

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
APPLICATION BY CROCKER WIND)
FARM, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A)
WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A 345)
KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN CLARK)
COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, FOR)
CROCKER WIND FARM)

EL 17-028

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JEAN OBERMEIER

ON BEHALF OF

CROCKER WIND FARM, LLC

1 **Q. Please state your name and address for the record.**

2 Jean Obermeier

3 16571 422nd Ave, Clark, SD 57225

4

5 **Q. How long have you lived in the area?**

6 I was raised in the house I currently live in. I taught in Sioux Falls for 34 years and when

7 I retired I married Bill Obermeier and moved back to Clark.

8

9 **Q. How has the area changed since you've lived there?**

10 Farming has always been a struggle. One year is good, the next two aren't. Farmers

11 can't control farm prices, or the weather. Places where neighbors used to live now stand

12 empty because the younger people have chosen a different, more secure occupation to

13 make their living.

14

15 **Q. Please describe your operation.**

16 Our land is used to raise cattle and crops.

17

18 **Q. Are you a participant in the proposed project?**

19 When my sister and I, as joint land owners, were approached about participating in the

20 Crocker Wind project, we did our homework and decided that Geronimo was a

21 professional company in wind energy. A company that could be trusted. We support the

22 Crocker Wind project completely.

23

24 **Q. What does the Crocker Wind project mean for your community?**

25 Geronimo has shared with the county the many benefits of this wind project. We don't
26 have opportunities like this come to us very often. In addition to the tax revenue going to
27 townships and schools, there will be additional funds for use by the community.

28

29 **Q. How will Crocker Wind impact Clark County, in your view?**

30 As any other county in the state of South Dakota, Clark County has needs. We need job
31 opportunities, we need improved roads, we need more funds for our schools, we need
32 successful farmers who can shop locally, we need a better financial future when the
33 weather and crop and cattle prices are poor. The Crocker Wind project is capable of
34 helping the citizens of Clark County with these and other needs.

35

36 Dated this 27 day of September, 2017.

37

38 Jean Obermeier

39 Jean Obermeier

40