

June 1, 2016

Chairwoman Julie Fedorchak
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Oliver Wind III

Dear Chairwoman Fedorchak and Commissioners,

I am Della Kopp, 3095 31 ½ Avenue, Rural Mandan, a lifelong resident of Morton County. I write you today on behalf of myself, my husband Ben Kopp and my 94 year old mother Frances J. Berger. On March 24th, 2016 I testified during the meeting of the Morton County Planning and Zoning Commission in regards to Oliver Wind III and again at the April 14, 2016 meeting of the Morton County Commission.

My testimony included but was not limited to clarification that my mother Frances J. Berger, property owner within the proposed area of Oliver Wind III, has not signed any easements or agreements with Nextera, concerns with rezoning agricultural land, and the imminent possibility of diminished quality of life that this project may have on our family, property values and lifestyle. To expand a bit about my and my family's quality of life concerns, we determined the current setback of ¼ mile from a dwelling that a wind turbine or facility may be placed is too close and requested the minimum be increased to one (1) mile from my family's, my mother's and my son's dwellings. After spending a good amount of time in close proximity to the wind project in Baldwin, ND at various distances between one-tenth (.10) and three-quarter (.75) of a mile, we were easily able to hear turbine generators and blade movement as well as notice shadow flicker. We also requested that the red safety beacons be replaced with white beacons to match the night sky and a radar sensor beacon system be installed so as to only disturb the night sky when nearby aircrafts are detected. These requests were made due to research I studied that determined sun flicker from blades, noise created by wind energy generation, and glare & glow of indicator beacons can cause extreme & detrimental effects on the well-being of people who live nearby and may possibly decrease our property values. I stated that we want to be safe and secure and continue on as we have over 100 years in Morton County. We requested the assurance from the Morton County Planning and Zoning Commission to place the turbines farther from our dwellings and update the beacons atop of each turbine. Commissioner George Saxowsky moved to approve the request by Nextera of a special use permit for Oliver Wind III with the condition that Nextera must work with my family and I to come to a suitable compromise that would help decrease the negative effects of this project on us and our property.

On April 7, 2016 my family and I met with Oliver Wind III project manager Mark Trumbauer. During this meeting, my family requested turbines be moved as far away as possible from our dwellings (1 mile minimum), in particular turbine #17, collar the safety beacons to help reduce glow and glare, use any means possible to decrease the number of safety beacons necessary and also place signage allowing only local access and disallowing heavy equipment on 31 ½ Avenue, rural Mandan during construction of Oliver Wind III. Mr. Trumbauer was favorable to all of our requests. He stated that collars would be added to all beacons, turbine #17 would be taken out of the equation rather than being moved to an alternate location. After the April 7th meeting, I spoke with Mr. Trumbauer regarding the installation of radar sensing beacon systems on Oliver Wind III. Mr. Traumbauer has been very receptive and stated a system of the sort will be used on Oliver Wind III.

We ask of this commission, please consider all residents and help us retain our lifestyle and maintain our property values by following the directive made by the Morton County Planning and Zoning Commissioner Saxowsky and ultimately passed through the Morton County Commission. Should these requests and official changes to protect our property not be made, we ask that you deny the project until our needs are considered and met.

Thank you,
Della Kopp
3095 31 ½ Avenue
Mandan, ND 58554

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Exhibit P1 – Della Kopp testimony

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