



Public Comment Sheet



**Greenvale Wind Farm
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
Submitted by Sparks Energy, LLC, & Medin Renewable Energy, LLC**

MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Name:

Rosy Bacon

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Greenvale Wind Farm. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.

We've been picking strawberries at Koenigs Berry Farm since the 80's. It would be a shame for you to ruin the rural community with a wind farm. People go there to get away from the city not to look at wind turbines. I think they would lose alot of business.

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinbauer@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.
- 4) Fold, tape, and mail this form to the address on the reverse side of this sheet

**Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009**

Steinhauer, Suzanne (COMM)

From: barriger1@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2009 11:36 AM
To: Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us
Subject: New Vertical Axis Turbine Technology

Good Afternoon Ms. Steinhauer,

I read a story recently on the Internet about **Greenvale Township** and the proposed wind project being considered. I may have a solution for both your consideration and the residents of Greenvale, who we will be talking with on Monday. We hope to get the word out to the representatives of Sparks Energy and Medin Renewable as well.

My company, **Wind Energy Resources, LLC** is a new, state-of-the-art wind energy company which competes directly against the "windmill" VAT systems of today, but without the many negative affects on the environment or nature. We are bladeless, and do not harm bird, eagles or bats. We are 90+ efficient versus 23% or so for the current systems and capture wind in all directions. We do not affect air traffic radar or shipping navigation . We can work on-shore, off-shore and in roof top applications in the **1 - 100 MW** space. We are fully operational in as little as 90 days from date of order to install, and fully functioning.

We would like to more formally introduce ourselves to you and any of the utility companies, government entities or groups looking to add future wind turbine technology to their grids, but we do not know how. We are very new to this space and learning as we go on how to contact groups, and learn about their future plans so as to get on their radars and bid for any future business.

We are also talking to several Native American Tribes about their future wind requirements as well, and we use Barton Malow for out installs, if the entity does not have their own company available. we need to find a way to get the word out to these utility companies, government entities and developers that we are here, we have a new technology that will solve a lot of the existing issues with the "windmill" bladed VATs and see if we can earn an opportunity to bid for future business. We need your help.

Please let me know how we can get to talk with you further. We are located in the Detroit, Michigan area, and available to talk and meet with you at your convenience.

Thank you again.

Warmest Regards,

Brian Barriger
VP - Developing Markets
Wind Energy Resources, LLC
248 613-4541

Please forgive my personal AOL email address, as we are literally ramping our corporate website and emails up as we speak.



Public Comment Sheet



Greenvale Wind Farm
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
Submitted by Sparks Energy, LLC, & Medin Renewable Energy, LLC

MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Name: Becky Behrens

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Greenvale Wind Farm. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.

We hope that you take into consideration what this will do to the property values of the people close to the wind farm. These wind turbines will affect health, wildlife, environment and the quality of life for many people. Why would you sacrifice so many for the profits of 2 private companies. Please don't allow this in Greenvale Township.

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- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.
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Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009

Anthony and Jamie Botz
7878 280th Street West
Farmington, Mn. 55024

Oct. 1, 2009

Suzanne Steinhauer
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place E., Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198

Subject: In the Matter of the Sparks Energy, LLC, and Medin Renewable Energy, LLC, Application for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the Greenvale Wind Farm in Dakota County
PUC Docket Numbers: IP 6819, 6829/WS-09-722

Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

Our home is adjacent to this wind farm project, Our street address is 7878 280th St. W. Farmington, MN. With the Dakota County PIN: 16-00400-012-01.

This Wind Farm Project is not in the best interests of Dakota County, Greenvale Township, Eureka Township, the residents and /or land owners of Greenvale Township and the residents and/or land owners of Eureka Township.

The detrimental cost to the health of human life is too high of a price to pay. Do not approve this project. These planned Wind Turbines are too close to houses in both Greenvale and Eureka Townships.

Jamie Botz has been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and is under going treatment at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester. If the Wind Turbines are built as close to our home as planed her symptoms will worsen and the pain she suffers will be unbearable to the point that we will have to sell our home and move, this is not hypothetical but a fact, **We will have to move!**

There will be a negative effect on the health of all people that are near the Wind Turbines and even more so for people that have chronic illnesses like Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. The noise and vibrations are to high at distances this close.

Several physicians from around the world -- e.g., Amanda Harry in England, Robert McMurtry in Ontario, Robyn Phipps in New Zealand -- have recorded a common set of ill health effects among people living near industrial-scale wind turbines. The symptoms began when local turbines began to turn, and they are relieved when the victims leave the area.

The symptoms include:

- sleep disturbance
- headache
- ringing or buzzing in the ears (tinnitus)
- ear pressure
- dizziness, vertigo
- nausea
- visual blurring
- racing heartbeat (tachycardia)
- irritability
- problems with concentration and memory
- panic episodes with sensations of internal pulsation or quivering which arise while awake or asleep

Dr. Nina Pierpont of New York has called it "wind turbine syndrome" and determined that its primary cause is the effect of low-frequency wind turbine noise on the organs of the inner ear. Dr. Pierpont's work has led her to recommend that large wind turbines not be sited closer than 2 kilometers (1-1/4 miles) from a home

Anthony J Botz
Jamie Botz

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Their has been many discussions about the negative effects to wild life if a project like this is built. And their seams to be many rules to protect the wild life from harm. That is all good but I think people are more valuable than the plants and animals and not enough protections are made for humans. These Wind Generators will be to close to houses.

By dealing with people like the ones who what to build these Wind Turbines I can see how you may have no respect for humans. I also have no respect for people like that. There is no reason to put other people at risk just because of people like that. Do not approve this project, the Wind Turbines are planed to close to houses. Just like it has negative effects on wild life it will also have negative effects on humans.

