

From: [Suzanne Steinhauer](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer](#);
Subject: FW: Hron Mon Sep 28 14:25:01 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Monday, September 28, 2009 3:59:08 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: Dustin Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dhron06@hotmail.com

Phone: 612-282-0969

Impact: There are many things wrong with the construction of wind turbines in the seven county metro area. Currently I reside on the corner of CR86 and Garrett Avenue, within a close proximity to four of the proposed wind turbines. I have done much research in these and have found that there is far too little information as to the effects on humans and wildlife that we should put our trust in the companies looking for a payout on the "green" mentality. As a commercial pilot and flight instructor myself, i was immediately alarmed about the construction of such structures near Airlake Airport, just 5.1nm away from the proposed Greenvale sight. Not only is it bad for the radio waves and radar, but building obstructions in a training environment is dangerous. there has not been enough research on the subject to assess the amount that it will affect communications both in the HF and VHF frequencies, both of which aviation relies heavily upon. I would like more research to be done before the project is allowed to progress to construction. thank you

Dustin Hron
612.282.0969

Mitigation: do not plant these turbines within 2 miles of a homestead. there is plenty of space outside of the 7 county metro area that could better support these

alternative wind energy turbines

Submission date: Mon Sep 28 14:25:01 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Handschug Sat Oct 3 19:15:35 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Saturday, October 03, 2009 7:15:11 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: Scott Handschug

County:

City: Webster

Email: s.handschug1@gmail.com

Phone:

Impact: To Whom It May Concern,Please note my opposition to any development of wind farms.The proposed Greenvale MN proget is located in a populaulated area.What is the setback from inhabated structures? It has been proven that failed blades have deposited debris over 1/2 mile.The noise levels are above OSHA limits. Pr operty values WILL PLUMMET, thus reduceing tax base.The area is currently zoned agriculture,not for manufacturing or industrial. Open areas, suchas western MN or eastern SD are currently open space, ideally suited for this type of development.I reside the same distance from downtown Mpls and very familiar with this area,and the creation of a wind farm would prove to be very detrimetal to all other future development,as no one wants to see or hear windmills!

Mitigation:

Submission date: Sat Oct 3 19:15:35 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

From: [Kris Henry](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Greenvale Wind Farm WS-09-722
Date: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 11:15:55 AM
Attachments: [FNAPP Dakota County.pdf](#)
[DSCN1093.JPG](#)

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

Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

My husband and I are residents of Greenvale Township that also reside within the project area of the proposed Greenvale Wind Farm. We thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this project.

The project area consists of approximately 840 acres of land that is home to at least 20 families and many others just outside of the project area. The land that will be used to site the turbines will be land leased from land owners that do not live here or even in this township. But those of us that do live here will be affected by this commercial operation, which will lead me to a list of concerns we have.

Ø The proposed wind farm will affect our property values. The aesthetics, noise, and lights will have a significant impact to the largest investment we have ever made. Today's economy has already impacted our home's value and we can only hope that we can re-gain what has already been lost. If, and when, we go to sell our home, the buyer market will be slim to none with these spinning towers above our home. We live here to enjoy the peace and quiet and look to the stars at night. If we should leave, we hope to pass this same quality of life onto the next homeowner.

Ø There is a substantial amount of documentation out there about the health risks living near wind turbines. These health risks have been before your commission in many other projects. The Bent Tree Project in Freeborn County has already commented on this in detail, we support and share those same comments. Please take the time to review the Public Health Impacts of Wind Turbines by the Minnesota Department of Health that is already on file with your document CI-09-845. These health risks are real and we do not want to be one of the next study cases in the future.

Ø Safety – with 20 homes in the project area and one of these falling over or malfunctioning is real. What type of an evacuation plan do you have for us when there are straight line winds or tornadoes coming? What type of warning system alerts us before an ice throw or the brakes malfunction? Just the construction of these is a concern with our homes so close and a gas line going down the property where they are looking to cite some of the turbines.

