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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2019 4:37 PM

**To:** PUC-PUC <[PUC@state.sd.us](mailto:PUC@state.sd.us)>

**Subject:** [EXT] Regarding PUC Docket EL180-053 Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of wind power development in SD, but specifically the Deuel Harvest north Wind Farm.

Utilizing the wind for electrical generation in SD is not a new idea. My grandparents in Faulk County and in Grant County both used small wind chargers to recharge their batteries for lights and radio long before Rural Electrification was brought in. My brother [REDACTED] sister [REDACTED] and I now own the land in northern Deuel and southern Grant Counties that our father purchased. None of us live on the ranch any more. I operate the farm, cropping the cropland, and renting the pastures and grass hayland to others. Much change has occurred since my grandfather came to northern Deuel County around 1900 and his in-laws came to northern Deuel County around 1878. Some people are concerned about the change in the skyline. We and our forefathers all saw changes to the skyline as farms were built, trees were planted, roads were constructed, REA poles and lines were put in, cell phones towers erected, and stave silos were built. These were progressive changes that improved peoples lives. The wind towers will add another change to the skyline and will bring benefits of a lot of clean energy generated, additional income for the landowners that have wind towers built on their land, added oncome for the townships and county, added jobs, and benefits to the school and community. With the changing economy we have seen a substantial reduction in the number of farms and farm families in our township and throughout the country. Growing up in northern Deuel County, we knew this was a good area for wind development, and talked about it several years ago. The wind developers have seen this potential from the wind maps and want to make a very large investment in northern Deuel County with the expectation of good returns on their investment, as any good business must do. The point being this will be a major investment in northern Deuel County that will have lasting benefits for the area for a long time to come, if approved.

It is my understanding that with the larger turbines selected for this project, our farm will not get a wind tower with this project. Living in Lincoln County MN, I have seen the benefits to the communities with added jobs, added incomes to the landowners that have wind towers on their land, and the added income to the county budget each year from the wind development, that is still expanding. I am told that one-third of the Lincoln County MN Auditor's budget is from wind development funds.

Wind projects are being planned in several counties in east central and northeast SD, so people are going to see more changes to the SD skyline. If approved, this project will generate a lot of clean energy and economic benefits for many years to come.

The setbacks established by the Deuel County Zoning Board and County Commissioners are farther than those established by the MN legislature. I haven't read the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm development plan to learn the details, but know the benefits of wind development, and would like to see wind development in northern Deuel County.

Thank you for your considerations, and please call or email if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Martin S. Wilson

landowner in [REDACTED]

Residence:

[REDACTED] Ivanhoe, MN 56142 [REDACTED]