Go to the web site www.windwatch.org and get educated on the negative impact a project like this has on the people that live in the shadows of these Wind Generators.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony J. Botz". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed contact information.

Anthony and Jamie Botz
7878 280th St. W.
Farmington, MN 55025

(612)-501-8736
(507)-645-0559

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Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

Our home is adjacent to this wind farm project, Our street address is 7878 280th St. W. Farmington, MN. With the Dakota County PIN: 16-00400-012-01.

Our Property is Private and we will not grant access to anyone that has anything to do with this this project. That means **Nobody** can go through our land for any reason. No trucks, no cars, no foot traffic. This includes all Government employees and all Utility employees.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anthony and Jamie Botz".

Anthony and Jamie Botz
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What is the future of Greenvale Township? If you approve this Wind Farm there is no future! If the Wind Farm is built you can forget about any new houses being built. There is no one that will build under one of these Wind Generators. Also who would build knowing that at anytime one of these Wind Generators could be built 500 feet from there house. Bring in a panel of realtors and ask them, Would you build in that new reality? Ask about the existing houses, would they recommend that one of there clients buy a house that is 500 feet from a Wind Generator. If you approve this project

you have killed Greenvale Township. And in doing so you have killed development all over the State of Minnesota. Is there to be a Wind Generator to be built everywhere the wind blows, with the only stipulation being that Wind Generators must be at least 500 feet away from a house. Who in there right mind would build or buy a house in Minnesota knowing that a Wind Generator can and will be built 500 feet from there house. I will say one more thing - If you approve this Wind Farm you are NUTS!




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Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

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My wind rights are not for sale. I have not been paid any money for my Wind Rights. I will not accept any money for my Wind Rights. I reserve the right to build **anything** I wish on my property.




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Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

Our home is adjacent to this wind farm project, Our street address is 7878 280th St. W. Farmington, MN. With the Dakota County PIN: 16-00400-012-01.

It is a fact, If this Wind Farm is approved Property Values in Greenvale Township and Eureka Township will decline and Property Tax will be reduced.

The loss of moneys collected for the State, County and Townships will be far greater than the small amount of new revenue generated by the Wind Farm. This is a lose, lose proposition.

Depending on the study used, Estimates of property value declines range from -10% to -60%. In no study I have read do values rise or even stay flat.

Anthony J Botz

Jamie B-f

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This Project is way to complex to have such a short comment time for the Public to make there concerns known. Far more people will be affected by the Wind Generators than just the people living in there shadow. There will be negative effects for many people in Greenvale Township and Eureka Township and Dakota County in general. Do not approve this project. More time is needed to study it and more people must be made aware that a project like this is being considered. Please delay your decision on this project until you can contact all people of Greenvale and Eureka Townships

and also all in Dakota County and **Extend the Public comment period at least another 90 days.**

Anthony J Botz
Jamie Botz

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When the blades separate from the wind generator how many homes will be hit. These massive blades will destroy a home if hit. How many people will be killed. Do not approve this project the Wind Farm is to close to homes.

Anthony J. Botz
Jamie Botz

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Do not allow this project to be built. The Wind Generators will be to close to our house. For 6 months of the year Ice will form on the Blades when there is no wind. When the wind begins to blow the Blades will spin and throw off large ice sheets weighing hundreds to thousands of pounds.

That makes for a danger that is unacceptable, someone will be killed.

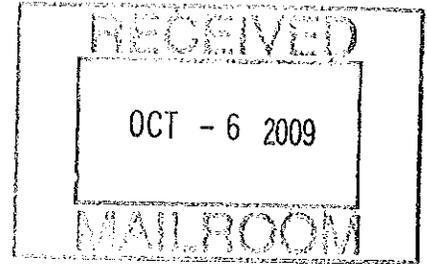
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Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

Our home is adjacent to this wind farm project, Our street address is 7878 280th St. W. Farmington, MN. With the Dakota County PIN: 16-00400-012-01.

One of the facts of these Wind Generators is the large amount of birds that are killed by the blades. As the dead birds pile up there will be scavengers that will smell the dead rotting body's and come in for the feast. One of the first to come will be Crows as they fly in many of them also will be killed. Crows are a protected bird as are many other birds that will die. This is a scavengers dream, an endless supply of dead meat. Raccoons, Skunks, and Rats will all be at the base of these bird killers. The scavengers will choose to live near that endless food supply. All the people living near the Wind

Generators will have greatly increased numbers of all these scavengers living in there yards. Many of these animals have rabies.

This is a health hazard and is unacceptable, Do not approve this Wind Farm.