Ø Greenvale Township is one of the few remaining rural communities left in the metro area. It also participates in the Farmland and Natural Area Protection Plan, a program with Dakota County. This program was put into place in response to citizens concerned about the changing landscapes that come with rapid population growth and other development. The proposed wind farm is inconsistent with this plan. I have attached an overview of this plan from the Dakota County website.

Ø Wildlife – I am confident that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is looking out for them. I support them in their efforts to protect them. If only we were ground nesting birds that had these people speaking for us. Also, I have enclosed a picture of one very handsome buck. I took this picture about 6 weeks ago while standing on our deck. We watched this deer almost every evening in the same place for several weeks. Will he be there next year when a wind turbine sits in that field?

With all of this being said, we sincerely hope that a permit for this project be denied. It has already induced a great deal of stress just in the way it came before our community. The Applicants did not do their due diligence to be honest and open about this project. This was clearly identified at the Public Meeting held on September 22 and is also supported by a petition for a contested case hearing on Community Notification signed by many Greenvale Township Residents. We are

not confident they will have the due diligence to construct or operate a wind farm, even if this was the right place to build a wind farm.

One final comment to add:

Ø We have not given an easement to our property or our wind rights and do not intend to.

Ø If a permit should be issued, we request notification 30 days prior to construction and be provided with the final citing map showing all set backs.

Once again, thank you for taking time to consider our comments on this proposed project.

Regards,

Michael & Kristine Henry
28441 Garrett Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057



Project & Special Initiatives

 [Print this Page](#)

Program History

Dakota County began the development of the Farmland and Natural Areas Program (FNAP) in 1999 in response to citizen concern about the changing Dakota County landscape, primarily due to rapid population growth and associated development.

Dakota County's adjustments to the Metropolitan Council's population projections estimated another 130,000 people would move into Dakota County before 2020. Each year during the 1990s, between 2,000 and 3,000 acres of land were being converted from primarily agricultural to suburban uses. About 3,000 new housing units were being constructed per year in the 1990s. By 1997, only 2-3% of the original pre-settlement natural areas still remained in the County. These areas continue to be lost, degraded and fragmented.

In the 2001 Dakota County government citizen survey, 96% of respondents expressed interest in protecting natural areas and lakes (69% said it was very important and 27% said it was somewhat important). Another 54% of respondents expressed a strong interest in protecting farmland.

In 2002, the Trust for Public Land (a private, non-profit organization) conducted an independent poll of Dakota County citizens and found 63% of respondents favored a referendum to implement a farmland/natural areas protection program.

Development of a Farmland and Natural Area Protection Plan

The current program is the outcome of a three-year planning effort, which began in 1999 with \$200,000 in funding from the Minnesota Legislature, as recommended by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) in 1999. Led by Dakota County Office of Planning staff and a number of non-profit and government agency partners, state-of-the-art technology and a public participation process were used to inventory, identify, and prioritize nearly 80,000 acres of farmland and natural areas for protection.



The Dakota County Board of Commissioners adopted the Farmland and Natural Area Protection Plan (Plan) in January 2002. Dakota County received an additional \$93,500 from the Legislature as a follow-up grant in 2002 to implement the Plan. The Plan identified 36,000 acres of priority natural areas and 42,000 acres of priority farmland for protection. The Plan may be reviewed by clicking on the document listed under Attachments below.

Dakota County Bond Referendum

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized placing a \$20 million bond referendum on the November 2002 ballot to provide funding to implement the Plan. Dakota County staff estimated the referendum, if passed, would result in a property tax increase of about \$17 per year on a home valued at \$176,300 (2002 Dakota County median home value). Citizens and non-profit organizations developed and then conducted an educational campaign to make residents aware of the issue and enlist support for the referendum. With an 87% voter turnout, Dakota County voters approved the referendum by a margin of 57% to 43%; becoming the first successful countywide open space protection referendum in Minnesota. Dakota County funds are matched by a variety of federal, State, and local government money; landowner donation and foundations.

Farmland and Natural Areas Program Guidelines

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners adopted the Farmland and Natural Area Program Guidelines in July 2003, revised in July 2004, and again in July 2006. The goal of the program is to protect between 5,000 and 10,000 acres of priority farmland and natural areas over the next 10 years.



