

From: PUC

Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:25 PM

To: sdaviation@gmail.com

Subject: EL20-013

Ms. Goebel,

Thank you for your letter concerning aviation safety regarding requested energy conversion and electric transmission facility permits filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

I appreciate your perspective and those of your fellow association members concerned with aviation safety. My fellow commissioners and I base our decisions on whether or not to issue a permit on evidence presented via an extensive docket review process. The primary determination is whether or not the location, construction and operation of the facilities will produce minimal adverse effects on the health, safety and welfare of South Dakota's environment and citizens. These standards are provided by South Dakota Codified Laws and Administrative Rules.

Your message and this response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the one open wind energy conversion or transmission docket for which the commission has yet to issue or deny the requested permit, and that is Meridian Wind, EL20-013:

<https://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2020/EL20-013.aspx>. If you have not already reviewed the company's application filings in the docket, when you do you will see that the applicant references aviation. The PUC staff analyzing the docket will explore how the proposed project may potentially affect aviation activity in the project area.

Given your interest, you will want to follow along as this docket is processed. I encourage you to begin by reading the Siting Guidelines document posted in the docket since it gives a brief explanation of how the commission processes siting dockets such as this,

<https://puc.sd.gov/commission/dockets/electric/2020/el20-013/sitinghandout.pdf>.

Chairman Gary Hanson

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

<https://PUC.sd.gov>