

From: Zach McKinley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:15 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Zachary McKinley concerning gw23-001

I would like to share my recent concern with a case that you are dealing with. I am not completely aware of all of the inner workings and concerns you have against Fearless Marketing but I have dealt with them several times in the past and I have nothing but good things to say about them. I always have received a more than fair price for my grain and have always gotten a quick payment after my grains were delivered. I am aware that they have applied and been denied several times to become a larger marketer of grain. For whatever reason that you have for doing this is directly impacting my farm and family of 6. My farm is relatively small producing from around 2300 acres of land. Last spring I agreed on a contract with Fearless for sunflowers, with the pickup delivery of January-March of this year. Budget wise we were relying on the income of this sale in order to pay bills and to begin in new crop production. If the grain is not delivered in the very near future I will be forced to take out a loan just to get by, not only for the farm but for groceries and living expenses for my family. I talked to your storage guy, Cody I believe, and he recommended getting an attorney and trying to end my contract. I have no desire to do anything like that! The way that I view this situation is that SD PUC is standing in the way of helping small farmers like myself instead of helping us like I thought you were suppose to. Personally my family would be over \$30k dollars short if this contract was not fulfilled, which is about half my families annual income.

I ask that you would please leave politics and rivalries aside and think of the farmers that this is effecting. If you have concerns with the company than please do not make families like mine suffer while the situation is being resolved. At minimum the contracts that have been made should at least be able to be fulfilled. With current interest rates and input prices this could set my family back years financially.

Thank you for your time and all the work that you do for South Dakota.

Sincerely,

Zachary McKinley

[REDACTED]
Midland, SD 57552
[REDACTED]

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