

DEUEL COUNTY AG DEVELOPMENT, INC.
P.O. Box 965
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March 28, 2019

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
e-mail: puc@state.sd.us

Regarding PUC Docket EL 18-053 - Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm

Dear Commissioners:

Deuel County Ag Development, Inc. encourages the commission to approve the permit for Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm. Please support the Ag community in Deuel County by approving the permit.

The impact to the Ag community will be substantial. It will help to stabilize the Ag community and allow the farmers to obtain another crop through harvesting the wind.

The impact is substantial, such as the following:

1. **Jobs** - Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm will support up to 400 jobs during constructions and employ approximately 15 full-time operations and maintenance staff.
2. **Economic development** - More than \$8 million in landowner payments, property tax payments, local spending and local staff salaries every year. Over the life of the project over \$150 million will be invested directly in the community.
3. **Benefits for local communities** - Increased tax base for townships within the project footprint, and the county. A \$30,000 per year scholarship to the direct benefit of local students at Deuel High School.
4. **Additional income to support farming families** - Wind is a new form of agricultural production to keep farms in the family and provide a hedge against commodity prices.

This wind project is very important. Please approve.

Deuel County Ag Development, Inc. has been puzzled by the opposition. As president, I had an opportunity to engage John Homan in a face to face meeting as the first responsibility as the new president for a new corporation. John would state that we do not want towers in Deuel County because of wildlife, noise concerns, health concerns, flashing lights, flicker and several other reasons. I responded to each allegation stating the origination of the alleged problem which John agreed to. Then I let him know the results which were proven not be to problems. In frustration, John Homan stated, damn it Dennis, with all the shit being thrown at wind companies something

must be correct. I responded, John, be honest and state you just do not like a structure like a tower. But, John, consider the impact on my community and the property rights you want to strip from the Deuel County community and John you built a large amount of structures, grain bins, and steel buildings which I think are just as ugly as a tower.

Despite that discussion and several similar where he was forced to agree that he did not like the look of towers he continued his opposition. Most of the people supporting the opposition are like John Homan from outside the community.

The impact on the Ag community is substantial. Deuel County Ag Development, Inc. represents more than 300 paid members. Deuel County Ag Development, Inc. supports this application for Deuel Harvest Wind Farm.

Commissioners, on behalf of the Deuel County Ag Development, Inc. board and its members please support the Deuel County Ag community and approve this permit.

Very truly yours,



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