Steinhauer, Suzanne (COMM)

From: Karissa Roeller [hfikaris@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 1:12 PM
To: Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us
Subject: MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722, Greenvale Wind Farm
Importance: High

To whom it may concern:

My name is Bruce Heikes. My wife and I have seven children. We live in the south end of the seven county metro area and there are too many people that you are affecting. Please consider a different location that is NOT in the seven county metro area, where less people will be affected.

Thank you,

Bruce Heikes

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Dustin Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dhron06@hotmail.com

Phone: 612-282-0969

Impact: There are many things wrong with the construction of wind turbines in the seven county metro area. Currently I reside on the corner of CR86 and Garrett Avenue, within a close proximity to four of the proposed wind turbines. I have done much research in these and have found that there is far too little information as to the effects on humans and wildlife that we should put our trust in the companies looking for a payout on the "green" mentality. As a commercial pilot and flight instructor myself, i was immediately alarmed about the construction of such structures near Airlake Airport, just 5.1nm away from the proposed Greenvale sight. Not only is it bad for the radio waves and radar, but building obstructions in a training environment is dangerous. there has not been enough research on the subject to assess the amount that it will affect communications both in the HF and VHF frequencies, both of which aviation relies heavily upon. I would like more research to be done before the project is allowed to progress to construction. thank you

Dustin Hron

612.282.0969

Mitigation: do not plant these turbines within 2 miles of a homestead. there is plenty of space outside of the 7 county metro area that could better support these alternative wind energy turbines

Submission date: Mon Sep 28 14:25:01 2009

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Andrew Koebrick

andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 09:03:40 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:03:13 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: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 952-881-7224

Impact: Property Values

I believe the value of my home, which I have been living in and making improvements on for 27 years will be drastically effected if this project is allowed to go forward. Think of this - if you were looking for a piece of property to live on in a rural setting in the 7 county metro area would you purchase one with turbines in the back yard? Or would you look elsewhere? I think the answer to this question is obvious.

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 09:03:40 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 09:19:15 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:18:48 AM

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

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 952-881-7224

Impact: Flawed Application Process

It just does not seem right that private entities can find a couple of land owners, make some deals with them, and then simply file for a permit to build something like this without taking into consideration the health and safety effects associated with wind turbines, totally disregarding the feelings and consequences to the people living in the area. I think the applicants are very arrogant and inconsiderate. The manner in which I was notified of the project so close to the date of the public hearing was just not right. I received formal notification of the project from Sparks and Medin in my mailbox on September 19th - three days before the public meeting at Greenvale Town Hall. This was not enough time for me to educate myself on what this project really entailed.

Then there is the issue of the deadline for filing comments with the PUC. Citizens of Greenvale Twp first found out about how to petition against the project at the town meeting on September 22. This only allowed us 15 days to respond.

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 09:19:15 2009

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

Andrew Koebrick
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 09:30:44 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:30:22 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: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 9528817224

Impact: Quality of Life

My wife and I searched high and low for a place in the country where we could raise our children. When we discovered that Greenvale Twp had a 1 home in 40 acres ordinance, we loved it. Also, with no one able to build a structure over 100 feet high, it was ideal, as we would not have to look at large buildings near our home. Beans and corn would be our neighbors forever. Looking out our windows, seeing the crops, groves of trees and beautiful sunrises and sunsets has made living in our home very special. If this project goes through, all of this will be gone. When I come home from work and get within sight of my house, all I will see is massive machines churning. No more beautiful sunrises or sunsets at my house. I am not totally against wind farms, its just that I do not think they have any business being built in residential areas. There is enough land in our state that is far from any home sites.

