

## WAKE UP

### BON HOMME, CHARLES-MIX, HUTCHINSON COUNTIES and SOUTH DAKOTA

YOUR POLITICIANS AND SOME OF YOUR NEIGHBORS ARE THROWING YOU AND THEMSELVES UNDER THE BUS

### THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR IS RULING THEIR DECISIONS

My name is Bruce Razor and I was born and raised in rural northwest Ohio. I now reside in rural southeast Michigan. To you, I am an out of state bird hunter. A few of you after reading that will form a negative opinion of me, but the vast majority of the persons I have met in South Dakota are very friendly and receptive of persons that come to your beautiful state to hunt. Thank you.

My sons, myself and a friend and his sons come to your area to hunt pheasants a couple of weeks each year. We have been doing that since 2000. Our guide is [REDACTED], who with his wife [REDACTED] has built up a guide service and a lodge from scratch, starting in 1999 or 2000. Our group ranges from 3 to 8 persons each week. We thoroughly enjoy the beauty of your state and the excitement of hunting wild pheasants. I am the oldest member of the group at 69 years and our youngest is 19, but grandsons will be coming along with us soon. [REDACTED] family have become great friends, our family away from home.

When we first started hunting with [REDACTED], there were of course no wind turbines and not even rural water towers. At night you could stand outside and hear only the breeze, coyotes, an owl and sometimes a crazy rooster pheasant that didn't know it was not morning yet. Except for an odd pole light, all you could see was the moon and stars. I'm sure you who are over 30 years old, no 20 years remember the same things. But all of that has changed, just as it has in Ohio and Michigan. Now when I go outside at night, I first see all those blinking red lights and hear the swish of the wind turbine blades. Where did the beauty of the moon and stars and the silence of the night go? But more importantly than where did it go, but **why did it go?**

#### **It went for the love of the almighty dollar-GREED!**

First of all our government wants to promote green energy. Do you really believe that these massive billion dollar wind fields are saving us-you and me-money? Who pays the cost of creating these wind fields? Each of us pays for it in taxes. Has your energy bills gotten smaller? Of course each individual, family, or conglomerate that leases their land to the wind farms gets \$10K per year per turbine. A small price for an unsightly giant looming on your land for 30 years. And when these turbines are found to be costing more than they are returning; who do you think is going to remove them. They will wear out just like your tractors, combines or any other mechanical device. Do you think they will be replaced? It will cost as much to tear them down as it does to construct them. There is no return when tearing them down or repairing them. What do you think your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents would think of your decision to put these unsightly images on the land they worked so hard to make a living?

What are these turbines doing to the value of your land? Who will ever want to live near one of these? Probably not you or your siblings will want to live near them. So build them far away from your homes and buildings so they don't bother you. But what about your neighbors? Is it alright to build one of the towers close to their home, just so it's not close to yours? It's sort of like spreading hog shit in a field next to your neighbor's home but not spreading it close to yours. My friend [REDACTED] is in that situation and he has "wind turbine syndrome." [REDACTED] have spent their lives and finances to build the home, lodge and guide business; just as many of

you have invested your lives in what you have. Now they will likely have to sell and move away from the wind farm. That's just what the mega farms want. Eventually these wind farms will put you small 3000 acre farms out of business. Nobody will want to live close to them, especially when the truth about health issues caused by them is studied and made public.

I hate the sight of them, whether in Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, or South Dakota. And I hate hunting near them. They are destroying the beauty of the land and are ruining upland bird hunting. Coyotes are taking a bad enough toll on your pheasant population and now the noise of the turbines make it easier for them to catch pheasants at night. We have noticed that everywhere we hunt the bird population is getting worse around the existing wind farms. There have been no studies to prove that fact, but if true; what does the future hold for the pheasant hunting industry in South Dakota? Many people don't care, but you should. With the loss of that income into South Dakota, who will make it up? Some will say that it won't be missed.

Hunting generates \$338 million dollars in South Dakota each year. There are 270,000 hunters in South Dakota of which 144,000 are out of state hunters; that spend an average of \$2,200 per hunter. The hunting industry creates 11,000 jobs and \$62 million in state and local taxes.

### **We respectfully urge you to deny this permit**

Bruce Rasor      Chris Graber

Travis Rasor      Bart Best

Jason Rasor      Sam Best

Luke Best