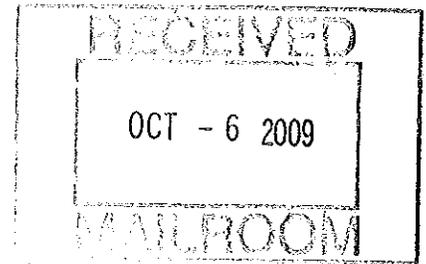
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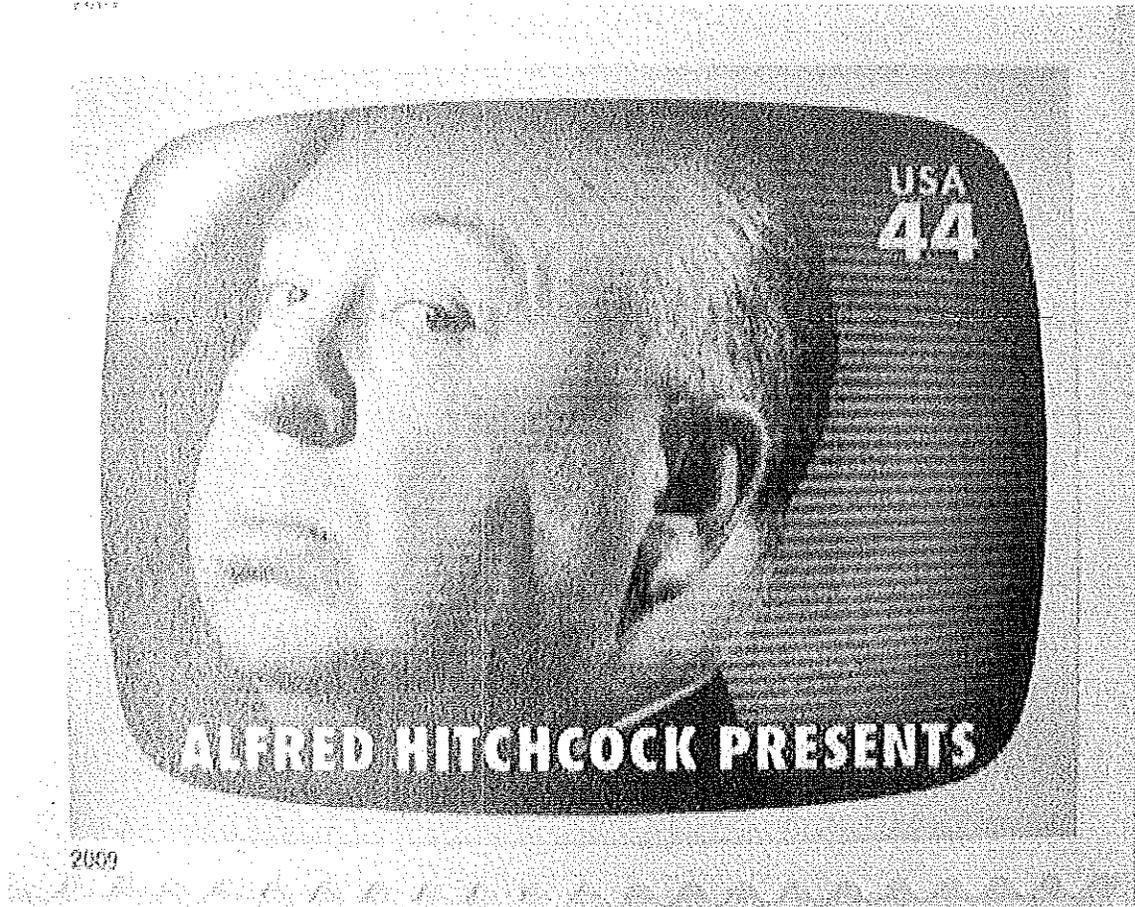
There are many other costs associated with a project like this. This type of Wind Turbine kills large amounts of Birds and Bats.

I will not allow anyone from Sparks/Medin to come on to my property for any reason, not even to collect their dead Birds and Bats.

I also will not store the dead animals for Sparks/Medin.

What I will do is mail all the dead Birds and Bats to the homes of the owners of Sparks/Medin . There will be a charge of \$2.00 per Bird/Bat plus a fee for Shipping and Handling.

I do not know at this time what the annual cost to Sparks/Medin will be for this service. It is very likely to be in the Hundreds or even Thousands of Dollars.



“The Birds”

Anthony J. Botz

Anthony and Jamie Botz
7878 280th St. W.
Farmington, MN 55025

(612)-501-8736
(507)-645-0559

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: bricko Wed Oct 7 07:29:11 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 7:30:19 AM

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

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

Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

Docket number: IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

User Name: tom bricko

County: Dakota County

City: lakeville

Email: tom.bricko@toro.com

Phone: 612-723-6715

Impact: Since January 21, 2006 when I received a letter from Plain States Energy to except a wind turbine on my property I have spent considerable time researching wind turbine technology and its regulations. I have worked in the mechanical engineering field for 30 years, and appreciate the need for new ways of generating energy. I also have a good understanding of the immense size and function of today's wind turbines, and I am not opposed to alternate means of producing energy. However I believe it is important to consider the consequences as well as the benefits. Wind power is attractive because it is a free form of renewable energy that is replenished daily by the sun. Wind power is created by the rush of air filling low-pressure areas caused by the warming of the sun. This is why the State of Minnesota and wind turbine agencies have selected certain areas in Minnesota as a good source for wind power. The power in the wind can be five times stronger at higher elevations. Also this is why wind turbine towers have become so gigantic, over 400ft tall ground to tip of turbine blades, with 300 foot rotor diameters. Imagine the length of a football field spinning 400 ft in the sky. These towers will be seen from many miles away. Kinetic energy in the wind is converted to rotational motion by the rotor. The rotor itself on these turbines can weigh up to 36,000 lbs. (8 ton). A full grown man can walk through one of these rotor heads. Imagine this sitting on top of a 260ft high tower! The electricity flows down very thick cables inside the tower to

a transformer which increases the voltage to a few thousand volts, then continues along land easements under ground connecting to a distribution station. This current would vaporize anything which could accidentally come in contact. The thought that wind is free is a growing market. But is it really free? Drive down a stretch of highway in Iowa or south western Minnesota past acres of cornfields or in Texas past miles of cattle you will find yourself in the middle of industrial wind farms. This is a far cry from the wooden windmills that have peppered the rural landscape of USA. These turbines are power generating skyscrapers, and are only getting bigger. Dakota County has been slated to become the next industrial power generation park for big cities electrical consumption? Just one of these 2 MW turbines can supply 600 homes with electricity. The revenue produced from these turbines will soon reach the billions of dollars per year. I doubt Dakota County will see much of this. World wide wind power generation has tripled over the last five years with Europe leading the way at 40,000MW installed, and the US with only 9,149MW. The US is slated to grow very fast in the next few years. Where are these turbines? 1st is California deserts with 2,096MW; 2nd is Texas great plains with 1,293MW, 3rd are the vast Iowa corn fields with 632MW, And this beautiful land of Minnesota with its pristine rolling hills, hard wood forests, lakes, and wetlands is 4th. Out of all the states in the union I believe the first 3 states have fairly good locations for wind turbines. But do we really want these skyscrapers along the lakes and wetlands of our beautiful state. The largest constraint to US wind market has been political. Congress has recently made an initiative promising millions to go to energy research. For some large landowners the lure of immediate income may appear attractive, however I doubt they have observed other areas which have been infiltrated by similar wind turbines. The State of Minnesota's legislation has placed ruling authority on all land use for projects over 5MW. As these projects progress Dakota county could very well see these gigantic sky scrapers could go up with opposed land owners having little say? The majority of Minnesota including Dakota County is blessed with pristine rolling hills, hard wood forests, lakes, and wetlands. All of this will be compromised when hundreds of turbines effectively reduce the area to an industrial wind turbine park for big cities electrical consumption. Constructing these gigantic skyscrapers with 300 foot spinning blades will not only alter the attraction, but also affect the habitat. I have difficulty picturing a mature whitetail deer lying underneath the whirling blades of these proposed turbines, or a flock of ducks or geese willing to fly through the area when other options are available. To comment on a statement made "Why cats kill more birds than wind turbines" because birds simply do not fly through turbines, they take other routes. Stand inside of one of these turbine projects and you will get the feeling of emptiness, ghostly, all life seems to have vanished. When this project goes through it will set precedence for future counties to follow. I also have concluded that this wind turbine project will surely diminish the attraction this area had become increasingly popular for. Sincerely, Tom Bricko (Current Dakota county land owner)

Mitigation: The State of Minnesota is a very Beautiful Pristine state with no room for turbines.

Submission date: Wed Oct 7 07:29:11 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



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Name: Rose Brisson

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You are asking the residents of Greenvale townships to be guinea pigs for this project. Sparks and Medin have no back ground. They are both LLC's and are looking for financial gain. Neither are residents and aren't going to care to look at them or hear them. This is a highly populated community where people care about the quality of life.

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

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Name:

Bernard Budin Deborah Budin

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Morgan Wind Project. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website,
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.

My opposition to this proposed wind farm is the following concerns. This is the First and ONLY such installation in the 7 County Metro area. The location in the township appears to have been selected without respect of the local residents and did not consider their interests. This location is NOT an open space area with sparse population. This will have a negative impact on our property values as all studies have shown. Quality of life in Greenvale township will be severely impacted if this projected is permitted to go forward.

*Greenvale Township as a height restriction
that no one seems to address.*

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

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Name: Kathleen Budin

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Greenvale Wind Farm. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.

*Would not like a Wind Mill
on my land. To big.*

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.
- 4) Fold, tape, and mail this form to the address on the reverse side of this sheet

**Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009**

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Dahl Tue Oct 6 14:05:41 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 2:05:14 PM

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

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

Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

Docket number: IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

User Name: Karen Dahl

County: Dakota County

City: Rosemount

Email: mkbdahl@frontiernet.net

Phone: 651/423-3691

Impact: I would rather see a wind farm out in an open space away from towns, farms and houses.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 14:05:41 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

Minnesota Department of Commerce
Office of Energy Security
Attn: Suzanne Steinhauer
85 7th Place East Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101



Re: Sparks Energy project, docket # IP6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Dear Suzanne:

We would like to make formal comment on the proposed Wind Farm in Greenvale Township.

Chub Creek runs through our property so we are on the edge of the proposed area. From our home we will be able to see and hear most of the wind turbines.

We moved to Greenville Township to live in the country and enjoy the open spaces, wildlife, and rural setting. The aesthetic value of living here cannot be put into words. We know that we would never have bought our house if there was a wind farm located next to it. We strongly believe that building a wind farm in the area will drastically lower our property value and resale opportunity. This will have a negative impact on our future retirement plans. This area of Greenville is beautiful with rolling hills, wetlands, and open areas. This area is considered part of the South Metro and there are several homesteads in the zoned area or nearby. We believe it is not an appropriate location for a wind farm.

We are also concerned about wildlife as I mentioned in an email to you and at the meeting. We see migrating birds including sand hill cranes, eagles, many hawks, and many species of small birds, plus there are turkey, pheasant, and deer in the immediate area. We are concerned what impact wind turbines will have on the wildlife. From studies I have read, they do affect ground animals and birds.

We are also concerned about the noise impact. In the evening, sound carries far. One of the reasons we moved to the country was to get away from the noise of suburban life and neighbors. Again, this will affect our quality of living and possibly our health.

From an aesthetic point of view, we will be impacted by the blinking lights at night and will no longer be able to see a star filled sky. We will drive by the wind turbines every day on our way to work and back home again and any time we leave our property.

We are generally in favor of wind energy, but feel that a wind farm should be located in outstate areas where there is little residential impact.

In summary, the wind farm will negatively impact our

1. Property value
2. Health – impact of noise
3. Quality of life
4. Economic future
5. Wildlife

Kathy & Pete Dahl
8090 285th St. W.
Northfield, MN 55057
651-554-5612 (day)

Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

Docket number: IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

User Name: Kathy Dahl

County: Dakota County

City: Northfield

Email: kathy.dahl@co.dakota.mn.us

Phone: 651-554-5612

Impact: After further review of information available, we have additional concerns:

1) health - I already suffer from insomnia. Data shows that the noise from blades changing speed affects sleep patterns. We sleep with our windows open and do not use the AC. We moved from the suburbs to get away from noise because of this.

2) Concern with safety - we have to drive down the road in front of the turbines, we have no choice. We also take daily walks. We are concerned with safety regarding blades breaking, etc. Does a turbine need to be more than 1/2 mile from road/house as some studies indicate?

3) Local building codes do not allow structures over 100 ft high.

4) Property values - banks won't give loans to buyers within 1/4 mile of a wind turbine. In effect, our property will be worth nothing!

5) If we were asked to agree to an easement on our property for wind rights or anything else, we would refuse. We are concerned that they may expand to our West which is currently open acreage.

6) viability of business owners - They do not have experience with wind farms.

Mitigation: Wind farms should be located away from any homes/residential areas. They should be built in out-state areas - not the 7 county metro area.

Submission date: Mon Oct 5 07:27:56 2009

Steinhauer, Suzanne (COMM)

From: Apache [apache@lmic.state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 10:03 AM
To: Suzanne Steinhauer (COMM)
Subject: Dahl Mon Oct 5 10:02:38 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

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

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

Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

Docket number: IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

User Name: Peter Dahl

County: Dakota County

City: Northfield

Email:

Phone: 612-328-1370

Impact: We live about 1/2 mile from proposed site of wind farm. We also have Chub Creek running through our property. There are wetlands surrounding the area. We are concerned about the impact on wildlife and the wetlands. An environmental study needs to be done.

We have lived here 8 years and every year see Eagles, we have two pair of Sand Hill Cranes that nest in the wetlands, Canada Geese, Wood Ducks, many other ducks, Egrets, many Hawks, and a variety of small birds including Orioles, and Scarlet Tanagers. There are also many deer, pheasant, and turkey in the immediate area.

There are many examples at wind-watch.org showing impact on wildlife with actual examples and stories of birds and bats being killed by the turbines. This is not acceptable.

Mitigation: Wind farms should not be located adjacent to or in wetland/wildlife areas.

Submission date: Mon Oct 5 10:02:38 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



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

September 28, 2009

Suzanne Steinhauer
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place E., Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198

***Subject: In the Matter of the Sparks Energy, LLC, and Medin Renewable Energy, LLC,
Application for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the
Greenvale Wind Farm in Dakota County
PUC Docket Numbers: IP 6819, 6829/WS-09-722***

Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

The August 25, 2009 Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC or Commission) meeting included a deliberation of a draft site permit for a proposed 11 MW large wind energy conversion system in Dakota County in the above-referenced docket. At this MPUC meeting, Dakota Electric Association (Dakota Electric or DEA) provided comments noting that the schedule in the application did not include steps necessary to interconnect with Dakota Electric's distribution system. This was noted by the Commission and we were asked to submit our comments in writing during the comment period in this matter. On September 3, 2009, the Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) issued a notice of a public information meeting and indicated that written comments may be submitted. Following is a summary of the verbal comments that Dakota Electric provided at the August 25 MPUC meeting. We further note that the Greenvale Wind Farm has recently submitted a formal application for interconnection with Dakota Electric's distribution system, which will set into motion the tasks identified below.

Comments

Interconnecting a large wind energy conversion system on an electric utility distribution system requires completion of many tasks including:

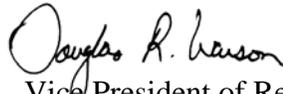
- Engineering study to determine the impact the proposed facilities will have on the electric distribution system and identify needed system modifications,
- Electric facility design,
- Possible land acquisition,
- Equipment procurement – with some components requiring lead times of six months or more,
- Construction, and
- Interconnection.

In addition to these electric distribution tasks, a project of this scale may require studies and work related to the transmission grid.

Dakota Electric appreciates the opportunity to provide these written comments to underscore the steps required to interconnect a large wind energy conversion system to an electric utility distribution system and acknowledge that time will be required to complete this work to ensure the continued safe and reliable use of Dakota Electric's distribution system.

If you have any questions about these comments, please call me at (651) 463-6258.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas R. Hanson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

Vice President of Regulatory Services
Dakota Electric Association
4300 220th Street West
Farmington, MN 55024

Certificate of Service

I, Mary Jo Fischer, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the attached document to those on the following service list by e-filing, personal service, or by causing to be placed in the U.S. mail at Farmington, Minnesota.

Docket No. *IP 6819, 6829/WS-09-722*

Dated this 28th day of September, 2009

/s/

Mary Jo Fischer

Docket No. IP 6819, 6829/WS-09-722
Service List

Joel Schafer
Met-Con Companies
15760 Acorn Trl
Faribault MN 55021

Duane Fredrickson
6905 290th St W
Northfield MN 55057

Kathy Dahl
8090 285th St. W
Northfield MN 55057

Jon Hohenstein
City of Eagan
3830 Pilot Knob Rd
Eagan MN 55122

Wade DuMond
Nature Energies
6064 Pagel Dr SE
Rochester MN 55904

Douglas Larson
Dakota Electric Association
4300 220th St W
Farmington MN 55024

Deb Little
City of Northfield
801 Washington St
Northfield MN 55057

Susie Lorence
Lorence s Berry Farm
28625 Foliage Ave
Northfield MN 55057

Susie Beaumaster
Supervalu
Eden Prairie MN 55344

Anthony Botz
7878 280th St W
Farmington MN 55024

Leone Medin
Medin Renewable Energy LLC
7256 290th St W
Northfield MN 55057

Carol Overland
Overland Law Office
P.O. Box 176
Red Wing MN 55066

Anna Schmalzbauer
Sparks Energy LLC
2751 Hennepin Ave S
Ste 243
Minneapolis MN 55408



Public Comment Sheet



Greenvale Wind Farm
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
Submitted by Sparks Energy, LLC, & Medin Renewable Energy, LLC

MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Name:

Dean Odette

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Morgan Wind Project. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website,
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?id=24613>.

My opposition to this proposed wind farm is the following concerns. This is the First and ONLY such installation in the 7 County Metro area. The location in the township appears to have been selected without respect of the local residents and did not consider their interests. This location is NOT an open space area with sparse population. This will have a negative impact on our property values as all studies have shown. Quality of life in Greenvale township will be severely impacted if this projected is permitted to go forward.

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinbauer@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at,
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?id=24613>.
- 4) Fold, tape, and mail this form to the address on the reverse side of this sheet

Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009

NG • COLOR PHOTOCOPYING • FOLDING • CARBONLESS FORMS • NUMBERING • 2 COLOR PRINTING • MANUALS • PERFORATING • BROCHURES • FORMS • NEWSLETTERS • PADDING • LETTERHEAD • BUSINESS CARDS • ENVELOPES • CUT

"Elmer Deutch"

Greenvale Township Resident

I am not for the "Wind farm Project". No need to spend more money, We are so. But in debt the way it is. We had some "wind turbines" in our area a few years ago, and not one of them are not working anymore. Its just a waste of money, our taxes are way to high as is, and the state has no money. The economy is so far in debt. The turbines are a waste of money. The health of people & wild life are more important. And Property Values will drop.

Put a stop to this Project



JLC

Proposed
Review at the

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinbauer@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.
- 4) Fold, tape, and mail this form to the address on the reverse side of this sheet

Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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



October 7, 2009

Suzanne Lamb Steinhauer
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Greenvale Wind Farm Draft Site Permit

Ms. Lamb Steinhauer:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Draft Site Permit and responses to comments on the Site Application for the above-described project. The following comments are provided to assist in development of a final permit that supports renewable wind energy and protects Minnesota's natural resources.

The DNR is concerned that the Draft Site Permit and Site Application may not adequately protect the Chub Creek Marsh wetland complex that is located within the project area. The Site Application acknowledges a 300 foot setback from the ordinary high water mark of Chub Creek. This setback does not extend to the wetland complex associated with Chub Creek and could potentially result in turbine or other infrastructure placement at the edge of the wetland complex. Chub Creek and its associated wetland complex at this site have been identified as a Regionally Significant Ecological Area by the DNR. The designation is based on the size and shape of the area, the connectivity to uplands and other wetlands, the diversity of upland cover types associated with the wetland, wildlife habitat, and native species diversity. Placement of turbines in close proximity to this ecologically significant landscape feature could result in unacceptable effects to the ecological functions of the wetland complex that could result from wildlife avoidance or avian/bat mortality.

The DNR is aware of the limited research and data associated with the affects of wind turbines on wildlife. However, the current draft of the USFWS Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee Synthesis Workgroup is based on the best science available to date, and recognizes that sites with significant ecological features should be avoided or mitigated. Given the identification of the wetland complex as a Regionally Significant Ecological Area, it would seem appropriate to apply a precautionary principle that provides a buffer between the wetland complex and turbine or other infrastructure placement. DNR staff would be happy to discuss potential buffer widths with OES.

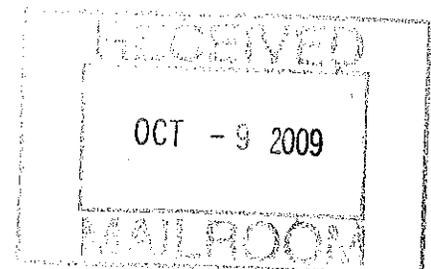
Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Site Permit. Please contact me at (651) 259-5156 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randall Doneen', written over a horizontal line.

Randall Doneen
Environmental Review Planning Director

C: Joe Kurcinka, DNR
Steve Colvin, DNR
Steve Hirsch, DNR
Mark Lindquist, DNR
Laurie Martinson, DNR





Public Comment Sheet



Greenvale Wind Farm
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
Submitted by Sparks Energy, LLC, & Medin Renewable Energy, LLC

MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Name:

Kathleen Edwards 10006 365th St. W
Northfield, MN 55057

Please share your comments on the Site Permit Application and Draft Site Permit for the proposed Morgan Wind Project. Copies of the Application and Draft Site Permit are available for review at the office of the Dakota County Auditor and at the PUC website,
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.

I attended the Greenvale Wind Farm meeting on September 22nd. I am a Greenvale township resident and property owner and I thank you for having the meeting.

I oppose the wind farm because of the densely populated area in a very green area of farms in which the project wants to inhabit. I do not think these structures belong in this setting. The wind turbines have ill effects on humans and birds. I hope you will deny this application for use in Greenvale township.

There are four options for submitting comments on this project:

- 1) Submitting comments at the conclusion of tonight's meeting
- 2) emailing comments to suzanne.steinhauser@state.mn.us
- 3) submit your comments electronically at, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24613>.
- 4) Fold, tape, and mail this form to the address on the reverse side of this sheet

Kathleen Edwards

Comments must be received by
October 7, 2009

From: [Duane Bicek](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Greenvale Township Wind Farm Proposal
Date: Monday, October 05, 2009 2:15:32 PM

Suzanne

I currently live in Greenvale Township along with my wife and two children, we have been residents for nearly ten years. We live a short distance from the proposed wind mill farm site (s). I have followed the project closely and have read a great deal about potential health concerns, environmental concerns, noise and in general safety concerns that have been published; many of which are being circulated within our community. Neighbors are coming over with petitions opposing the project. I'm frankly concerned that this controversy is destroying our quiet rural community and that Sparks Energy and Medin Renewable Energy are not listening to the residents. Megawatt windmills have not be excepted in many areas of the country for many different reasons. Danger to birds particularly migrating birds are a know hazzard. Roaming / stray voltage has always been a concern but it's never been proved that it effects livestock and/or local residents living close to the turbines.

