

From: Wallace Kost [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 2:57 PM

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

Subject: [EXT] Fwd: This email is to request to post public comments for the Prevailing Winds Docket EL 18-026

Just one quick update. My farmland is in Bon Homme County and located just east of the Highway 37 and Highway 46 intersection.

Wallace Kost

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Wallace Kost [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, Jul 11, 2018 at 11:14 AM

Subject: This email is to request to post public comments for the Prevailing Winds Docket EL 18-026

To: puc@state.sd.us

Please add my name to the list of those who oppose permitting this wind project. . Too many studies bare out the following concerning wind farms and this one will be no different.

- **Fragmentation of the land and resultant displacement of wildlife.** Given the number of wind farms established and those under consideration, the fragmentation effect must be expanded to cover the entire family of wind farms and not simply evaluating one wind farm at a time in a piecemeal fashion.
- **Killing of birds and bats which are important parts of the ecosystem.** These losses can translate into reduced production or an increased use of insecticides and pesticides to control insects. These measures carry with them additional environmental and health-related issues. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has been unable to provide me with baseline numbers of total bat losses because much of the reporting is voluntary. Whether or not a particular study, such as the one included in the application showing there were few bat passes, may only substantiate the fact that too many bats have already been killed. At a minimum, more study is required. Furthermore, these studies are based on a very short observation period. That, too, is unacceptable to me.
- **Insufficient wind turbine setbacks to alleviate health risks.** Studies show annoyance and lack of sleep are primary effects along with increased stress. The minimum setback to avoid these issues is 1.4 km.
- **Size of the footprint.** Wind energy companies attempt to minimize the impact by using only the small land surface area on which the turbine sits or the road leading to it. However, the impact area is much greater and extends outward from each turbine for miles; this could be characterized as "the area of annoyance." My senses are comprised of more than just hearing. If I can see it and it has a negative effect, it's an annoyance at a minimum. A single turbine can affect tens of thousands of acres. On a clear night, flashing lights are visible for miles. I wouldn't be surprised if a calculation showed that a single wind turbine affects 20-50 square miles and a wind farm hundreds, if not thousands, of square

miles. It is not okay to approve an annoyance of this nature which I cannot mitigate short of moving. Putting up a new barn 30'-50' high is one thing and fits in with the landscape. Putting up a single grain elevator 100'-200' usually captures one's attention but, because of its singular nature, can be overlooked. Putting up 300'-500' spinning turbines visible in every direction is entirely foreign.

Wallace Kost



Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

