

My husband & I both grew up on farms in neighboring counties, but we both had a special place in our hearts for this county. Per the *GFP Siting Guidelines for Wind Power Projects in SD*, there are 2 rare & unique Ecoregions of SD; the Missouri Coteau & the Prairie Coteau.

Since HS, my thought had always been to live beside a meandering creek. And that is what exists in this Coteau Region. We had a cabin on Lake Cochrane for over 30 years. In 2008 we built our retirement home on a small acreage near Gary along the Monighan & another unnamed creek. "Meadow Creek Valley": We HAD the View, the Peace, the Quiet, & the Serenity of nature. Gary WAS a close-knit community, with wonderful friends & THEE BEST NEIGHBORS. We felt truly blessed. I cannot convey with words, how much we HAD enjoyed where we HAD lived.

The fall of 2016 we became aware of "Big Wind". When I, like many others, read the P & Z BOA Meeting Minutes, learned they had been here for about the last decade. I NEVER would have believed what our local P & Z BOA was willing to do for money. An infrasound producing "Industrial Power Plant" as tall as 2 football fields could be sited 1,000 feet from our home! I HAD trusted them to do their job. Ignorance is bliss!

Many of us living in and near the project area, we call it "The Sacrifice Zone", because of all the zones determined by our county officials, this is for the "Lowest of the Low". While others have been permitted anywhere from a 1 - 3 mile setback from a turbine, we were placed with "not less than 4 times the height of the turbine."

We studied independent inquiries, listened to the W-D paid expert testimony and our participating neighbors. We read many studies provided by the wind developers. We listened to 4 individuals living among the turbines south of Toronto and subsequently heard participants accuse them of lying. After all that, there was no question. The W-D & the many participants were motivated by getting paid & had been patiently, secretly waiting for this fruition. And those in the "Sacrifice Zone" would have their property rights taken from them. The Referendum petition had about 200 of my "friends" signatures. This could site a turbine closer, 1000 feet to our home. My husband & I now realized that we were not welcome in Deuel & we were leaving.

Some of these families' occupations that have left Deuel recently:

Nurse, Dr. of Pharmacy, Dr. of Veterinary Medicine,
Chemical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Mechanical Engineer,
Veterans, Accountant, Agronomist/Economist, Home School Educator,
Master Quality Control Tech. & Lawyer

Families have & will move, shop, and pay taxes elsewhere.

Some of these families moved to:

Harmony, MN: Nicknamed "The Sinkhole of the US"

MN: Adjacent to the heavily populated Twin Cities. They would rather have industrial settings in Eastern SD than among the metro area residents. Our son & daughter-in-law live in Mpls. They are confident their politicians would rather site them among our residents.

Hot Springs, SD: Their property is adjacent to the National Forest.

Sioux Falls: W-D & Politician's live here. They will never live in or near a wind farm.

The W-D & the participants' arguments, one and the same, were all about money.

The Wind Participant: receives a wind paycheck; devalues my property;

is more able to purchase my devalued property; the setback for his turbine is measured to my house instead of my property line; his turbine's negative effects may be on my property without my agreed compensation.

This is about property rights, a cornerstone of our society that "permits the participant but also protects the non-participant". In the case of turbines, the non-participant is depending on government officials to protect them from the negative effects on them & their property.

It really is a fairness issue;

a discrimination issue because of where we live;

an issue of enriching some while it impoverishes others.

Government at every level is working on the behalf of some but not for all.

Research tells us when a turbine is sited too close to children's homes, they may become sleep deprived. This can & does have a negative impact on their cognitive learning skills for the rest of their lives. Will your schools need to hire more special education teachers?

Per the US Census Bureau, of the 14 SD counties with wind projects, all counties populations have decreased except Brkgs. County. We heard from [REDACTED], Lincoln County, MN praise what wind energy has done in his county. Actually, since turbines were sited there in 1994, they have closed 3 HS's, the county's population has decreased at a faster rate than Deuel, and Lincoln has more turbines than Deuel.

P & Z BOA will often site turbines further away from Historical Buildings & cemeteries than those living in the "Sacrifice Zone". There is a real message here:

The dead are given a further setback than those with a heartbeat living in the "Sacrifice Zone".

This project has & continues to tear this county to shreds. Every layer of government between Washington, DC and the county of Deuel has not protected the health, safety, welfare and property rights of those being discriminated against because of where we live.

The Prairie Coteau Habitat Partnership lists Wind Power Development as a Major Threat here. This Coteau is crying.

This application has far more reasons to be denied than to be permitted.

Thank You.

Ruby Holborn Sioux Falls, SD

References

1. *Prairie Coteau Habitat Partnership* August 15, 2018 by Joe Blastick
2. Hearing and Health Matters "Wind Turbine Noise and Human Health: A Four-Decade History of Evidence that Wind Turbines Pose Risks" Jerry L. Punch, Richard R. James Bulletin of Science Technology and Society published online August 17, 2012
3. *Industrial Wind Turbines and Health: Wind Turbines Can Harm Humans if too close to Residents* Compiled by Krogh December 2014 Ambrose, Rand, Krogh
4. South Dakota for Safe Responsible Renewable Energy (sdsrre.org)

1/24/2019

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1 message



Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 1:06 PM

At many previous meetings I have addressed my concerns of the public safety when the wind turbines are sited too close to a roadway or residence. I drive a milk truck on these roads every day. I haul some of my milk to Perham, MN. In February of 2018, I was on highway #59 just south of Barrett, MN, when a wind turbine threw ice over a grove of trees and a house, shattering when it hit the highway just ahead of me. I have used a digital range finder to measure the distance from the turbine to the highway. It measured 520 yards, which is over 1500 feet. I have heard the safety zone being discussed at other meetings to be 1640 feet or more with larger turbines. We have to protect the public safety with larger setbacks, like what was done in Clark County.