I have a few question I would like to ask you? Do you believe wind turbines are safe? Would you feel comfortable raising your family or living next to a high output turbine?

Is there a limit as to the number of turbines that can be built? What is the truth about twin blades verse three turbine blades?

I would appreciate your assistance in helping me educate my self with a better understanding of the concept of harnessing the wind to produce electricity.

Kind Regards
Duane L. Bicek
Greenvale County Resident

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

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From: [Jim Bohlen](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Greenvale Wind Farm MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 3:36:39 PM

Suzanne Steinhauer
OES Project Manager
Suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place E., Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Project: Greenvale Wind Farm
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
Submitted by Sparks Energy, LLC & Medin Renewable
Energy, LLC
MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722

Ms. Steinhauer,

We are landowners of approx. 25 acres in Greenvale Township and within the boundaries of the Greenvale Wind Farm project. Please use this e-mail communication as an official record of our opposition to this proposed project. Our land is located at the following: Property ID: 16-00300-011-27 Section 3 TWN 112 Range 20 3 112 20

We are not aware of any environmental/health impact studies or nature and wildlife feasibility impact studies that have been completed in regard to this proposed project. I grew up in this location and resided here for approx. 30 years and have always appreciated the rich agricultural resources that surround this area. I am also keenly aware of the diversity of wildlife and the natural beauty of the land which allows the wildlife to thrive in this area. Close in proximity to this area is a natural creek and swamp land which has been a migratory route for waterfowl throughout the years and I do not wish to see any disruption that would cause a major change in wildlife habits from a project such as this.

We fully support alternative energy projects as we need to be diligent in our responsibilities for future generations. Our concern with this project is that wind patterns are very inconsistent and unless harnessed properly and within a proper wind zone, its capabilities are extremely limited. I do not see the proposed project area where our property lies as being a sustainable energy resource from wind energy. We are also concerned that there will be a limited amount of wind "units"

which will not provide the necessary energy to make the project feasible from a return on investment (ROI) and a profitability standpoint. Regardless of stimulus or tax credits involved, this project leaves many questions unanswered.

Our final concern is the business plan or lack thereof to support this project for the next 5-10-25-50-100 years. A short term gain only provides long term disaster recovery programs and negative financial impacts, not only to us, but also to our future generations. We do not want to be a part of this type of legacy. Therefore, as stated previously, we are fully opposed to the Greenvale Wind Farm project.

Thank you for your time and should you need to reach me, you can reply to this e-mail or contact me on my cell phone: 512-751-5844 at anytime.

Regards,
Jim and Linda Bohlen

From: [Peters, Scott](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Greenvale Wind Farm comments
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 2:38:08 PM

Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

The Dakota County Transportation Department has no major comments regarding the application of Sparks Energy and Medin Renewable Energy for a large wind energy conversion system site permit in Greenvale Township, Dakota County.

However, we are interested in working with the applicant, the Township and you in the placement of any turbines located near county highways. Our concerns include potential effects to motorists caused by the turbine blades. These include potential movement of blade shadows on the roadway and potential for falling ice from the structure within the county highway right of way.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Sincerely,

Scott Peters
Senior Planner
Dakota County Transportation Department
14955 Galaxie Avenue, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Phone: 952-891-7027

From: [Patrick Edwards](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Greenvale Wind Farm
Date: Sunday, October 04, 2009 10:32:32 PM

Suzanne Steinhauer
Minnesota Department of Commerce
St. Paul Mn

Ms Steinhauer,

I am writing this letter in protest of the proposed Greenvale Wind Farm by Sparks Energy LLC & Medin Renewable Energy LLC. I have lived in Greenvale township since 1995. I moved here from Suburban Lakeville, Mn. I built my home to raise my 2 children in a country setting , free from the distractions of an urban landscape. Free to enjoy the beauty of nature and serenity that our Home in the country provides. I have worked hard to improve my land and home and in effect increasing it's attractiveness and thereby it's aesthetic and monetary value. First and foremost the proposed wind turbine farm has a direct negative impact on the scenery , peace and value of my home and other homes in this area.

The validity of wind generated power is widely disputed .The power gain versus the amount of electricity used to turn the turbines is not efficient or an effective power supply for communities .While it is an attractive "Green " energy alternative , wind generated power is not a proven economical alternative to other sources of energy. In its "Wind Report 2005," German grid manager Eon Netz echoed two previous German studies to project that 48,000 MW of wind power on the grid (with a hugely expanded transmission infrastructure "overbuilt" to handle the maximum capacity) would replace only 2,000MW of traditional power production capacity. It is heavily subsidized and great eyewash for politicians touting their "Green" policies but beyond that the benefit does not outweigh the harm that it does to families, property values and wildlife.

Wind power is not green

It is a uniquely intrusive industrialization of rural and wild areas and requires extensive expansion of the transmission infrastructure. It adds noise and light and visual pollution. It degrades and fragments wildlife habitat. It is a threat to bats and birds. And it does not reduce the use of other fuels, therefore does not reduce greenhouse gas or other emissions, to any degree that could justify,let alone necessitate, these negative effects.

