

From: Kent & Vicki DeJong [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 11:50 AM
To: Fiegen, Kristie
Subject: [EXT] Deuel Harvest Wind Farm Application Concerns

January 22,

2019

Dear Commissioner Fiegen of the South Dakota PUC,

As lifelong residents of South Dakota and residents of Deuel County specifically for 20 years, we are writing to address the issue of the Deuel Harvest Wind Farm application. You are our last hope because we have been ignored by our local zoning and county commission boards, most of whom have a personal, vested interest in the project and stand to gain financially with its approval. Something for you to consider is that the majority of the people in the county are not in favor of this project. Many are afraid to come forward and express their feelings because they are fearful of the powerful individuals who are pushing for the project. A perfect example of the people giving their silent opinion is with the recent election of county commissioners, in which one commissioner was for and one was against the Deuel Harvest project – the one opposing wind towers won by a 2-1 margin...clearly showing the opinion of the majority.

By now, you have been inundated with information regarding how bad these industrial wind turbine developments will be for the state of South Dakota and its residents. The list of disastrous effects include: wildlife deaths, wildlife habitat destruction, negative human health problems from infrasound and low-frequency noise, shadow flicker, reduced property values (which in turn causes decreased property tax revenues for the state), property damage from ice throws and fires caused by burning towers (the wind companies even admit that 1 out of every 100 towers will have a fire), loss of residents who move away from areas where wind developments have come in, and so many more problems than could be addressed in a single letter.

We need to be concerned about the future of our state and make decisions to encourage residents to stay and even attract others to move here because of the quality of life that all South Dakotans enjoy now. People make the state...not developments. You can have industrial towers all over the state, but if everyone moves away because of them, what have you accomplished?

South Dakota is very precious to us and we want to remain here for the rest of our lives, but if the entire landscape of the state is forever tarnished by allowing unchecked, industrial projects like Deuel Harvest Wind Farm to come in, many, like us, will more than likely decide to move to another state altogether, which will be extremely detrimental to the survival of South Dakota.

Your choice in this matter is clear – either you will vote to protect the residents and property of those who live in South Dakota or you will choose to back the interests of a multi-billion dollar, out-of-state company and a small number of land owners in Deuel County (as evidenced by the fact that 25% of these towers belong to 2 landowners). Some of these land owners don't even live in our state! Why should a handful of landowners have complete control and be able to dictate how things will be for the other several thousand residents? If you choose to vote yes on this and other projects like it in our state, it won't be because you don't know the facts regarding how terrible these industrial wind turbines really are – it will be because you just don't care.

Please care enough to save our county, our state, and our future by voting against the Deuel Harvest Wind Farm application!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent and Vicki DeJong

 Gary, SD 57237