I also want to know who is responsible or liable for damages, injury, or even death from the ice or blade throws from a turbine. I have read articles about landowners being held responsible for the damages. Farmers Insurance has a twenty-five page supplement to a liability insurance policy for anyone placing a wind turbine on their property.

I have a picture of a sign placed by the wind development owners warning the public of the dangers of ice throws. There are many more such pictures of other turbine sites. I also have another photo from February, 2018, of a semi tractor in Freeborn County, MN, with the cab being crushed and other damages to it from an ice throw

We have school buses traveling these roads and highways daily and residents commuting to work or other duties in their life

Why are these turbines sited so close to the public with all the information out there warning of the dangers?

Money doesn't cure all safety problems or the loss of life.



WARNING!

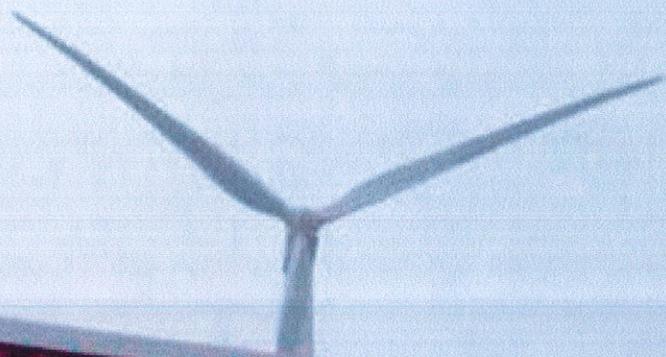
**DO NOT PASS THIS POINT FOR
YOUR SAFETY**

**ICE AND OTHER HEAVY OBJECTS
CAN BE THROWN LONG DISTANCES
FROM WIND TURBINE TOWERS AT
HIGH VELOCITY AND CAN KILL!**

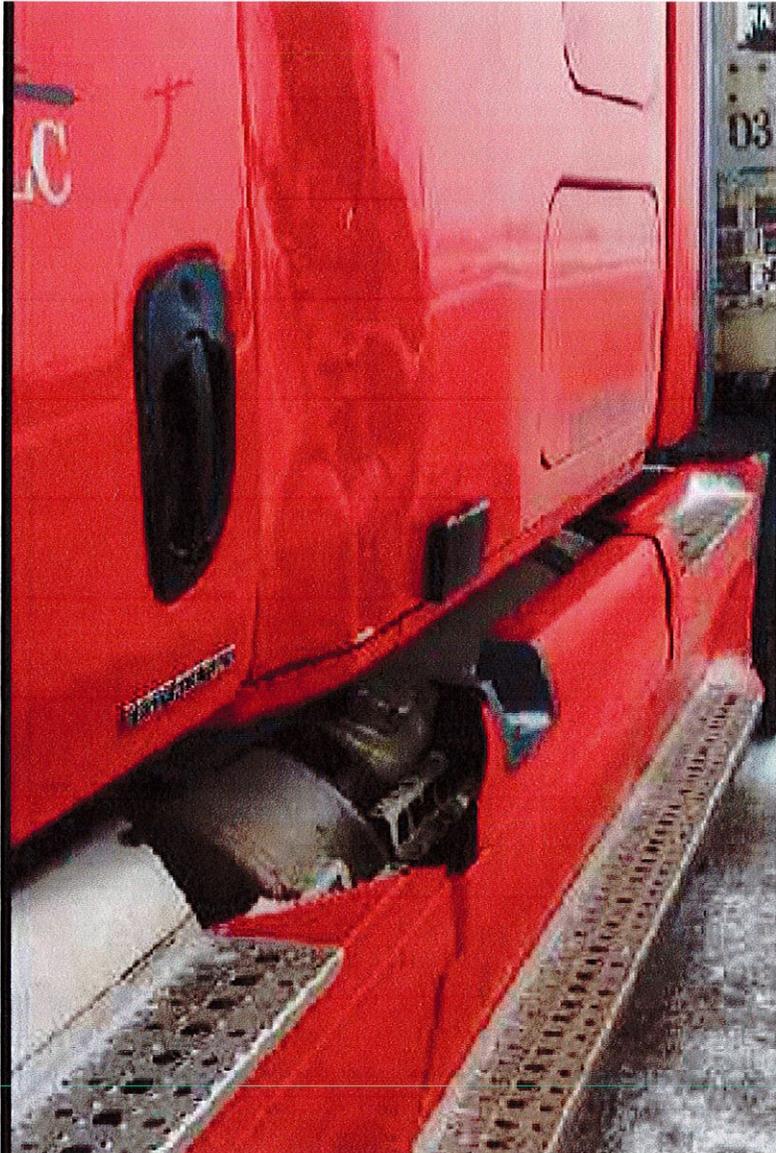


EMERGENCY: 508-251-7744

Brookfield



**Freeborn County, Minnesota
February 2018
Ice Throw from the Bent Tree Wind Farm
Highway 13**



kaaltv.com