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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear P.U.C.

I am a lifelong Clark Co. Resident. And Grandson of Carl F. Obermeier, who has 9 1/2 miles of property bordering the proposed Crocker Wind Farm, encompassing his nearly 4,400 acre contiguous ranch on three (and a half) sides. I have had a fencing business (1<sup>st</sup> Rate Fencing) since 2000, and have worked for the majority of the landowners in the project, as well as the opposition, on nothing more than a handshake deal. I operate the ranch, and My Grandpa would be the first to have me let you know, that we've moved past the handshake deal era in Crocker, and back to the times of encirclement ~~strategies~~ strategies and siege, but he's in the nursing home and can't talk.

Sincerely,

Dustin Van Mill

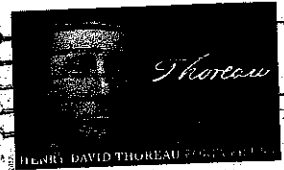
P.S. Historically speaking, our ranch has been in negotiating with Geronimo since the project's infancy. This was a confidential matter, between my Grandpa's ranch, his brother Bill's ranch, and Geronimo on our nearly 10,000 combined acres. Then my Uncle went to Clark and the owner of the retirement homes said, "I hear Obermeiers are getting wind mills." Apparently a Geronimo employee

leaked the information to Makenis,  
and he built a wind farm first.  
Then the project sprawled from  
10,000 acres to 30,000, and I asked  
Jay Hesse, "Whats going on, here?"  
He says, "You guys didn't sign up."  
And I'm like, "We didn't sign up 4,500 acres,  
Where did this other twenty thousand  
acres come from?" And he never did  
give me a satisfactory answer. "Public  
Interest," he said. But I'm convinced  
that their plan, all along, was to sign  
the two big land owners, and then  
fill in around us, like puzzle pieces,  
with their "if they are going to be across  
the road, then you might as well get  
paid to have them on yours; arguments"

It's like I told our County Commissioners,  
"They say they can't. Then they will."  
And the one Commissioner says, "Oh,  
I thought you were going to tell us to  
"Go To Hell." And we laughed. And I  
said, "Oh. My Grandpa taught me better  
than that." And we laughed again.

Sincerely, Dustin

Dustin Van Gilder  
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