

EL18-003 - 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 Dakota Range Wind Project

49-41B-22. Applicant's burden of proof. The applicant has the burden of proof to establish that:

- (1) The proposed facility will comply with all applicable laws and rules;
- (2) The facility will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area;
- (3) The facility will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants;  
and
- (4) The facility will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government.

**Source:** SL 1977, ch 390, § 17; SL 1981, ch 340, § 3; SL 1991, ch 386, § 6.

My name is Kristi Mogen, I live at 15160 471<sup>st</sup> Ave, Twin Brooks, SD.

My education level is several college credits at Pima Community College in Tucson Az. I have been a reporter and columnist for the Tucson Citizen, worked in property management, community planning and licensed Realtor for many years prior to a serious livestock accident in 1996. Since then I have been a master gardener, won tri state range management competition, earned a farmer's market manager certification and helped organize local farmers markets, I worked at a local quilt store, and taught quilt classes in the Mid-West regions, and been active in 4H prior to moving to Eastern South Dakota from Wyoming. Currently, I farm with my family and designed a specialty ruler for quilters.

My largest concern is the health and safety of people and my family living and working around industrial zones in too close of proximity. There are hundreds of stories, Vicki May, Ted Hartke, David Janes to name a few who are being dismissed and sound just like what my family lived through in Wyoming. My family, husband and two daughters, lived on our farm when an energy company started fracking 2 miles from our home and eventually moved in closer. The noise and vibrations from the constant drilling 2 miles away shook the walls of our home and kept us up all night long. We described it as living on the Denver Airport Tarmac 24/7. I am very concerned that these 4.2 MW turbines off-shore size, larger than any others in South Dakota, will eventually be less than 2 miles from our new farm that was to be our promise land. We escaped the torture of sleep deprivation, constant stress and not being able to enjoy our rural property. I am not an expert on noise, have spoken at length with Richard James, read many studies and now understand how some of the impacts we lived with before affected us. My family's health declined within 8 months of when industry moved near our home. After 2.5 years of not being able to sell our home, we had to abandon a home that we put blood, sweat and tears into, where my children spent time growing up, and building community bonds. People just do not just abandon their homes, the cost are great, but for me and my family it became life or death. I do not want to see that for our new community.



Besides noise, there is flicker. My oldest daughter has epilepsy. It is her plan to take over our small farm. She has worked with livestock all her life and attends seminars on a regular basis to keep up with the best management farming conservation practices. The threat of flicker, on our property, or as she is driving down the road to go to vo-tech school is life threatening to her. She has worked hard and given up many teen activities to remain seizure free. One of those activities is school dances, where there are colored and strobe lights. She has vertigo issues if someone flicks the lights on and off in the house or at school. My family must turn off the ceiling fans when she is in the room. Flicker on our property or public spaces that she must use to go to school or work will change her life forever. I have seen flicker, it is not a shadow slowly moving across your lawn, it is startling, like a strobe light and flicker should not be allowed on non-participating landowners property or public spaces.

As a former Realtor, I am concerned with the number of homes that are abandon, no sales or long sales. For many people, especially in rural areas, their home and property are their nest egg. Owning property, putting down roots, helps lift people out of poverty, increases financial stability, drops crime rates and improves health and support systems. When people must abandon their homes, take reduced sale prices or longer sales there are opportunities and resources lost. A family losing a home may never financially recover. By allowing Industry to impact people by not protecting property rights and thru trespass with noise, flicker, infrasound, vibration, air turbulence, electromagnetic fields or electrical or radio frequency interference, there will be serious consequences to the health, finances, and social fabric of rural South Dakota.

I am concerned that the Codington County and Grant County CUP's do not resemble the Dakota Range 1 & 2 application to the PUC. Included in that application is the decommissioning report that understates the cost of decommissioning by a wind industry representative at the April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Codington County Planning and Zoning meeting stating decommissioning is \$200,000 per turbine. In exhibits, I have provided testimony from Diane Redlin and Jon Meyer about other concerns as well as the minutes from Grant County Commissioners, March 20, 2018 when the commissioners decided not to send a letter of support for Dakota Range 1 & 2. I have seen wind contracts, I have had attorneys tell me they advise against signing a one-sided contract, I would like PUC to evaluate a landowner contract. To trust someone is the South Dakota way. Many states have put out documents and even made legislation to protect landowners from harmful wind contracts. I like to know what other things have been misrepresented.

I am concerned that Grant County and Codington Board of Adjustments approved the CUP based on out dated ordinances and were not given all the facts about impacts to the community from Industrial Wind Turbines. The public has just 10 days' notice, to figure out if this industrial project will fit with our rural agricultural community. I was skeptical, having experience with living in an industrial zone, but a quick google search said wind turbines are green (yeah, no fossil fuels) and free energy. Nothing about health or community impacts, nothing about the 300 gallons of oil each turbine takes, nothing about the high cost to taxpayers thru subsidies, nothing about wildlife impacts, nothing about the local climate change or driving soil moisture out of the ground (dirty thirty's). I only learned of these issues as I studied for the past year about impacts. Dakota Range 1 & 2 siting has some Industrial Wind Turbines too close to people, each turbine is a power plant, and that does not belong in someone's backyard.

Please protect the health, property rights and the unique rural South Dakota way of life. I ask that the PUC deny EL18-003, it is not right for rural South Dakota.

Respectfully,

Kristi Mogen