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North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
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Commissioner Kroshus, Commissioner Christmann and Commissioner Fedorchak,

Please allow me to share with the Commission why I support the proposed Burke Wind project.

Simply put, I'm asking the Commission to approve the project because of the employment opportunity for my students.

NextEra Energy hires more Lake Region State College wind students than any other company currently operating in North Dakota.

The jobs are solid – good pay, good benefits and interesting work in a technologically cutting edge field.

These jobs mean more children in local schools, more families in churches and more homes purchased – the entire economic spin-off – automobiles, groceries, gas and the like.

As the Program Director for the Lake Region State College Wind Energy Technician Program I interact daily with young men and women from ND who have committed to a career path in wind site operation and maintenance with the intent of making a stable and prosperous life for themselves and their families.

I can say with certainty that my students are looking out into the future and making plans – I hear them talk about best places to work, hunt, fish and connect with friends and family.

These plans include living and working in North Dakota communities such as Bowbells and the surrounding communities in and around Burke County.

Again, I'm asking that the Commission approve this proposal with the thought that Northwest North Dakota will benefit from the economic propulsion this project will provide.

Sincerely,
Jay R Johnson

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Exhibit B - Testimony of Jay Johnson

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