

Thank you commissioners for hearing us tonight.

My name is Jean Obermeier and I am here to speak in favor of the Crocker Wind Farm. I own and live on land within the project footprint.

Clark County has been given the rare opportunity for a significant economic impact through this project. It will provide jobs, improve local income, and increase tax revenue. As with any project, there are pros and cons. Many of these are based on opinions instead of facts, as any internet search will show. We have to remember when we are dealing with issues like these, we need to remain professional and stick to the facts. Wind energy has changed since the 1990s. We supporters have faith in Geronimo, a successful company.

An argument against wind towers is that many birds are killed. Factually, that number is from 3-11 for each turbine, nationwide. Hunters are responsible for the same number, or more, of deaths. Are we eliminating hunting? The Audubon Society and Sierra Club both support wind energy development because the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

Another argument against wind towers is the noise. There are few studies to support this. They are not silent, but technology has improved this. Fact: the noise at 1000 ft is 45 dB, similar to your refrigerator. Do you turn your TV or radio louder than your frig? And it has been determined that no towers in this project will be 1000 ft from homes.

Evidence of animal harm is anecdotal. Better siting can reduce any impact.

Wind towers are subsidized. All energy systems are, wind is no exception. However, wind energy gets less.

Shadow flicker – for some this is a concern. Research has proven that a person within 1000 ft would be impacted 100 minutes a year, or about 25 seconds a day. We are not setting towers at 1000 ft.

The view – I have a story on the view. When my folks were married in the 30s, they moved a house to sit at the top of a small hill for them to live in. In a conversation with my dad in the 70s, he told me how they moved the house there because he could look so far with an unobstructed view. He grew up on a farm surrounded by trees. A few years later the neighbors put in electricity

so the REA put up poles on the side of the road and that sure changed how things looked. And my folks enjoyed that same electricity. Another couple of years later the telephones came, so there were more poles on the opposite side of the road. And that changed the looks of the area again. And Dad said that Mom sure liked that telephone. In the 70s when we were having this conversation, it was because the electric and telephone lines were being put underground, and there were no poles on the roadside. Which changed the looks again. And my Dad said, "It was all a sign of progress. And we all benefited from that progress." Clark County will see the benefits of this progress. Everyone will benefit.

The Crocker community is a prime area for a wind project. Geronimo has made changes to answer concerns of those who have chosen to not participate. Changes in distance, changes in tower location. It is time for this project to proceed. We as neighbors need to be courteous and think of the needs of others, as well as ourselves. We must remember that our rights as individuals need to balance with the rights of others. I as a land owner and resident should have the right to determine what I do with my land, without someone telling me I can't.

I ask the Public Utilities Commission to grant the permit to begin construction for the Crocker Wind Farm.

Thank you.