From: Jim Mikel

**Sent:** Thursday, 24 May 2018 14:12:27 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: PUC

Subject: [EXT] Crocker Wind Farm

Dear Madam Chairperson and South Dakota Public Utility Commissioners,

I am writing you as a SD business owner to share my support of the Crocker Wind Farm, a Geronimo Energy Wind Farm development located in Clark County, South Dakota.

My company, RENEW Energy Maintenance, is a leading, employee-owned independent wind energy service company based in Sioux Falls, SD. RENEW is a great example of the economic opportunity created by the expansion of wind energy in the United States. We have created 250+ jobs over the last nine years with payrolls totaling nearly \$14.0 million annually. In addition to the payroll, RENEW will pay approximately \$25 million to vendors that serve the wind industry in the upper Midwest.

There is enormous potential in further developing wind energy in South Dakota. We need to find ways to encourage more production of clean, affordable, homegrown energy that will in turn create more jobs, drive economic development, and provide energy security for the state.

We strongly support the approval of the Crocker Wind Farm Permit.

Sincerely,

Jim

## Jim Mikel

President

## **RENEW ENERGY**

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