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 09:30:44 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 09:43:43 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:43:16 AM

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

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 9528817224

Impact: Wildlife

I believe this project will have detrimental impacts on birds in our area. On summer evenings, hundreds of little birds come around my house, buzzing around and eating mosquitoes - all spring, summer and fall species of duck and geese fly back and forth from Chub Lake towards Northfield. It is proven that these machines kill birds and bats. My sons and I spotted some birds nesting in our pine trees this spring that we had not seen before. There are constantly different species of birds nesting in our trees. Here is something to think about - Living in the country as long as I have, I have seen many dead animals along the roadside. The first clean up crews for nature are the crows. When the dead birds are laying underneath the turbines, the crows will come to clean them up. Then they will be hit and killed by the turbines also. Nature's next clean up crew consists of skunks, coyotes, foxes, and lastly Rats. There is already a great wildlife habitat in Greenvale Twp, and it does not need to be desecrated by building a wind farm there.

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 09:43:43 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 09:54:45 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:54:17 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: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 9528817224

Impact: I would like to address my concern regarding the two NEW private LLCs that are proposing this project. David Medin, one of the principals of Sparks Energy has had an unfinished, moved in by a home mover, used house in our neighborhood for six years. It still remains unfinished with plastic wrap falling off it and blowing across the fields. What makes these people think they can finish a project of this magnitude when they have absolutely no experience in this industry, and they cannot even finish their home project that they started. I am also concerned about the removal of the turbines and their bases if this project is allowed to go forward and then goes defunct. It is to my understanding that there is a clause to do with escrow being set aside for the removal. However, it has come to my attention that these monies will not start accruing until the eleventh year of the project, leaving a long period of time where there is no coverage for removal. Who will remove the turbines if these companies fail?

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 09:54:45 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hron Tue Oct 6 10:10:14 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 10:18:10 AM

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 9528817224

Impact: Health Issues

I have been doing a lot of research on related health issues to turbines located close to homes. One of the first things I found out is that there are many more of these projects in other parts of the world than we have here in the US. In Europe and other countries, many studies are being conducted on health issues related to turbines. The general consensus in other countries is that these machines should be no closer than 2 kilometers to any residence. I understand that this is not the law in Minnesota. However, I think it should be taken into consideration. There is a big difference between 800 feet and 1.25 miles. Symptoms reported by people living next to wind turbines include: sleep problems (insomnia), headaches, dizziness, unsteadiness, nausea, exhaustion, anxiety, anger, irritability, depression, memory loss, eye problems, problems with concentration and learning, tinnitus (ringing in the ears). These symptoms are claimed to be caused by the flicker of sunlight as the blades of the turbines pass through it and also the changing noises produced by them. I am particularly concerned about the aggregate decibel level created by a grouping of turbines near my home. If one turbine produces 50 decibels, then how many decibels will there be when you add them all up? I do not want to find out if turbines will have these negative effects on me!

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 10:10:14 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us;
Subject: Hron Wed Sep 30 12:08:58 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 12:08:44 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: Hope Hron

County:

City: Bloomington

Email:

Phone:

Impact: Energy Facilities -- Public Comments -- Project ID 2461309-722

Having recently been informed of plans to construct a Wind Farm within the seven county metro area, specifically, Greenvale Township in Dakota County, I have researched data on Wind Farms (turbines) and the impact they have on surrounding properties and wildlife and have come to the following conclusion.

This project can only have serious adverse affects to the Mental and Physical health of residents, and depreciated value on the existing homes and property in the proposed area.

As a resident of the State of Minnesota and a tax payer in the metro area, I strongly OPPOSE the construction of any Wind Turbines now, or in the future, within the seven (7) county metro area.

Further, I question WHY this project was not given proper prior public notice regarding this construction. Once one Wind Farm is approved how many more will be erected and where!

Hope Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Wed Sep 30 12:08:58 2009

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

Andrew Koebrick
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

From: [Apache](#)
To: Suzanne.Steinbauer@state.mn.us;
Subject: Hron Wed Sep 30 22:45:45 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 10:45:30 PM

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

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Derek Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Rosemount

Email: hron0005@umn.edu

Phone: 952-457-0001

Impact: I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed wind farm project in Greenvale Township. My father resides in the proposed project area and I am very concerned about him and his health if the project is approved.

