for your interest in the Dakota Range Permit Request process.

Chairperson Kristie Fiegen  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
[www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov)

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