

Thank you, Public Utilities Commission for allowing time to voice my support of GLCP. I am Marietta Lakness. I farm and ranch with my husband, Nathan, his Dad and brother and their spouses by Hayti.

Since October of 2002, we have delivered 1,333,826 bushels of corn sold directly to GLCP. One third of our corn is sold to GLCP and a couple other Ethanol plants. We are paid extra by elevators to deliver directly to GLCP another percentage of our crop that was sold to the elevator.

Local elevators no longer see the plant as competition, which has narrowed our basis, but as a resource for their corn. Unit-trains are not plentiful enough and this cuts their transportation costs greatly.

GLCP is to be commended for honoring all corn contracts. This is very important to keep the trust of producers, to minimize our stress and continued selling of corn by producers to GLCP. This last winter, GLCP was the only place that would take corn for quite a span as the elevators were full.

Our farm is 20 miles from GLCP. GLCP has saved us truck, fuel and labor expense as, to market our corn profitably in the past we have hauled to ADM at Burr and Marshall, MN, to Pipestone, MN, Trent, SD and a feedlot by Winner.

We purchase the by product, WDG for our cattle operation, reducing our costs.

As a producer/shareholder, we have purchased E85 vehicles to show our support.

We have invested in several ethanol plants, but over 90% has been with GLCP.

We did a lot of research before investing in ethanol plants. Times were tough. We were faced with low commodity prices and coming off of a couple years recovery from flooding. We knew it meant borrowing money to invest. It was risk to invest in ethanol vs. land, to diversify our dollars.

Corn was \$1.83 when GLCP opened in the fall of 2002. \$2.00 corn was a common breakeven to 15% profit point. We hoped the dividend payouts would help us capture the \$2.00 price level.

Of our \$120,000 original investment, we received back \$221,893 in cash dividends, a 185% payback on investment! With retained earnings added to the \$221,893, it upped the return to \$514,568, a 428% possible return! Imagine how many times these returns have turned over in the local economy. Plus, dividends from the elevators and coops have increased due to GLCP helping their bottom line.

We believe in acting on our convictions. GLCP is vital to our grain and livestock operation and our community. In 2006 we invested another \$175,000. We wrote checks for \$70,000 last November in prepaid unit retains. As recently as January of 2009, we purchased another 45,000 shares.

Selling corn now is at profitable levels, meaning less or no dividends. A drop in prices will give us benefits on the shareholder side. We look at it as a risk management tool.

We lost a crop two years in a row to flooding. As our farms finance manager, I said to our family, our banker and our equipment finance companies that it would take us five years to recover, which it did. We all worked together to make our operation profitable again.

GLCP faced their problems and have been diligently working on regaining profitability. It takes time. I am asking you to grant GLCP a waiver.