I have been researching the effects that wind farms have on people who are forced to live close to the industrial wind turbines. All reports found and studies that have been conducted have shown that living near wind turbines has led to adverse health effects to the residents. These include insomnia, vertigo, and migraine headaches, among many others. These findings can be found at www.windturbinesyndrome.com. These negative effects are a result of low frequency noise and sound vibrations which do not naturally occur without the presence of a wind turbine. More studies should be done regarding the health and safety of citizens residing near wind turbines before they are placed near their homes.

I am not against alternative energy such as wind, but I do believe that they belong outside of residential areas, especially metro areas. Wind farms have their place on our land in the United States, but that place is not in a peaceful rural community where a large number of families reside. I please ask for you to vote against allowing a wind farm to be built so close to so many homes in a metro area. Many peoples' lives are at stake if this project is approved.

Derek Hron
1636 139th St W
Rosemount, MN 55068
952-457-0001
hron0005@umn.edu

Mitigation: I do not think that an alternative plan should be reviewed in the Greenvale Twp wind farm project. I believe that wind farms should not be placed in any 7 county metro area within the United States of America.

One area I think that needs to be addressed is the state limit of setbacks. I believe the setback limit for the distance of turbines from households should be at least 1 to 1.25 miles away from the property line. Many people believe this is a safe and suggestable limit, as seen on:

<http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/wind-watch.html>

They state, "Large wind turbines therefore need adequate setbacks to protect the health and safety of nearby residents. A minimum distance of 2 kilometers (or 1-1/4 miles) between homes and the turbines is recommended by a number of noise and health experts."

Please consider these opinions when delegating future legislation regarding industrial wind turbines being considered for construction within residential areas.

Submission date: Wed Sep 30 22:45:45 2009

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Andrew Koebrick
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Daniel Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Farmington

Email: dan@johnsonhardware.net

Phone: 9528817224

Impact: It has come to my attention that there have been many discrepancies regarding the contracts that land owners hold that allow wind energy companies to have their turbines on their land. After researching this issue, it has been found that many of the energy companies are taking advantage of the land owners and selling their wind energy companies very soon after the projects are completed. When this happens, the contracts allowing the land leases become null and void, leaving the land owners out to dry with large turbines towering over their property. Will this happen in the case of Medin Renewable Energy LLC and Sparks Energy LLC - two extremely new wind energy companies? It seems as if this whole industry is hiding things from the general public in an effort to keep the Green Machine running.

Dan Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Wed Oct 7 12:02:33 2009

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Andrew Koebrick
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

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Project Name: Greenvale Wind Farm

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

User Name: Derek Hron

County: Dakota County

City: Rosemount

Email: hron0005@umn.edu

Phone: 9524570001

Impact: Hello, I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed wind farm project in Greenvale Township. My father lives at 28029 Garrett ave n in Greenvale Township within a quarter mile of the site. I am writing about my concerns for the future of Greenvale Township and the reputation of the two companies who are behind the project. Since these two companies, Sparks Energy LLC and Medin Renewable Energy are less than a year old, I am questioning their ability to complete a project of this magnitude. The owner of Sparks Energy has been "building" a house down the road from my father for the past six years. This house has plastic wrap flying in the wind and has appeared to remain untouched for the last six years. If these people cannot even finish a house, how are they going to finish a 20 million dollar project?

I am also concerned whether or not they will have enough money saved to remove the turbines when their useful life is over? Will they still stand there being an eyesore for all of the Greenvale residents to see? What if the two companies go belly up, like so many of their past business endeavors - will these turbines remain half built in a beautiful field of crops? This project must be stopped. It is in a area that is way too heavily populated, and is being head up by people who have little knowledge of this industry and the detrimental effects these turbines have on people.

