

Mary Ann Miller  
 720 119<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
 Luverne, ND 58056  
 (701) 769-2620

Good morning, my name is Mary Ann Miller. I am originally from Sisseton, South Dakota and have been living in North Dakota for the past 30 years. Four years ago my husband Jim and I moved our home, our sled dogs and our dog sled manufacturing business to what is the best place in the world for us, our farm in Griggs County. When doing business with people out of state and in other parts of the world, they often ask us "what are you doing in ND?" When these same people visit us, they see the beauty of the Sheyenne Valley and they understand why we want to be here.

Approximately four years ago we were invited to an M-Power meeting. I clearly remember a board member saying, "we have some of the best wind in the world right here, let's get organized and keep this in the hands of the local people. Let's not let some out of state company come in and run ruff-shod over our landowners." After that meeting we felt good things were in store for our region. Now, M-Power is selling this project to an out-of-state company, Florida Power / Next Era LLC. And here we are, at this meeting trying to protect ourselves.

We were not informed that these turbines would be <sup>under 1/2</sup> ~~approximately 1/4~~ mile from our home until we read the plans in the newspaper. I couldn't believe that our neighboring board members of M-Power along with their new project owners would not come to us and tell us of their plans. They did **not** hesitate to come unannounced and trespass on our yard and our neighbor JoAnne's yard to take readings for their plans.

We work and live at our home. If the proposed siting plan is allowed, we will be exposed to the numerous issues that are common when wind turbines are placed too close to a home.

We have a kennel of twenty one Alaskan Huskies with bloodlines from world class racing kennels. Our life and our business is centered around these dogs. Dogs have an acute sense of hearing and they are sure to suffer from this turbine noise. I have spoken with people living with turbines and they tell me their dogs don't want to be outside as much, particularly at night. Because of this and all the other issues, we insist that we have a one mile setback from our farm.

We have <sup>had one</sup> ~~one~~ month ~~to~~ to learn everything we can about wind turbans next to homes. To do this while running our business has been a big task. I am no expert, but I have learned a great deal. I now know enough to confidently tell you, our state needs to learn from others successes and failures. Lets look to Europe, who has longer history with turbines and setbacks are commonly 1 to 1 1/2 mile from homes. To see the failures, anyone with internet access can find countless stories and videos of the impact of improperly placed wind turbines. We must take the time and effort to set good policies that will assure all land owners are protected.

North Dakota lets get this right