What is the harm to animals of the area? There is only anecdotal evidence given by the apparent absence of wildlife in areas where the unnatural turbines turn 24 hours a day. It appears on the surface that birds won't nest near them, bats won't survive near them and ground animals will not stay in an area where the constant noise and motion of the blades, shimmering light from the sun , is an unnatural threat to them. Deer, wild turkeys, beavers , fox, coyotes , pheasants and other wildlife are regularly seen in Greenvale township. This harm will be irreparable and no one at these energy companies has done any studies of the impact of these turbines on wildlife or human health.

This project appears to be an attempt by Sparks and Medin LLC's to railroad this process past the Greenvale townspeople. I have not ever been contacted in any fashion by the Public Utilities Commission or by anyone from Sparks or Medin companies to alert me that a wind farm was being proposed or to give input at any gathering. When I asked about the positioning of the turbines I was told that there is only a tentative plan to be used to gain approval by the PUC but that final positioning of the towers was not bound with the licensing approval. There are 3 Natural gas pipelines that run through the 870 acre siting area. Is this really a good idea? The noise setbacks cited

by the PUC is not a good measurement (Currently 500 ft from top of house) This should be a minimum of at least 1/2 mile from a persons property line. What about the affect on livestock or horse farms? This project is being placed in a small rural community within the 7 county Metro Area. The ONLY one within the 7 county area that I could find. There is so much negative impact being forced upon our small community with these wind generators with no benefit to us at all. I ask that the license be denied for the Greenvale Wind Farm .

Thank you Ms Steinhauer for taking time to consider this letter and could you please reply with a short note to let me know that my voice has been heard.

Patrick Edwards

645-5868

507-

From: [Anthony Vender Manager](#)
To: Suzanne.Steinbauer@state.mn.us;
Subject: Greenvale Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 9:29:37 AM

Hello Suzanne,

I am Anthony Botz, I met you last night at the meeting in Greenvale township.

Here is a fact that you can pass onto Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

If this Wind Project is built as planed my wife Jamie and I will be forced to move from our home in Greenvale Township. Jamie suffers from Fibromyalgia and is being treated by the Mayo clinic, Rochester. Fibromyalgia is a chronic disease/condition that does not have a cure.

People that have Fibromyalgia are very sensitive to noise, vibration and light to the point of causing pain.

The levels of noise, vibration and light that will come from Wind Turbines project as planed will cause unbearable pain to Jamie and we will have no choice but to move. This is not a hypothetical but a fact.

The negative impact on human life is greater than Sparks/Medin are telling you and the set back rules the State is using for this project are not adequate.

Please contact me if you need more information on this health issue.

If this project is approved, it is being approved without concern of the health of the residents of Greenvale Township.

Regards,
Anthony & Jamie Botz
7878 280th St. W.
Farmington Mn. 55024

612-501-8736
507-645-0559

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digital tv's. [Click here.](#)

From: [Anthony Vender Manager](#)
To: [suzanne steinhauer;](#)
Subject: Greenvale Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 7:51:52 PM

Hi Suzanne,

Please read this report and pass it on to the commissioners.

I have already sent you an email explaining why my wife and I will be forced to move from Greenvale Township should the project be approved. Here is more information about noise and health. It will affect all people in the areas near these Turbines.

There is no way that this project can be justified when it will have such a negative effect on the people of Greenvale Township.

Regards,

Anthony & Jamie Botz
7878 280th St. W.
Farmington, Mn. 55024
507-645-0559

[Noise & Health Effects of Large Wind Turbines](#)

Several physicians from around the world -- e.g., Amanda Harry in England, Robert McMurtry in Ontario, Robyn Phipps in New Zealand -- have recorded a common set of ill health effects among people living near industrial-scale wind turbines. The symptoms began when local turbines began to turn, and they are relieved when the victims leave the area.

The symptoms include:

- sleep disturbance
- headache
- ringing or buzzing in the ears (tinnitus)
- ear pressure
- dizziness, vertigo
- nausea
- visual blurring
- racing heartbeat (tachycardia)
- irritability
- problems with concentration and memory
- panic episodes with sensations of internal pulsation or quivering which arise while awake or asleep

Dr. Nina Pierpont of New York has called it "wind turbine syndrome" and determined that its primary cause is the effect of low-frequency wind turbine noise on the organs of the inner ear. [Click here for her book and other information on the subject.](#) Dr. Pierpont's work has led her to recommend that large wind turbines not be sited closer than 2 kilometers (1-1/4 miles) from a home -- see [below](#) for link to petition for 2-km setbacks.

Shadow flicker -- where the sun behind turbine blades creates a strobing effect on the ground -- may also be intrusive and harmful. Many people are also concerned about stray voltage, or ground current, caused by the hundreds of thousands of feet of buried electric cable in a typical wind power facility.

Finally, an increase in noise is itself disruptive and can cause sleep loss and stress, especially in rural areas where there is an expectation of quiet. The World Health Organization [notes](#) that "Measurable effects of noise on sleep begin at LAeq levels of about 30 dB. ... When noise is continuous, the equivalent sound pressure level should not exceed 30 dB (A) indoors, if negative effects on sleep are to be avoided. For noise with a large proportion of low-frequency sound [dB(C)] a still lower guideline value is recommended."

Acousticians Rick James and George Kamperman have extensively studied wind turbine noise: [click here to read their siting guidelines](#). In brief, they recommend a limit at the property line of 35 dBA or 5 dBA above the preconstruction ambient level, whichever is lower, and a limit of 50 dBC or 20 dBC above the preconstruction ambient dBA level, whichever is lower, for low-frequency noise.

For all of the items about wind turbine noise in the National Wind Watch Resource Library, [click here](#).

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