

From: Doug Paulson [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 4:23 PM

To: PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

Subject: [EXT] Comments for docket#EL17-055

Dear PUC, The wind energy developer and participants talk about local jobs for people. In fact, in reality, a company will bring in crews that are not local people to do the work to build a wind farm until the job is complete. Then people leave to go to the next project. According to Nextera Energy, preventative maintenance on a wind turbine is done 2 to 3 times a year. Nobody is going to move to Clark for a maintenance job that is every 4 to 6 months. They will come and go just like the construction crew. Oak Tree Farms put up 11 wind turbines north of Clark. If wind energy is so wanted and needed. Why did Oak Tree have to take the electric company, Northwestern Public Service to court to force them to take the power? NWPS did not want to take the wind power but were forced to by the courts. The electricity rates also went up for NWPS customers after this. Ag easements that some people signed were brought up at the Clark PUC hearing. Industrial corporate wind farms and wind turbines are not customary agricultural activities and there is no mention of wind turbines to be a normal customary farming practice. Also corporate farming is illegal in South Dakota. We lived and farmed here all our lives and some participants are saying how many generations have been farming on that land but that is irrelevant so far as the applicants burden of proof for a wind facility so is the amount of money the participants and the county would possibly get from the project. The burden of proof says nothing about how much money the project will bring in but it is to make sure the facility will comply with all applicable laws and rules. The applicant has not complied with all the rules of the county Conditional Use Permit. The Crocker Wind Farm has already caused serious injury to the social condition of the inhabitants. It has already pitted neighbor against neighbor and family against family. The CWF is going to take 30000 acres of land. This is a negative environmental impact because it affects the natural environment on 30000 acres by putting wind turbines and roads on this land which a substantial amount is native grassland and grass and wetland easement land. An industrial windfarm should not be built in a high waterfowl use area, Reid Lake Waterfowl Refuge and the surrounding area and lakes. The economic condition the facility poses is loss of property value for non-participants. Just because you own land does not mean you can do anything you want with your land. That is why there are zoning ordinances and regulations to protect the health, safety and welfare of all the inhabitants. The CWF will interfere with the development of the region because it will keep non-participants from developing their own land or other people from wanting to build a home and life in or by the wind farm. For all these reasons, we are asking the PUC to deny the

permit.

Sincerely, Richard and Karen Paulson

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