

RE: Triple H Wind Project – Public Utilities Commission Meeting
Ref: PUC Project Docket Number EL 19-007

Our forefathers advanced not because of fear, but tenacity and hard work, and trying new ways to improve their lives and their neighbor's lives. We cannot let the status quo get in the way of technology which can help us advance and prosper. When we have natural resources like the wind, we need to be conscious in using this to help us be more progressive and, most importantly, self-sufficient, people. Energy production results in energy security.

Not only can we provide our own wind energy, with no fuel costs, but in a struggling time of balancing our county budget and taxes, this technology, which helps us become more self-sufficient, can also provide help for our tax base, which is an added estimated bonus of \$1.3 million annually that can help every single one of our taxpayers in the county during the life of the project, as well as an estimated 21 permanent jobs that would be created from the project and an estimated 240 jobs during construction, which also benefits local businesses and our county. This alone, can help our community keep some of our good people here, as well as flourish.

We need to embrace change and technology to grow. We can't let our home towns diminish because we feared change and progress. This is our opportunity.

Thank You.
Kevin Baloun
Hyde Co. Commissioner

Kevin Baloun
33335 200th Street
Highmore SD 57345
605-870-1468

RECEIVED
MAR 08 2017
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION