

This public comment has been sent via the form at:  
[www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html](http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html)

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name= Lakeswind Wind Power Plant

Docket number= IP6603/WS-08-1449

User Name = Valerie LeClair

County =

City = Barnesville

Email =

Phone =

Impact: =

Mitigation = I would like to voice my concerns regarding the meeting I attended last evening in Moorhead Mn regarding this project.

From all the information I have read, listened to and researched data on the wind Energy including what was presented last night; I do not believe we are any where near the point of building these giant entities here in our Community. There is no data that speaks to the effectness or cost reducing to the customer of electric. 30 to 40 possible percent producing of electricity does not complete the math problem of cost vs productivity. I would not start a business if this was the rate of return of my investment. From what was stated there has been no historical benefit to the Community based on how the Tax dollars are addressed from the Federal level to the County level. The statement of FREE energy source is not true either, it is only free until it hits one of those wind Towers and then it becomes a whole different kind of locus. It is only free to the Company who puts up the wind Tower but becomes expensive to the customer. why is it on a neighbors billing with Excel energy she can continue to use the established electric energy source she always has or she can choose to use Wind Energy but it will cost her more???? Cart before the Horse???

We were also told that there is no impact(property devaluation)to area land/homeowners surrounding these projects. I have seen information depending on which side of the project one stands that says yes there is lost of property value due to these wind Turbines comming into the Community. I for one WOULD NOT like to walk out into my yard and listen to these Loud Noise producing machines or sit in my back at night to watch the stars only to again experience a sea of flashing Red or white lights all night long as well as the noise comming from these Towers. I have heard what a flock of geese sound like from noise they make to the flap of their winds; but it is only for a few seconds and it is most pleasant also. There would be no stopping any of the movement, sound or intrusiveness of these giant Turbines, they would never go away. I did not move to the County to live like this; that is part of living in the City, lights ,noise, disruptions. We have complied with all the ordinances of the County to build and live here peacefully. The effect on the animals has not been fully understood in my opinion yet. Until you live with nature you do not fully appreciate it. I do not want the animals in our area to leave because of man once again taking away their habitate. I visited the Buffalo Ridge Project and could not believe what I was seeing, pictures do not tell the Foot Print that is made with these projects. It looked like war of the worlds, there is nothing pleasing about having these Giant Turbines looming all around an environment.

I believe we have the cart before the horse once again in the name of making money at any cost. Land owners have been pited against each other in the name of money,

LeClair wed May 20 12\_52\_10 2009 IP6603\_WS-08-1449.dat

tax payers will once again foot a large portion of the cost of building these things, the benefits to the Community remain to be seen and God help the surrounding land/homeowners and the impact it has on their health, property value, environment foot print; as well as their quality of life. No one has made that point as to why should I as a tax paying, law abiding citizen, hard working person have no right to say this is just too much to ask. What is important to one person may or is not important to another and as long as there is no harm in my saying no to this and a majority of others who feel no is appropriate, then NO it should be. This is not taking away from anyone's right to live if we pass on this project but it is impacting and changing the way life is lived around here if we do let this project continue.

There just isn't enough positive reason, data, research to say Yes. Stephen Hawking, one of the most brilliant minds in the world today states in his book "The Universe in a Nutshell", page 158- If the population growth and the increase in the consumption of electricity continue at their current rates, by 2600 the world's population will be standing shoulder to shoulder, and electricity use will make the Earth glow red-hot.

Is anybody listening??, stop putting the cart before the horse and work on the real problem; we need to reduce our usage before we have nothing left to use up. Every new invention has an impact and leaving behind for our great-great grandchildren a Earth full of Giant Towers and a glowing red-earth doesn't feel very proactive to me.

Submission date = wed May 20 12:52:10 2009

This information has also been entered into a centralized database for future analysis.

For questions about the database or the functioning of this tool, contact:

Andrew Koebrick  
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Larry Hartman, OES Project Manager

From: Raymond F. Lottie, 8692 280<sup>th</sup> Street South, Hawley, MN 56549

Re: Docket IP-6603/WS-08-1449, Clay County Wind Energy Project

April 29, 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Raymond F. Lottie. I am a Clay County resident, a retiree, and an owner of approximately 220 acres of land within the project area we are discussing today. I would like to speak briefly in support of the Lakeswind Project.

My understanding is that Minnesota law requires electrical utilities to generate at least 25% of their power from renewable sources by 2025. This is commonly known as the 25X25 Mandate. Because of the lead time required to develop new power sources, utilities are already scrambling to meet this mandate. Wind energy will play an important role in meeting 25X25, and the Lakeswind Project is well suited to be an important local player.

Some of my Clay County neighbors have raised objections to this project, claiming among other things, the ruination of lovely vistas, potential health issues and noise pollution. While fully respecting the views of my neighbors, I would make the following points:

1. There is no doubt that wind towers would alter the landscape within the project area. 400-foot towers are certain to be noticed. But I have always felt that I own the land to which I have title and not the view around it. If I want to control my view, I had better build in the woods or buy more land.
2. I don't know for sure if the so-called windmill "flicker" will impact human health, but I am skeptical. Even so, a windmill's shadow will move with the sun, so it would seem to me that it would be a transitory phenomenon for any particular resident, and visible only on sunny days.
3. My residence is just a quarter mile from Clay County Highway 10, and everyday I must contend with the noise of gravel trucks going to and from pits that lie to my east. I would rather these trucks did not bother my country peace, but I understand they represent commerce in my county, and that they are allowing fellow landowners to make returns on their land. Commerce and investment returns are still good things in

my book. Windmills are like the gravel trucks to me. They will make some noise when turning, but at much lower decibel levels than those trucks. And they will allow me and my fellow landowners to make returns from our land.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish we could all just plant more current bushes to satisfy our power needs. But realistically we have to find alternatives that satisfy the requirements of today's laws. Production of energy from wind just makes a lot of sense for this breezy part of our state at this particular time. Thank you for listening.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. J. Felt", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mickelson Wed May 20 09\_56\_47 2009 IP6603\_WS-08-1449.dat

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You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name= Lakeswind Wind Power Plant

Docket number= IP6603/WS-08-1449

User Name = Dwight Mickelson

County = Clay County

City = Moorhead

Email = dwightmickelson@aol.com

Phone = 218-233-3738

Impact: = Mr. Hartman,  
The siting for the Lakes wind Project is entirely inappropriate for this part of Clay County. If you were looking for one of the most environmentally diverse and picturesque parts of Clay County...this is it. My farmland is just north of the project area in Parke township. The accumulative effects of LWECs proposed (Lakes Wind, Romar, Global winds) would be 235 towers. This project starts a process in that area that will drastically change the landscape.

Due to the growth of families, retired people and hobby farmers in the area I believe the siting of this and the next projects will be extremely controversial. Especially in the region of Parke township just to the north of Lakes Wind where many small parcel owners will have to live amongst the towers but will not receive compensation. The current mechanism for information dissemination and public awareness of these projects in MN is inadequate.

Other wind companies are currently considering development in the open flats of Clay County (Noble Flats etc.) I believe those areas may be more appropriate. Please help us preserve the most diverse and beautiful area of Clay County.

Thank you.  
Dwight Mickelson

Mitigation =

Submission date = Wed May 20 09:56:47 2009

This information has also been entered into a centralized database for future analysis.

For questions about the database or the functioning of this tool, contact:

Andrew Koebrick  
[andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us](mailto:andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us)

-----Original Message-----

From: Apache [<mailto:apache@lmic.state.mn.us>]

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 11:51 AM

Subject: Miles Mon Mar 30 11:51:20 2009 IP6712/WS-08-1494

This public comment has been sent via the form at:

[www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html](http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html)

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

User Name = Kari Miles

County = Clay County

Impact: = March 26, 2009

As a concerned land owner in Clay County, I am very concerned about the impact of Industrial size wind mills on the health of the farmers, liability issues the farmers may face and the huge impact on a rural area that will be turned into an Industrial area and will no longer be the peaceful country side that we all grew up with.

One area, and then another will be covered by these monster windmills. Partly because the wind companies quietly sign farmer on without any public awareness and farmers sign a contract that doesn't allow them to comment. How is this fair to all the people that live in the rural areas?

This is not one small area here and there.....there is an effort to transform the whole area into an industrial site.

I am concerned that the landowners who have signed on have not been given a truthful account of the impacts that these huge industrial windmills will have on their health and their land.

In Denver, a neighbor had a contractor build an 8 ft fence instead of a 7ft fence. Now they have redo the fence because it is against the code.

How is it that a neighbor is allowed to put up a 290ft windmill on their land and the neighbors have no say? The reason is that these windmills would never be allowed in the city. That why they are trying to go where ever they can, before people realize the negative impact on the environment and set up zoning laws.

I see that there are studies about the impact on bats, what about a study on the impact on humans.

I am concerned about the constant noise and constant flashing lights during the night. What happens if there is an ice throw in the winter and someone gets hurt. Who is liable? What happens if a windmill is close to the highway and an ice throw causes an accident, who is liable? What about the low frequency noise that is particularly troublesome for the elderly and children? Who will cover there hospital visits?

I am for wind energy, when the technology becomes less damaging to the

people and the animals that live near them, and the countryside remains a country side. When new technology can minimize the negative impact on the environment.

How can we partial solve one problem by making huge problems in other areas. Please take the time to make a common sense plan about these industrial sites.

Thank you, Kari Miles

Mitigation = Regarding any of the large industrial wind turbines in the state, especially concerning the Clay county area

I think the impact on humans needs to be studied before these industrial windmills are allowed to be built. Often the impact on people is dismissed.

I think there needs to be a serious discussion on the findings from other states such as New York and Wisconsin and the complaints about the windmills needs to be addressed and not just dismissed.

I think that a lawyer needs to be appointed to these farmers so that they know what rights they are signing away when they sign with a Limited Liability Company.

I think that instead of these large turbines that are based on an ancient windmill design, consider the new ideas that will lessen the impact on the environment. There are new designs out of Fullerton California that have much promise with less negative impact. Cheaper and more efficient,

Wait and study the impact before not after the fact. Have real studies on the health impact on humans due to noise, strobe light, and other possible health risks.

Being honest with all the landowners and towns on the impact of these turbines,

Site these wind turbines in areas that are not continuous across the whole state. Put them in areas where an industrial site is more appropriate, not the countryside, but an area that would be an industrial site not affecting people. Have a miles between these turbines and humans. Isolate these industrial sites to here and there but not everywhere.

Common sense approach please, with a real plan before not after the negative impact.

Thank you Kari Miles

Submission date = Mon Mar 30 11:51:20 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Apache [<mailto:apache@lmic.state.mn.us>]

Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2009 9:07 PM

To: Larry.Hartman@state.mn.us

Subject: Miles Sat Mar 28 21:07:01 2009 IP6603/WS-08-1449

This public comment has been sent via the form at:

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You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name= Lakeswind Wind Power Plant

Docket number= IP6603/WS-08-1449

User Name = Karimiles@yahoo.com Miles

County = Clay County

Impact: = I object to the project.

First, I think it is unethical that the public doesn't find out about these wind projects until the landowners have quietly signed on. (I think that the contracts may state that they can't talk about it) The public doesn't find out until the land needed has been signed on.

This is changing the countryside into an industrial site, a project of this magnitude not only affects the landowners, it affects everyone in Clay County.

Also, if it were only one area in the county atleast it would be an isolated case, but now there is a project in Glyndon and there is another wind company courting other farmers. Soon Clay County will have more than its fair share of these obese windmills. IT is the cumulative effect of these that is going to spoil what is beautiful in our county.

Also, I feel that the wind companies do not explain the negative aspects of what these turbines do to the land, animals and human health.

The state has a study on bats, but not on the health of the residents that live near them. There is alot of information from other states of the negative impact these turbines have on health.

I think there should be a moritorium on these turbines until there is a study on the quality of life and health impacts.

Also, the value of the property will decrease. Who would buy a property to live near a windmill industry?

The setbacks are to close to residents for health reasons, it is just an arbitrary number set by the wind companies with no health study behind it. Dizziness, migraines, sleep deprivation etc.

I think the contracts should be nullified if the farmers were not given the health impacts of these turbines!!!

Also, it is so very unfair to the neighbors who chose to live in the country for its peaceful lifestyle and now are forced to live by these things.

The lights on these mills are on all night long. The noise issues are never addressed by the windcompanies when there are complaints. I think before MN looks like upper NY state and Wisconsin there needs to be a well thought out plan that is fair to its residents.

Kari Miles 303-322-8447

Mitigation = First, This area is one of the prettiest spots in Clay County, at least if we have to have it, put it in an area that has less people and less scenic beauty.

Also, there are all kinds of new technology coming that are not as invasive on the landscape. There are wind spiral technology or vertical axis windmills that could be used instead of these huge ancient designed windmills . These new technologies are more efficient, cost less, quieter and have fewer maintenance problems and hopefully might not destroy the scenic nature and be less damaging to the health of those who live near them. For example, put a vertical axis windmill near power lines, all along existing electrical poles.

Or if at worst, smaller windmills for our state instead of sending this energy out of state.

Also, a serious study if these even are worth the effort as far as energy.

A moritorium until a health study has been made by someone not in the wind industry.

Submission date = Sat Mar 28 21:07:01 2009

Energy Facility Permitting  
Office of Energy Security  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Ste. 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-0198

**Re: Project Docket #IP6603 (WS-08-1449)**

I am Roger Minch. I have signed a lease with Project Resources Corporation (PRC) concerning the Lakeswind Project (Project) PRC has been open, forthright and honest to deal with all through the process.

I believe the Project should be approved without a contested hearing so that construction can start and turbines brought on line yet this year. We all use and need electricity. Not even the pumps we fill our vehicles with will work without it.

The Mn. Legislature has directed that 20% of our electricity be from renewable sources by 2020. The pending Federal Energy Bill would require 25% by 2025.

We are fortunate that Clay Co. has a valuable, yet so far largely unused, wind resource to help with these goals, not subject to embargos or the whim of a cartel like OPEC.

We are fortunate that PRC had noticed the resource here and has chosen to do the Project here and not somewhere else in MN or the country. Here we have an opportunity to not only harness a valuable power source, but an economic development opportunity that comes to us with no expenditure of time, effort, economic development resources or tax incentives.

Just the reverse. The project will bring jobs, tax revenue and make us proud that we are blessed with a way to assist providing our country with secure energy needs.

And with wind, there is no CO2, mining, or toxic waste, and best of all, if something better comes along, one can just remove the turbines.

The tradition in Clay Co. has been to let landowners use their land for productive and legal development. Wind turbines are much less disruptive, than say, gravel mining and hauling activities.

And, the citizens of this area have shown strong support for wind turbines. The City of Moorhead has constructed two of them on the NE edge of the city. They were funded by volunteer surcharges on electric bills. One was built first and it was so well received, that a second was built later. I have not heard one complaint about those turbines, built practically within the city. Most people I mention them to do not even know they are there.

Minnesota has long experience with large-scale wind energy projects, and the employment those projects produce. There are hundreds of turbines installed in Pipestone and Lincoln Counties, and there is a large blade turbine manufacturer located just south Pipestone, Minnesota. Glassfiber manufactures blades in Grand Forks, North Dakota and DMI manufactures towers in West Fargo, North Dakota. Wanzek Construction is the leading crane installer, whose headquarters is in West Fargo, North Dakota.

Many municipalities and school systems have initiated large-scale wind energy projects. The consolidated high school west of Appleton, Minnesota installed a turbine on school grounds and the Nevada, Iowa High School has two turbines installed on its property. Northfield, Minnesota, home of St. Olaf Collage and Carlton Collage, has installed a municipal turbine, whose profile occurs on the town stationary and logo.

PRC is not relying on eminent domain to complete its project, instead using voluntary contracts with landowners who should be given credit to know what is best for their own land, given the fact that but for visual impacts, it is they who will endure all of the burdens of the project.

Minnesota, like its neighbors, North Dakota and Iowa, has gone far down the road to embrace large-scale wind energy projects. This is the right path, and given the scale of the projects in Pipestone and Lincoln Counties, any serious problems with these developments would be well known and addressed already.

There has always been opposition to change and new ideas.

As quoted from the *Barnesville Record* of May 14, 2003, as cited in "Seasons to Remember Barnesville: The First 100 Years":

Town killers are classified into seven separate branches as follows:

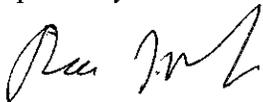
First, those who go out of town to do their shopping;  
second, those who are opposed to improvements;  
third, those who prefer a quiet town to one of push and enterprise;  
fourth, those who imagine they own the town;  
fifth, those who deride public spirited men;  
sixth, those who oppose every movement that does not appear to benefit them directly; and  
seventh, those who seek to work for nothing.

So I urge the Mn. PUC to approve the application of PRC for the Lakeswind project without a contested hearing or further delay. This is not the time to reargue settled issues of tax and public policy.

Imagine being able to generate up to 50,000,000 watts of electricity with no coal or nuclear power plant in the area.

I enclose the Windustry April 2009 newsletter and the "Forum" April 27, 2009, article about \$900,000.00 in wind energy tax funding in North Dakota.

Respectfully submitted this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2009.



Roger J. Minch  
1110 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N #904W  
Fargo, ND 58102-4681  
(701) 232-8957 (W)

**Roger Minch**

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**From:** Diana Wilson [diana@projectresources.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2009 10:20 AM  
**To:** RescueEarth@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Windustry Newsletter, April 2009  
**Attachments:** image004.jpg; image006.jpg; image010.jpg

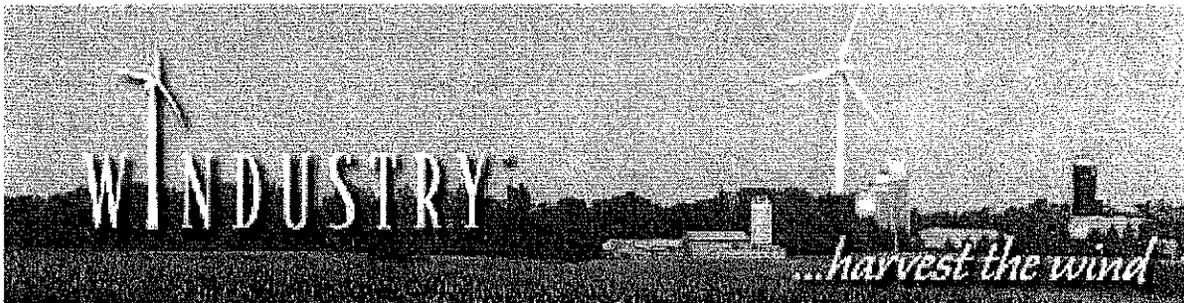
Good Morning:

I thought you all might find the monthly Windustry newsletter interesting, esp. the new stats for Minnesota wind. Windustry is a wonderful online resource for developers and landowners in the wind industry. You can sign up to receive their monthly newsletter by email by going to their website [www.windustry.org](http://www.windustry.org) and providing an email address.

We hope to see you all on Wednesday at the Galaxie.

Diana

**Subject:** Windustry Newsletter April 2009



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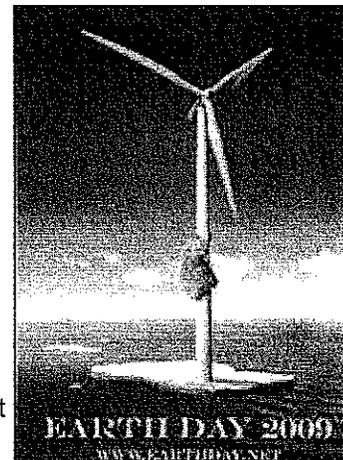
## Windustry E-Newsletter

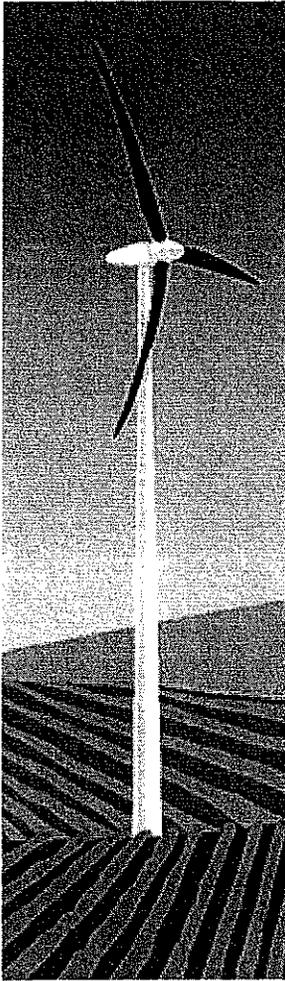
April 2009

### Earth Day 2009

**Even one person can make a difference with Community Wind**

Earth Day 2009 on April 22 marks the beginning of The Green Generation Campaign™, a two-year initiative that will culminate on the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day in 2010. The Green Generation is open to people of all ages: consumers who are committed to buying green; community leaders who are focused on greening their communities; those who work in green jobs; scientists and engineers who develop new green technologies; and governments that seek to implement policies and





#### Quick Links

[Wind Basics](#)

[Windustry News](#)

[Community Wind Toolbox](#)

[About Windustry](#)

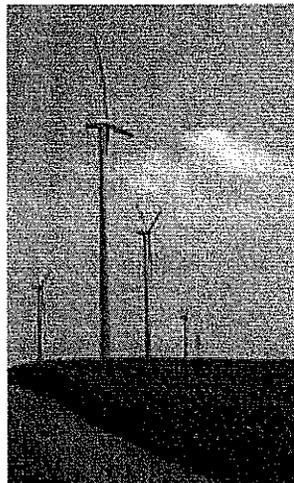
support research that will build a green economy and a sustainable, green planet. The Green Generation's core principles are:

- A carbon-free future based on renewable energy that will end our common dependency on fossil fuels.
- An individual's commitment to responsible, sustainable consumption.
- Creation of a new green economy that lifts people out of poverty by creating millions of quality green jobs and transforms the global education system into a green one.

With a green generation, even one person can make a difference with Community Wind. Windustry envisions a green generation where farmers, ranchers, tribes, and schools develop and own wind projects; a green generation that turns electricity consumers into producers, strengthens our national security, and supports main street economies; and a green generation that empowers communities to build their own wind projects.

## U.S. Wind Energy Grew by 50% in 2008

United States leads the world with 25,300 MW capacity



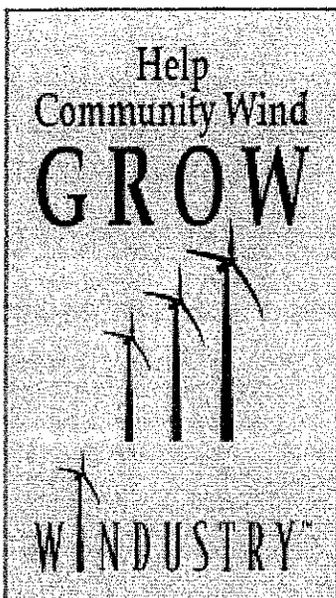
In 2008 U.S. wind energy grew by over 8,500 megawatts (MW) of new wind power capacity, increasing the nation's cumulative total by 50% to over 25,300 MW, pushing the U.S. above Germany as the country with the largest amount of wind power capacity installed, according to a new report from the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). Iowa surged past California into second place in the U.S. adding nearly 1600 MW to more than double its wind power generating capacity, with Texas still the leader in wind project capacity.

The top five states in terms of capacity installed are:

- Texas, with 7,118 MW
- Iowa, with 2,791 MW
- California, with 2,517 MW
- Minnesota, with 1,754 MW
- Washington, with 1,447 MW

Both Iowa and Minnesota now get over 7% of their electricity needs from wind, with Minnesota ranking first with 7.48% followed closely by Iowa with 7.1%. Wind projects boost local tax bases, helping to pay for schools, roads and hospitals, according to the report. Wind projects also revitalize the economy of rural communities by providing steady income to farmers and other landowners.

**[Read more and download a copy of \*The American Wind Energy Association Annual Wind Industry Report for 2008.\*](#)**



## Help Community Wind Grow

Thanks to all who became a Friend of Windustry

Thank you to all who became a **Friend of Windustry!** Your tax-deductible financial donations help Windustry grow Community Wind across the nation as we provide education, information, networking and advocacy to individuals and communities seeking to develop their own wind projects. Just in the last several months Windustry has visited the Dakotas, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Colorado, California and Washington D.C. to promote Community Wind as a robust engine for economic development and community empowerment. We could not extend our reach this far, and this effectively, without the support of Friends of Windustry such as the folks receiving these Newsletters. *Thank you.*



Find out how you can Become a Friend of Windustry and help Community Wind grow.

## Living Green Expo

Visit Windustry at the Expo & enter to win a Framed Poster

The 8th Annual Living Green Expo at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds on May 2-3, 2009 will feature over 250 exhibitors who offer practical advice on how to make effective, sustainable choices. Over 25,000 Minnesota residents will attend the Expo to learn and take action to better protect the environment and lead healthier, more sustainable lives. The expo includes workshops about making good choices, using less energy, shifting toward renewable sources, and generally reducing the associated environmental impacts to our air, water, and land.



Windustry will again be an exhibitor at the Living Green Expo to provide information and answer questions about how Community Wind empowers communities to develop and own wind energy as an environmentally sustainable asset. Visit Windustry at the Expo, and enter a drawing to win one of three framed Windustry posters. *(The drawing is open only to Expo attendees.)*

Admission to the Living Green Expo is free. Secure bike storage is available, and Metro Transit is offering free rides to the Expo using the Go Greener Pass. Visit [www.livinggreen.org](http://www.livinggreen.org) for more information on exhibitors, workshops and activities.

## Windspiration

Which noted Minnesota poet translated the poem "The Wind, One Brilliant Day" by Spanish poet Antonio Machado?



## **The Wind, One Brilliant Day**

The wind, one brilliant day, called  
to my soul with an odor of jasmine.

"In return for the odor of my jasmine,  
I'd like all the odor of your roses."

"I have no roses; I have no flowers left now  
in my garden . . . All are dead."

"Then I'll take the waters of the fountain, and the yellow  
leaves and the dried-up petals."

The wind left. . . . I wept. I said to my soul,  
"What have you done with the garden entrusted to you?"

Find out at **Windspiration**

## **On the Windustry Trail...**

Windustry staff have been busy working on Community Wind:

- We exhibited at the **5th National 25x'25 Summit** in Arlington, VA and presented on "The Opportunity of Community Wind."
- We cosponsored the **Right of Way Agent Development Symposium for Wind Energy** at Oklahoma State University and presented on "Wind Energy Basics."
- We participated in **Landowner Forums** in Grand Marias and Grand Rapids, Minnesota.
- We participated in **Super Science Saturday** at the Bakken Museum.

Iowa Wind Farm photograph by Edith OSB has Some rights reserved.

**Diana Wilson**  
Land Administrator  
Project Resources Corporation  
612-331-1486 x 303  
612-331-1086 (fax)  
612-655-5370 (cell)  
**Every day is Earth Day.**

# Cavalier County getting funding

## School reaps benefit of \$900K in property taxes on wind farm

By Ryan Bakken  
Cavalier Tribune

LANGDON, N.D. — A high school track meet hasn't been held here for almost 25 years. That changes this spring.

A new funding track is just one benefit of Cavalier County's own

Langdon Area School District's

new property tax package.

The stimulus is \$900,000 in property taxes paid by the Langdon

Wind Energy Center, a 133-turbine wind farm

that has been operating for a year. The wind farm supplied 11 percent of the \$3.5 million in property taxes collected this year

in the county.

The biggest beneficiary is Langdon Area School, which has received \$46,000. About \$200,000 of it went for six large, all-weather

tracks.

"We couldn't even practice on the old one because it was a hazard," said Dennis Dinius, the boys track coach. "But we could start a new one before."

Upgrades included \$30,000 for the heating cooling system, \$30,000 for the gym and \$12,000 for the family consumer science classroom.

The system's 35 teachers each received a \$1700 annual raise for a total of \$59,500. When the school board voted to raise tax dollars were more than expected. It topped the raise from \$1800 to \$2,700.

"We have been able to offer teachers' reasonable increases over the past several years, but this year the board felt it had the money and the teachers were deserving of more," Superintendent Rich Rogers said.

Next year is the staff members' turn for a bigger salary hike than usual.

Even with that spending, the district is able to add \$180,000 to its operating fund balance, boosting it to \$15 million.

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Forum  
North Dakota editor  
(701) 241-5505  
Minnesota editor  
(701) 241-5542

# METRO/STATE

Inside  
► Chittanes C4, C6  
► Opinion C6

MONDAY  
April 27, 2009

FNR 60

# WIND MONEY: Comes amidst declining population

From Page C1

from the closings of the Border Central and Milton-Osnabrock schools. It has been taxing at the minimum levy required by the state.

The district receives a little more than half of its funding from property taxes. The \$465,000 from the wind farm upped its property tax money to \$2.7 million, a 20 percent increase.

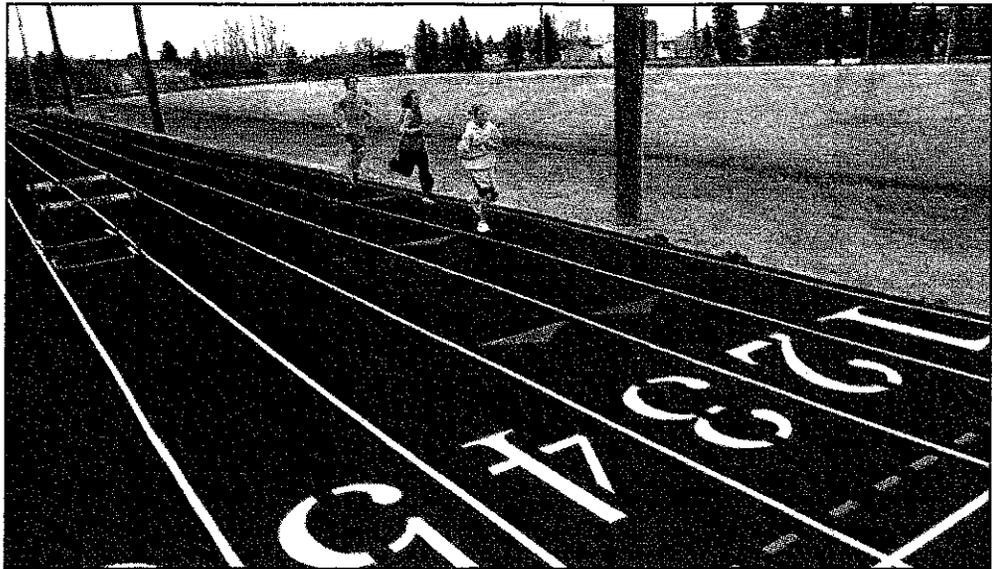
"We're very, very happy to get that additional funding at the local level," Rogers said. "We have more things that have run their life expectancy, so this money makes it easier to improve them while continuing to maintain a low tax level and a reasonable interim balance."

Over time, wind farm property taxes will decrease as the turbines depreciate in value. But that won't happen in the short term because this year's taxes included 106 turbines. An additional 27 turbines will be on next year's tax rolls.

The wind farm's tax bill is double that of any other county taxpayer. The next highest, county auditor Dawn Roppel said, are utilities Cavalier County Rural Electric and Otter Tail Power Co.

The county receives an additional \$370,000, and the five townships a combined \$67,000 from the wind farm.

"I don't know where we'd be this year without it," said Harvey Hope, county board chairman. "It's tough



John Stennes / Grand Forks Herald

**Members of the Langdon High School track team practice on the school's new track earlier this month. The school received an additional \$465,000 as its share of \$900,000 in new tax revenue paid by the Langdon Wind Energy Center and used about \$200,000 for the new track. A high school track meet hasn't been held here for almost 25 years.**

raising new revenue when your county has a declining population."

Hope said money is targeted for infrastructure, saying that repairing black-topped roads costs double what it did five years ago. It's especially true this year because of the washouts caused by flooding. "We have been deficit-spending for roads and bridges for years," he said.

County employees received a bigger raise than usual - \$250 per month for full-time workers and \$125 a month for part-timers.

"You have to keep your people justly compensated or you're going to have a big

turnover in employees," he said. "And we don't have a pool of potential replacement employees to choose from. We have an elderly population up here."

The bottom line, Hope said, is that without wind towers and pipelines, "we're eliminating or cutting back essential services."

Easby Township, which has 36 turbines, is using the increased tax base for repairs and to lower its levy from 27 mills to 18. "We're going to give landowners a much-needed break," said Don Smith, township supervisor.

Still, it will be able to do

catch-up work on roads and culverts that need repair, Smith said. And the township is socking some money away for future use.

"In our township, we can't see anything negative about the wind farm," Smith said.

Complaints are hard to find elsewhere, too.

"It's like someone handing you a check and saying 'go,'" said Dinius, the track coach. "Before, I had to ask if I could buy a \$3 baton. Now it's like, 'Why don't you buy the \$5 baton?'"

Inforum searchword: North Dakota

The Grand Forks Herald and The Forum are both owned by Forum Communications Co.

down Russia and Latvia

laying it. But It was all rather

# Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN • 55155-40



May 15, 2009

Mr. Larry Hartman  
MN Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198



RE: Lakeswind Wind Power Plant Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit  
PUC Docket No. IP6603/WS-08-1449

Dear Mr. Hartman:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the Lakeswind Wind Power Plant project in Becker, Clay and Otter Tail Counties, MN. The proposed project area contains an abundance of rare and significant natural resource features. DNR is concerned with potential impacts created by the proposed project on rare and high-quality plant and animal communities, as well as effects on publicly-owned recreational lands within and adjacent to the project site. DNR strongly recommends a site visit be arranged between DNR and the applicant to identify the location of these resources, identify proper locations for turbine placement, and develop appropriate methodology for a pre-construction biological survey and a prairie management plan. These resources of concern are described below.

#### Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) Sites of Biodiversity and Native Plant Communities

The Application (Item 18b, page 41) states "PRC does not anticipate directly impacting the ecologically significant areas within the Project site," yet Figures 9 and 10 appear to show turbines, cables, and roads within these areas. Specifically, the turbines located in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 12 and along the north section line of Sect. 22 in T137N, R44W appear to be located within a Dry Prairie Complex rated as Moderate Biodiversity Significance. Turbines located in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sect. 1 and 2 of T137N, R44W occur within or adjacent a Dry Prairie of Outstanding Biodiversity Significance. Direct impacts to these ecologically significant areas should be avoided. Indirect impacts from surface runoff or the spread of invasive species should also be considered during project design and implementation. GIS shapefiles of MCBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance and MCBS Native Plant Communities can be downloaded from the DNR's Data Deli website at <http://deli.dnr.state.mn.us/index.html>. The DNR recommends that these shapefiles be used in combination with proposed turbine, road and cable placement to assess and avoid affecting these plant communities. DNR is encouraged that the applicant intends to avoid impacting these areas, as stated in the Application, and suggests a site visit between DNR and the applicant to relocate those turbines that do not meet the stated intent.



#### Blanket Flower Prairie Scientific and Natural Area

Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) are legally designated public nature preserves established to protect the state's rarest natural features and sensitive resources. These natural areas are given the highest level of protection and the utmost consideration in assessing potential impacts from nearby projects.

The Application (Item 16c, page 37) states that the project will exclude Scientific and Natural Areas from consideration for turbine locations, access roads, or electrical/transmission lines. Figure 9, however, shows a collector cable crossing the SNA. This crossing is inconsistent with the SNA's management plan and Commissioner's Order establishing the unit.

A new location for this collector cable – one which does not cross the SNA - should be identified.

The Draft Site Permit (Part III.C.1) requires that "Wind turbine towers shall not be placed less than 5 rotor diameters (RD) on the prevailing wind directions and 3 RD on the non-prevailing wind directions from the perimeter of the lands where the Permittee does not hold the wind rights, without the approval of the PUC." DNR recommends a minimum setback of ¼ mile in all directions from Blanket Flower Prairie SNA.

Draft Site Permit Condition Part III.C.1 also applies to Barnesville, Skree and Scambler Wildlife Management Areas, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Waterfowl Production Areas within the project site.

#### Native Prairie

The Application (Item 18c, page 41) states "PRC will avoid disturbance of ...native prairie remnants." Figures 9 and 10 appear to show turbines, cables, and roads within these areas. Given that more than 99% of this prairie habitat has been destroyed and more than one-third of Minnesota's endangered, threatened, and special concern species are now dependent on the remaining small fragments of Minnesota's prairie ecosystem, we feel that all prairie remnants merit protection. DNR issued two Natural Heritage information letters (December 2007 and September 2008) recommending setbacks from native prairie. These recommendations are not reflected in the Application. Starting at the site visit between DNR and the Applicant, these and other matters can be addressed in the prairie management plan.

#### Birds

In the Lakeswind Spring 2008 Avian Monitoring Report prepared by Terracon for Project Resources Group, Terracon "recommends additional pre-construction avian monitoring and assessment to obtain further information on species occurrence, relative abundance and avian use of the site. Post-construction monitoring should be conducted at the site for at least two years, adhering to the guidelines of the National Wind Coordinating Committee." Given the wind project's proximity to the above Sites of Biodiversity, the general population declines of many grassland birds, and the potential for wind turbines to cause avian mortality, pre- and post-construction avian monitoring would provide valuable data for determining potential impacts to the avian resource.

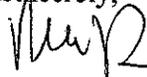
The DNR is also concerned with potential impacts to the grassland birds that depend on prairie habitat, as many of these species are declining in number nationwide. For instance, there is some evidence to suggest that grassland birds, including greater prairie-chickens, are deterred from nesting in otherwise appropriate habitat by the presence of tall structures in the vicinity. A minimum five rotor diameter setback from prairie remnants is recommended to minimize this potential effect.

Mr. Hartman  
May 15, 2009  
Page 3

A turbine proposed for the NE ¼ of Sect. 17, T137N, R44W would be located between two waterbodies. This turbine is likely to intercept waterbirds moving between those waterbodies. During the site visit, it is likely this turbine will be a candidate for relocation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Permit Application and Site Permit. Should you have any questions about this comment letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Randall Doneen, Planning Director  
Environmental Review Unit  
Division of Ecological Resources  
(651) 259-5156





Minnesota Department of Transportation

---

District 4 Detroit Lakes/Morris  
1000 Hwy. 10 West  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota 56501

Office Telephone: 218/846-7950  
Fax: 218/847-1544

May 19, 2009

Mr. Larry Hartman  
Office of Energy Security  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

**SUBJECT: Proposed Lakes Wind Power Plant  
Lakes Wind Power Partners, LLC  
Becker, Clay, and Ottertail Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Hartman:

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) District 4 Property Management/RW permits staff has reviewed your request to obtain a site permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for the proposed Lakes Wind Power Plant Project. There is an impact to Mn/DOT right of way on State Trunk Highway 32 and State Trunk Highway 34 based on the project site map of the Tamarac Substation and Wind Turbines.

Mn/Dot had no scheduled projects in the immediate area but may plan an expedited project due to hydraulic concerns.

If work is required within Mn/DOT right of way for the placement of structures, materials, or access to adjacent properties, please coordinate this through our Property Management/Right of Way Permits office. Our Utility Agreements and Permits website <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/utility/index.html> which contains our accommodation policy <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/utility/index.html> is helpful in the permitting process. If you have questions or comments you may contact me by email [james.utecht@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:james.utecht@dot.state.mn.us) or telephone at (218) 846-7950.

Sincerely,

Jim Utecht.  
Property Management/RW Permits Supervisor

cc: Jody Martinson  
Shiloh Wahl  
Steve Baukol  
Stacy Kotch MS 678

This public comment has been sent via the form at:  
[www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html](http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html)

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name= Lakeswind Wind Power Plant

Docket number= IP6603/WS-08-1449

User Name = Paul Ornberg

County = Clay County

City = Hawley

Email = pco@rrt.net

Phone = 218 937-5191

Impact: = I have provided written comments at the Barnesville meeting April 28, 2009. Please include the following.

Turbines that are 429 feet tall will cross roads when and if they collapse due to the fact that a 250 foot setback from roads is requested. When roads are blocked there is NO fire protection. My home has access from four directions, two are not passable due to high water. When a collapsed tower crosses the road, by almost 200 feet, the delays will cause greater damage. The same can be said about medical assistance.

The application does not address liability insurance and fire insurance for other properties when a turbine fire occurs or falls over. Are property owners responsible for the added peril ?

People with signed leases believe they are going to receive \$ 10 per acre per year for 20 years. They do not understand or it was not explained that non-used land will be released. Many think that when the project is built their land will be re-leased. Someone should clarify that situation. If Project Resources Corp lead people to believe they will have their land leased. tower or no tower, and that is not true, the application should be denied.

After five months of reading, meetings, listening and talking I believe the PUC application process is FLAWED. The application is a process of providing answers where the answer doesn't matter. Just fill in the blanks. A siting plan is to be provided but it is not even a close approximation as to where the turbines are to be placed. When asked I was told the placements would be provided at the pre-construction meeting 60 days before initiation. This means -- go do whatever you want.

When I asked a question about other towers, such as communication, I was given a spiel about frequencies.

The current system is based on a model that starts with approval. Concerns of opposition are allowed to be raised but are not considered or addressed.

I would suggest a solution. The PUC should solicit comments about the

process of application and the methods of addressing issues. Obviously there are concerns when many Counties are now trying to write regulations in order to get voice or to be heard. The PUC should develop a list of negatives that might preclude approval -- such as turbines established on the most desirable beautiful properties. Once the turbines are there the home development stops and that is negative for taxes revenues. I have calculated the loss and the KW tax given to the counties will not cover the loss. The PUC should appoint a member that questions the efficacy of wind farms. The PUC should do more research and recommend other "green methods". Geothermal heat pumps at each residence in the PRC Lakeswind project would save more electricity than what will be produced. Geothermal would also eliminate carbons by not using carbon producing products to heat their homes. PRC could drop the wind farm and establish a project to provide geothermal heat/AC at each home, own the equipment, claim the depreciation and collect the energy credits. At \$15 per ton they would make \$\$ for 25 years. I believe Lake Region Electric would jump at the chance to collaborate.

The most frustrating factor in all of this is that opposition is listened to but not heard. Opposition is dismissed by someone claiming the opposition is only a NIMBY person. The wind farm mania does not consider the fact that not enough turbines can be installed to meet any goal. People do not review all facts, they only think it is good because wind is free. In actuality the end KW price will be much higher and so will our taxes to pay for tax credits. It has become obvious that the PUC has one goal -- put up wind farms to meet a 25 % goal and ignore the consequences.

Health is another area -- hearing loss, benign positional vertigo, and REM sleep disruption will occur due to the sounds. It is not high pitch sounds that cause problems -- it is the quantity of sound.

Paul and Kay Ornberg

Mitigation = I have include this in the previous part of this email.

Submission date = Tue May 19 12:10:35 2009

This information has also been entered into a centralized database for future analysis.

For questions about the database or the functioning of this tool, contact:

Andrew Koebrick  
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

March 30, 2009

Project Resources Corporation  
Lakeswind Wind Power Plant IP-6603 / WS-08-1449

Public Hearing -- April 30, 2009

The project description says "up to 40 1.5 MW GE wind power generators". The application stated 35 towers and the last information I have found says, 17 to 34 towers, with 9 miles of underground and 7 miles of overhead feeders.

1. How many towers are there going to be ?
2. Can PRC put in whatever number they want each year and for how many years?
3. The application contains a site map for the towers. I have now been told that the map has no relevance and the placement of the towers has not been determined. If so, when will a placement map be available and will ALL citizens have input? Will the leaseholders have a say?
4. Does a lease grant PRC to place towers wherever they elect?
5. As a non-lease holder but being surrounded by leased land, do I have any opportunity to object to a placement?
6. Due to the fact that I have wind rights -- how far from my property line is the minimum placement of a tower permitted?
7. The application or description indicates 7 miles of overhead lines. Will those lines use present poles? If yes, do you have an agreement with LREC?

If no, may the poles be placed wherever on leased land? Can the lines go over non-leased land?

8. There is land leased outside the plat boundaries -- can wind towers or line poles be placed on land outside of the plat?

9. If another company, such as communications, wants to install a relay tower -- may the landowner contract with the other company and receive payment or does the PRC receive the payments since it has the lease of land and wind rights?

Who receives the payment when relays are attached to towers?

10. May the PRC stop a non-lease holder from leasing to another tower installer on adjacent property?
11. Once a tower is located, is the lease holder required to adhere to the setbacks? Is a non-lease landowner required to maintain the setbacks?
12. Since PRC does not pay any real estate taxes, does that mean ALL the Parke and Tansem residents get to share in the costs for PRC fire, law enforcement protection?

#### Comments on the application.

1. Certificate of Need -- The last written statement says the Need does not need to be established or addressed as there is an approved Xcel Energy bidding plan in place. Please explain what a "bidding process" means to Parke and Tansem residents.

The needs of the local Parke and Tansem residents, Lake Region Electric Coop and Clay County residents are not identified and the benefits are not delineated in the application. The LREC has an established plan to meet the 25 % mandated. It seems logical to me, that if production was closer to need the cost per KW would decrease and that would really help Minnesota citizens.

2. Siting Plan -- The applicant describes the area as a fairly underdeveloped area northeast of Barnesville. The area is very developed -- the industry is all the factors of agriculture.

Turbines will have a setback of 500 to 1000 feet from occupied residences. The statement means at least 500 but not over 1000.

The information about placement of the turbines was in the application but we now are told that the map presented met a requirement of the application but is not where the turbines will go. The PRC did not talk to all residents that could see and hear the turbines but are not in the site plan. It is a business practice that is standard -- why let the competition know what we are doing. Maybe a "right of first refusal" would have been a more appropriate method rather than a lease. Actually it is a PUC problem. They need to review their policies and change some policies and methods. The TOTAL COMMUNITY was ignored.

3. Site control -- PRC states they have obtained leases from ALL land within the project site. At submission the statement was NOT TRUE. Since then they have been in contact and signed another lease thus it is not known if the statement is true. Although the application does not require the data, it should be noted that many of the lease holders are absentee landlords. They have and should sign a lease as they do have to contend with the view, sound or flickering. I have asked over 30 people if they would buy land within the project area and build a home all said NO.
4. Physical description -- The corrected application states the towers will be 263 feet with 252 or 331 blades for a height of 393 to 429 feet to the top of an extended blade. The diameter of the blade circle is 331 feet. In order to visualize the height one needs to know that the Statue of Liberty is 305 feet and the Foshay Tower in Minneapolis is 447 feet. With the 331 foot blade the area of blade coverage is 1.97 acres which is 2 football fields without the end zones. It is very hard to accept that birds and geese will not be harmed by 187 mph blades covering 2 acres.
5. Environmental analysis -- The applicant states that there will be sound and blade flicker will be obvious. Visual impact is answered by the applicant saying the aesthetic beauty or negative impact is in the eye of the beholder. In other words -- it does not count. When the 429 foot turbines are placed they will dominate the landscape. It will be the first thing one sees, overwhelming the beauty of the rolling hills with the trees. The view of hills and trees has always been the introduction to the Minnesota lakes country. It has been noted in the ‘

Twin Cities Business Magazine', June 2007, "If the wind resources were located on the North Shore, people might not be as receptive to putting up turbines where they also have pretty vacation homes." Stated by Ian Krygowski,, regional project development manager for EnXco. It demonstrates the attitude of non-residents. I happen to believe that there are many beautiful homes in the Rollag area and we should not be belittled. The applicant has not recognized the total environment – wind power electricity is only a small part of 'green.'" The 'Essence of Green' is the total environment and destroying or taking away the Rollag image with turbines is not Green.

Applicant states the rural nature of the site will remain. Yes, the rural remains as the population will not grow with new homes due to the turbines and thus does not increase the population to municipality size. The nature part is totally changed when viewed as a whole picture. Many people are drawn to this area because it is rural and particularly the nature - hills, woods and wildlife.

Applicant also refers to the project as "farming" for wind energy. This is another verbal ploy. They do not realize that there are no 400-foot tractors, combines, seeders, manure spreaders or animals.

Applicant states the turbines are "high" tech but compatible with the natural and rural setting. Please note that compatibility means that when something is added it does not change or dominate the environment.

Applicant says "shadow flicker" can be resolved by installation of blinds and shutters. If one is working outside, gardening or sitting on your deck the question becomes, "how large and where do I buy such shutters"?

6. Cost analysis -- Applicant gives approximate capitol costs and ongoing operational costs. There is no calculation of the KW cost to customers. If the cost per KW is greater than current cost then the consumer is paying for inefficient electric production to satisfy an Excel energy need. The electricity costs for Rollag area customers of Lake Region

Electric Coop was increased for 2009 to cover the increased cost of having to use wind power generated electricity in 2008.

7. Under “impacts’ the applicant discusses roads. There is no indication that the applicant will provide a performance bond or a contingency, in the counties name, for rebuilding damaged roads.
8. Tourism and community benefits – Applicant states “wind development may become a significant tourism attraction bringing more visitors to the community. This is a unique response when in another section, page 30, the impact on traffic states, “ no significant changes in traffic patterns or volume are expected”. That begs the question, “do we get more tourism without traffic”?

Wind farm energy is the current hot subject because it is seen as “green”. The actual desire is inspired by money. It produces income for leaseholders without financial cost. There are greater financial benefits for the investors and developers via the many credits and deductible expenses with the public paying higher KW costs and taxes to cover credits and deductions. The only good benefit I can see is money for my neighbors with leases. The problem for some will be that their lease payment will not cover the increased cost they will pay for electricity due to wind power.

**From:** Paul White [paul@projectresources.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2009 5:24 PM  
**To:** larry.hartman@state.mn.us  
**Cc:** tony\_sullins@fws.gov; nick\_rowse@fws.gov; Matthias Weigel  
**Subject:** Lakeswind Project

**Attachments:** USFW Response and Siting Recommendation Letter.pdf

Mr. Larry Hartman:

Matthias Weigel and I met with USFW again today to discuss plans for the Lakeswind project. The folks that we met with pointed out that they had not copied your office with their letter for the project (the same letter that we gave you when Matthias and I met you at your office on November 6<sup>th</sup> last fall, hereto attached). I assume that you already have that letter in your file for the project but wanted to be sure (attached).

The USFW staff that we met with today are Tony Sullins and Nick Rowse at the USFW Twin Cities Field office in Bloomington. I'll copy them so that they can contact you directly if they have any questions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-----  
Paul White  
Project Resources Corp.  
Phone: 612 331 1486



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Twin Cities Field Office  
4101 American Blvd E.  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55425-1665

October 28, 2008

Mr. Matthias Weigel  
Project Resources Corporation  
625 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

Dear Mr. Weigel:

We have reviewed the most recent project plans and turbine configuration for Lakeswind Power, a proposed windfarm located in Clay and Otter Tail Counties. This letter provides a summary of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) coordination on the proposed project thus far and provides recommendations to avoid impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

In a teleconference held July 16, 2008, to discuss the monitoring report and its effect on the Service's concerns regarding avian avoidance and mortality, the attendees agreed that the next step would be to evaluate a preliminary siting plan for individual turbines and associated infrastructure. The July 16 discussion focused on:

1. Location of state and federally owned lands (Wildlife Management Areas and Waterfowl Production Areas, and the Service's conservation easements in relation to potential turbine sites;
2. the rights and restrictions covering land use and Service habitat easements and the difference between wetland and grassland easements;
3. current location(s) of Greater prairie chicken leks and buffers to avoid adverse impacts to this species;
4. project timeline.

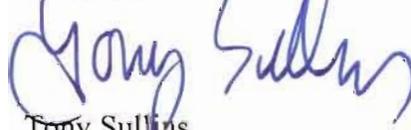
Our most recent information indicates that the project includes 34, 1.5MW turbines. Collector lines from the individual turbines to the main transmission lines will be located underground and each turbine will require an access road and a temporary construction zone of undetermined size. According to information provided in your September 19, 2008, discussion with project biologist, Ms. Laurie Fairchild, the amount and exact location of transmission line is dependent upon the use of either a 69kv (underground) or a 115 kv (overhead) carrying capacity. If the transmission lines are 115kv, the routes will follow those roadways with existing lines and right-of-way easements, but may require a second set of poles.

Based upon the project as currently proposed (see attached map showing proposed turbines and National Wildlife Refuge and State DNR lands) and the habitat and wildlife resources within the area, we are providing the following recommendations to avoid and minimize adverse impacts:

1. Avoid placing turbines and associated infrastructure on wetland or grassland easements, or adjacent to such easements or waterfowl production areas. Some turbines in the preliminary proposal located on Service easements; these locations should be re-evaluated to ensure that these sites minimize overall project impacts and do not adversely influence the intent and parameters of the easements.
2. Greater Prairie Chicken avoidance. Avoid placing turbines within 5 miles (8km) of known leks.

We look forward continuing coordination as the project moves forward. If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (612) 725-3548.

Sincerely,



Tony Sullins  
Field Supervisor

cc: Scott Kahan, Detroit Lake WMD  
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD

Attachment



Residence of Zansam  
Township  
May 5, 09

Project Manager -

Dear Mr Hartman -

We were unable to attend the meeting on  
the 29<sup>th</sup> at the Galapic -

My husband is having radiation for prostate cancer  
and he are 80 yrs - We have lived on a farm in  
section 8 - Zansam township - my husband grandfather  
homesteaded 120 yrs ago - Been in the family all that time!

We are very in need in favor of the wind towers - we  
sure could benefit from a tower - we have had alot  
of medical bills - I've had cancer surgery - now  
have herniated disc in my back + had arthritis -  
our youngest son, has had 2 kidney transplants, cancer  
surgery - now congestive heart trouble - our daughter  
in law is going thru tough chemo, had lung cancer  
stage 4 - surgery in march - so we could really  
use the benefit of a wind tower -

Our <sup>second</sup> son builds wind towers for D.M.I. + they  
could really use some more business

We sure hope that everything will be okayed  
and that will have the joy of looking at the  
towers in Zansam township soon -

We are upset with the new people moving in and trying  
to tell us what we can do - after living here for 100 yrs -  
We support you + your company 100 per cent -

Sincerely -

---

Edna + Margie Raknerud  
13134 250<sup>th</sup> ST. S.  
Hawley, Minn 56549

P.S. We do not have E-mail - would like to  
receive future notices -

7 21 01  
Dear Mr. Hartmann,

I am in favor of the Project Resources  
Lakeswind Project.

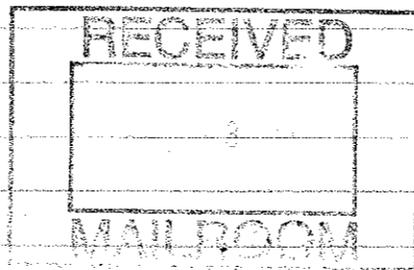
My Docket # is IP-6603/WS-08-1449.

I am an landowner enrolled in the  
project. Wind energy has my support.

Sincerely,

Jay Roste

12915 280<sup>th</sup> St. S.  
Hawley, MN 56549



-----Original Message-----

From: Rod Schultz [<mailto:schultz@dishmail.net>]

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 12:55 PM

To: Larry.Hartman@state.mn.us; David.Birkholz@state.mn.us

Subject: IP6603/ws-08-1449

Dear Sir

This e-mail is to tell you of my support of the Lakeswind Wind Power Plant that is be proposed in the Rollag area. I live in Tansem 12 which puts me in the project area. Minnesota has always been at the forefront in renewable energy and clean energy. This project is needed to displace carbon emissions that coal power plants emitte. I cant think of one thing that should hold the project from moving forward. This project would create taxes for state and local government.

Rod Schultz

13209 300th st so

Pelican Rapids Mn 56572

Hello

I would like to comment on the PUC meeting at the Galaxy Supper Club. I thought you did a wonderful job of explaining issues. You were very knowledgeable about wind power. Mr Anderson was at the clay county commissioners meeting last month trying to get a moratorium on wind power using "Wind Turbine Syndrome". When that didn't get any traction he is using prairie chickens as an excuse to block Lake winds project. These two are nothing more then smoke screen. They don't like the way they look and to me that is an opinion and needs to be disregarded.99% of the people in the project area want it to go though. The power companies are in a very difficult position. They have people against everything that produces electricity. People are against coal, nuclear and now wind. I just read an article in Parade magazine that warns of power shortages if nothing is done. We cant let that happen, With your help I am hoping we can move ahead with the lake winds project.

Rod Schultz

Rod Schultz 13029 300<sup>th</sup> st so Pelican Rapids Mn part of Lakes wind wind power plant  
Minnesota mandate of 25% wind power by 2025  
Federal Government Mandates for more Green energy, I believe 40b in President Obama Budget  
Wind turbines are quite, unintuitive to local environment.  
Fuel source for wind turbines never go up, the wind is free  
zero emissions  
construction jobs  
maintenance jobs  
total impact of project is 95m  
holy grail of wind power is super capacitors that will store the energy that is produced by the wind  
turbines  
state local and federal tax 350,000.00 per year  
Energy technology is the next IT, we need to be on the forefront to keep up our standard of living\  
Super capacitors are part of the new et  
There is NO credible evidence that wind turbines cause any health issues

**Docket IP-6603/WS-08-1449**

May 28, 2009

Larry Hartman, OES Project Manager

Dear Larry,

We are writing to voice our thoughts and opinions regarding the wind energy development for Clay County. We have read and heard both sides of this issue and think this is a wonderful opportunity for this area to help in the issue of energy and fuel in our country. Whether it is economic benefits, less dependence on other countries (especially those that dislike us), phasing out dirty coal and fossil fuels, or simply being a part of a solution for our nation, we want to support this project. Our land was cut out of the project permit due to NIMBY activities of the Andersons. We find it interesting that they favored the Moorhead turbines and a plaque at the base of those show the names of Per and Sandra Anderson. We could see this by looking online at <http://www.mpsutility.com/chartermembers.htm>. Though we are very disappointed about our own loss, we very much support any neighbors that can be blessed after spending all of their lives on the land.

We have always enjoyed going by wind farms in Iowa and S.D. and personally gives us the feeling of the old windmills that we use to see as kids. The Andersons have land next to ours, but as yet have not moved there---we are happy they can move here, but disappointed that they would move in and stand in the way of blessing people that have lived their entire lives in many cases. Armand was born and raised right here in the Rollag area so knows many of these people. Thank you for listening and your part of the decision making.

Sincerely,

*Armand Swenson / Nonie Swenson*

Armand and Nonie Swenson

