

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY
DAKOTA RANGE I, LLC AND DAKOTA
RANGE II, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A WIND
ENERGY FACILITY IN GRANT COUNTY
AND CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH
DAKOTA FOR THE RANGE WIND PROJECT

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
Teresa D. Kaaz

EL18-003

Teresa D Kaaz, 15610 459th Ave South Shore, SD 57263
Direct testimony and attachments

Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to give my testimony.

I attended grade school at Grant-Deuel School, Revillo, SD attended Deuel High School, Clear Lake, SD, received GED and the attended LATI, Watertown, SD, took Banking and Finance.

In 2001 My Husband, Daniel Kaaz and I purchased 15.5 acres abandoned homestead and moved on our trailer house, from rural Watertown and also moved on a shop that his grandfather Karl Kaaz built. Years later we moved a 2 ½ story 1920 farmhouse on. We remodeled and restored it with new wiring, new windows, new roof, and all new plumbing. All we have left is finishing the basement and new siding which was scheduled for this spring but we put those renovations on hold.

If this application is approved these turbines could potentially be only 1000 feet from my house because of an outdated Codington county ordinance that was in affect when this CUP was approved. The towers proposed for this Wind facility are 4.2 mw Vestas and stand almost 500 feet tall. Turbines of this size have never been built in South Dakota before. I do not feel as if myself our any other person should be asked to live that close to these industrial turbines. Our view shed will be destroyed. The flicker day and night as we have clear view of sun rise and set and also moon rising and falling. I can look at the stars from our bedroom window and the red flashing lights will block that also. I spend my days at home so I will live with the constant noise 24 7. I don't feel as if I can afford to put any more money into my property as I will never get a return on investment. My property value will be devastated if not become completely unlivable. This is my home, our paw family is buried there. My husband and myself have grown up in this area all our lives and wanted to make this our forever home till we were too old to take care of it.

The current setback ordinance that this CUP granted by Codington county has taken away the full use of my property by trespass zoning. We will not be able to build a bigger shop, or put in a shelterbelt because the safety zone is 1640 feet so in case of a fire or brake failure the WES employees



are required to stay that far away until turbine is shut off. What am I suppose do, watch from my window or evacuate my home? It will effect the county economically as new families will not move into the area because there will be no land available that can be permitted to build.

A home buyer who wants to live in the country, they do so because of the peace and quiet, and the view. This will never be the same as previous generations have enjoyed. The current inhabitants will have sleepless nights due to the noise which their bodies will not get used to. Small towns will be unable to grow as they will not be able to increase their city limits.

Many small towns are not even able to build over two story buildings when surrounded by leased land owners industrial wind systems.

On April 17th 2018 just before sunset I took the pictures of a family of eagles feeding on a deer carcass in the right of way on highway which are included in attachments right outside to the north of Stockholm, SD about 1/8 mile from Stockholm sign. The second set of pictures titled, eagle Hamanns, was taken 3 22 2018 one and one half mile to the east of me at the Gary Hamann, address 46058 SD Hwy 20, South Shore, SD, residence in their shelterbelt. There location is in the footprint as application as well. This is why in first data request I have asked for new rapture study be completed. It has been our largest achievement we have done for ourselves and our family.

We have dedicated the past few years to improve our property. Our county tax rates have increased due to the improvements made. Our entire family has helped us through this project with long hours and dedication to make it our dream home. That could be all gone with an outdated ordinance in place at our county level.

We have met many new people through this process. It has been incredibly heartbreaking to see families give up their savings because they have to fight for their property rights. Others have made the decision to move away. But our family is here and we never had any intentions to move away from this area. We all understand the concept of renewable energy, but did not ever imagine that that was going to include loosig property values and rights.

In previous studies I have not seen a study which includes abandoned farm sights caused by wind turbine sittings. That would a give a more correct study of how WES effect property values and communities.