From: J Clayton [redacted]
Sent: Monday, 19 March 2018 09:43:21 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: PUC
Subject: [EXT] Comment for Docket EL 18-003

Hi,

Please find attached my comments on docket 18-003.

Thank you,

Josh Clayton

TO: Chairperson Fiegen, Vice Chairperson Hanson, and Commissioner Nelson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capital Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501-5070

FROM: Joshua Clayton
Grant County Landowner
[redacted]
Pierre, SD 57501

DATE: March 19, 2018

RE: EL 18-003 Dakota Range Wind I & II Permit for Wind Energy — Letter of Support

As a South Dakota resident and Grant County landowner, I am writing in strong support of the Dakota Range Wind I & II projects. The wind's potential to blow is one constant which all South Dakotans are aware. Once harnessed, wind provides a renewable source of energy with no emissions, and economic benefits to farmers, landowners, and the local economy.

Expanding wind power capacity in the state, by approving the Dakota Range Wind permit application and project, is a step toward continuing South Dakota's tradition of harnessing renewable power sources. From homestead wind mills to hydroelectric power plants, South Dakotan has focused on harnessing available resources. South Dakota ranked #4 as a state with the greatest potential for wind energy by the American Wind Energy Association, yet we ranked #19 for installed capacity. We can, and should, do more to gain the benefits of wind production.

Direct and immediate economic benefits will be received by the farmers and landowners in the wind farm permit area. New jobs will be created to manufacture, construct, and maintain the wind project that benefits the local economy. And tax revenue for local governments will support schools, residents, towns, and Codington and Grant counties.

In addition to the economic benefits, there are also environmental benefits of wind production. Wind energy is a renewable resource with no emissions. Coal and gas powered plants consume water and emit carbon dioxide (CO_2). To supplant South Dakota's wind energy with coal or gas-produced energy in 2016, power companies would have consumed an estimated 236 million gallons of water and emitted 466 thousand metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO_2). Thanks to South Dakota's growing wind energy sector, that waste and pollution did not occur.

I believe the Dakota Range Wind I & II project will greatly benefit the local community and the state, which is why I strongly support the project and recommend the Public Utilities Commission approve the permit application.

Sincerely,

Joshua Clayton

From: PUC
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 1:13 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: EL18-003

Mr. Clayton:

This is in response to your letter regarding the Dakota Range Permit Application request, 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