

Hamre, John G.

From: Eberl, Stacy L.
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Hamre, John G.
Subject: FW: Northern Divide Wind Project.

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

From: Hal Ross <halross64@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 8:56 AM
To: -Info-Public Service Commission <ndpsc@nd.gov>
Subject: Northern Divide Wind Project.

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Dear Commissioners,

This is Hal Ross who lives in Burke Co. on the NE1/4 of Sec 24-161-90. I have lived here all my life on the family farm except when I went to NDSU back in the 70's. This letter is in regards to the Northern Divide Wind Project in Burke Co. Ever since this wind project started I have been in FAVOR of it. I have seen the population of Burke Co. decline substantially even with the Oil activity boom in the 90's. As of the last count we have less than 2,000 people in the Co. In 1980 we had a population of around 4,000. We have had the opportunity to have this multimillion company come into our County. If we continue to deny the opportunity of this company to come into our County it will only decrease our population. I have farmed all my life and worked in the Bowbells bank for 30 years and retired 9 years ago. I still farm now full time with my son and grandson which I hope will be able to farm in Burke Co. in the future. He will be the 5th Generation Ross who farms in Burke Co.

When this Wind Turbine project started in 2018 there was a chance I would have had a wind tower on my 400 acre pasture along highway 8 in the Missouri Coteau hills. The pasture is located on Sec. 12 and 13-160-91. It was denied because it was determined by NextEra that it has native grass on it. I was disappointed but still am in favor of this wind project.

The Zoning and Planning Council and the Tax Commissioners have approved this project. I don't see why you would deny this project to one of the smallest lessor populated Counties in the State. I have heard no other wind tower companies will ever want to come to NW North Dakota. I can't stress the importance of approving this project and making it possible for Burke Co. to help benefit schools, emergency responders, veterans and so much more. It also benefits farm and ranch operations to increase their cash flows on times where they are struggling financially during this Covid 19 dilemma.

Burke Co. needs these wind towers to support our tax revenue. We are very sparsely populated and we are declining in population every year. Please vote YES on this important decision.

Thank You..

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Post-hearing Comments
Hal Ross

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Hal Ross, Bowbells

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