Derek Hron

Mitigation:

Submission date: Wed Oct 7 11:46:39 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hullett Tue Oct 6 13:00:05 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 1:00:55 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: Phyllis Hullett

County: Dakota County

City: Northfield

Email: dhnorthfield@frontiernet.net

Phone: (952)469-2835

Impact: I am just shocked and angered that this wind farm can be plunked down in the heart of Greenvale township without hardly any publicity or information about the project. The other wind farms I have seen are in western Mn and down in the Albert Lea area and points south into Iowa. There are many, many more turbines and they are located in remote wide open areas. I truly believe too, that this township was picked because there is no zoning commission in place at this time, making it an easy mark to push this through. After reading countless articles about the affects of wind farms in other communities, I do not want ours degraded because of it. Property values will surely fall, a huge concern considering the depressed marketing situation already going on. Learning about the low frequency continual hum of these things, I'm sure it will affect the wild life on the DNR property just to the north of the site, given animal sensitivity to that sort of noise. There is an oil pipeline buried underground just to the east of the proposed site, too, what if something went wrong with one of these giants and pieces of it went flying through the air piercing the area where they are buried in the ground or hitting houses or buildings what have you. Also, the footings that go into the ground in order to hold these things up could affect the water tables in the area. Information about the wind currents in this area are not nearly as good as some of the areas further south studies have shown. It has been stated that the electricity

produced will have no benefit to out electric bills, but instead will increase because of transmission lines needed to be put in. The landowners who have agreed to lease their land to this project are partly to blame, too, they have let their common sense be overtaken with greed. If they could not have found willing landowners to use their land, the township would not be in this debacle. Lastly, the set backs for these giants should be 1 mile or more making this township a poor location. Please do not let this proposed wind farm happen to this community.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 13:00:05 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

From: [Apache](#)
To: [Suzanne Steinhauer \(COMM\)](#);
Subject: Hullett Tue Oct 6 19:46:47 2009 IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 7:46:19 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: Douglas Hullett

County: Dakota County

City: Northfield

Email: dhullett@wdlarson.com

Phone: 952-469-2835

Impact: I live in a 21 house development (Glenview Estates) that will be within one mile of many of the towers. The reasons for opposition to the project are numerous, as follows are a few:

- Property values will be drastically reduced due to aesthetic degradation, noise pollution, light pollution (flicering from the sun behind turbines, strobe lights all day and night,) safety concerns, health issues, etc. The affected residents will be actively after the county real estate appraisers to have their real estate taxes substantially reduced. County and School revenue will suffer. Homes will have to be sold at a loss.
- Wind turbines harm birds and animals. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services says that wind turbines should not be erected near wetlands, near shorelines or in other known wildlife concentration areas. This proposed site is adjacent to a large piece of DNR property and adjacent to Chub Lake and its connecting swamps and wetlands!
- Wind turbines are not safe and often self destruct. There is not enough distance between homes and wind turbines. Besides the numerous homes located in the site areas, a large pipeline goes through this proposed site as well!
- All easements are not in place! Although there are some land easements for the towers, easements have not be collected from many home and land owners whose air space will be illegally affected!

- Wind Turbines cause and affect many health issues!
- Local electricity costs actually increase to cover the increased balancing and transmission costs and the subsidies given to developers, which for the most part are derived through extra fees and charges on our electric bills!
- Wind turbine power generation is variable, unreliable and is not able to replace any conventional generating capacity. Wind power is unable to significantly reduce the use of other fuels in electricity generation. Wind power is not "green"

THE BOTTOM LINE; IT IS REDICULOUS TO CONSIDER ANY WIND FARMS IN THE SEVEN COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA. IF YOU DO THE RESEARCH AND DON'T LIE TO YOURSELVES, THEN THIS IS AN OBVIOUS CONCLUSION.

Mitigation: THERE IS NO ROOM FOR MITIGATION. THIS PROJECT IS TOTALLY WRONG!

Submission date: Tue Oct 6 19:46:47 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

From: [Karissa Roeller](#)
To: Suzanne.Steinbauer@state.mn.us;
Subject: MPUC Docket Number IP 6819, 6820/WS-09-722, Greenvale Wind Farm
Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 1:12:29 PM

To whom it may concern:

My name is Bruce Heikes. My wife and I have seven children. We live in the south end of the seven county metro area and there are too many people that you are affecting. Please consider a different location that is NOT in the seven county metro area, where less people will be affected.

Thank you,

Bruce Heikes