

Commissioners Fiegen, Nelson and Hanson

My name is Ronnie Hornstra and live and farm at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] about 10 miles south of Avon. Although I have for the most part made my living as a farmer, I have an engineering background and did work in the electrical field for many years which helped motivate me to become a part of this project.

I have been involved with Wind Power in this area since its inception, over 11 years ago when community members came together to try to develop some type of a project for the betterment of the area.

After numerous meetings in the area towns it was decided to form a company to try and develop what seemed to be a great natural resource that was just blowing by unutilized. With the donated help from a local attorney and 25 area investors South East Dakota Wind was born. From this group a governing Board was elected to try to develop a project. With help from hired professionals, this blossomed into the successful Beethoven Wind Farm located on the ridge line north of Avon.

Considering the many positive things that Beethoven had brought to the area including jobs, extra taxes improved roads and extra income plus knowing that there was still a potential for more development the board decided to go ahead with the Prevailing Winds Project that you are here for tonight.

I have served as President of both the Beethoven and Prevailing Wind projects and have been deeply involved with the land leases in both ventures.

One thing that I found interesting in working with these two projects is that the enthusiasm from landowners to be a part of Prevailing Winds was generally greater the nearer their land and homes were to the current Beethoven Farm. Many in fact would call me before I contacted them to see if they could be included. I took this as a strong sign of support for the project along with more than 37 thousand acres of land from over 150 landowners pledging their support to the development, <sup>this</sup> was <sup>convincing</sup> <sup>enough</sup>

I ask for your support of the Prevailing Wind Park project and speak for what has been call the silent majority including the over 150 landowners that voted positively by including their property.

With the Commissions insight it is my hope that the facts and truth will prevail.

Thank You for your time.

CARAVELLE