

Hamre, John G.

From: Eberl, Stacy L.
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 8:35 AM
To: Hamre, John G.
Subject: FW: Responce to Northern Divide Wind meeting

Please docket the comments below for PU-19-376 and PU-19-377

From: Joan Chrest <chrest@nccray.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 10:37 PM
To: -Info-Public Service Commission <ndpsc@nd.gov>
Subject: Responce to Northern Divide Wind meeting

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I watched the entire PSC meeting online on 4-17-20 regarding the Northern Divide Wind project.

I am a 72 year old widow living in Clayton township of Burke County. I have been staying in my home and haven't left my farm in over four weeks. My daughter from Minot has been delivering groceries to me during this unfortunate time of the Covid-19 pandemic. By bringing in 200 to 300 construction workers (the majority from out of state) may very well cause a huge outbreak of caronavirus in our county. You need to be aware that in our county over half of the citizens are 65 years of age and older, many with underlying and preexisting conditions. Therefore, I ask that you delay a decision on the Northern Divide Wind application. We have an ample power supply in our state and it is NOT ESSENTIAL to endanger lives by allowing this wind farm to be constructed at this time.

I have attended the Planning and Zoning meetings and Commissioner meetings dealing with NextEras application at the Burke County courthouse. I believe during your meeting on April 17th, Julie asked Lynn Brodal about the 4-2 vote by the planning and zoning commission. His reply was that their vote was based on personal opinion. That was not entirely true as I visited with two members of the board and was told they voted based on input they got from the county residents. Over 90% of the comments they received were against this project.

At the county Commissioners meeting the day they voted on NextEras Northern Divide application they opened the floor for comments from the public. One lady handed them a huge stack of cards that had been signed and dated with comments from county residents that were against this project. Not one of the commissioner even looked at them before they voted. I had to ask myself if their votes were based on what the majority of the county residents that they represent wanted or if it was on their own opinions.

Clay Cameron was asked during your meeting if they had removed the previous area (Burke Wind) from their plans. I recall that his answer was yes. But I question if they just removed the turbine locations or if they removed the contracts landowners signed. If indeed they still hold the contracts (leases) what will keep them from expanding their wind farm in the future if the current project is approved?

I know it was also stated that all workers coming onto the job sight would be checked to see if they are healthy. I found this laughable. How are the going to do that? He failed to explain how this would be accomplished.

I respectfully ask that you deny or delay this application until it is safe for the health of our county.

Gods blessings to you. Stay healthy!

Joan Chrest

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