

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
COMMENT AND SCOPING FORM

PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.**

I understand the need for wind energy.
I'm 88 years old and have used wind mills
on the farm to pump water. It will be good
to see the new improved ones going up. I see
no reason to delay their construction. I still
like to go for ride in the country and now + then
see a wind mill. The new ones are not bad looking.
It nice to see them.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

From: [Tom and Judi](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Re: IP-6830/CN-09-1110
Date: Friday, April 23, 2010 10:18:50 AM

As a concerned Minnesota citizen, I would like to express my support for the Paynesville Wind Farm Project. The United States needs to increase its use of proven, environmentally friendly sources of alternative energy production. Windmills provide such a form of renewable energy and are a majestic visual expression of our country's desire to become an energy independent nation.

Sincerely, Judith Miler

From: [Tom and Judi](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Re: IP-6830/CN-09-1110
Date: Thursday, April 22, 2010 8:49:27 AM

Ingrid Bjorklund,

I am writing to voice my support for the Paynesville Wind Farm Project. Not only would this project be an economic plus to the area it would also be a beautiful and patriotic source of pride to the community.

To put it simply the terrorist enemies of the USA would not want this project to succeed. They would like to keep us dependent on expensive imported oil from countries that are friendly to them.

Using Windmills to generate electricity will keep millions of dollars in the United States of America's economy.

Windmills are a proven safe, clean and effective source of energy.

Best wishes, Tom Miller

Farm owner Zion Township Paynesville, Minnesota,
USA

From: [Tom and Judi](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Re: IP-6830/CN-09-1110
Date: Friday, April 23, 2010 9:43:23 AM

As a proud patriotic citizen of this Great Country I feel it is my civic duty to state my support for the Paynesville Wind Farm Project.

Wind turbines for generating electricity will be a valuable enhancement to our area and will help meet the energy needs of America. The USA needs to become less dependent on expensive imported oil.

Minnesota has no fossil fuels (coal, oil) but we have been at the fore front of developing alternative fuels, e.g. ethanol, turkey manure, methane from garbage, solar and wind energy. It is unfortunate that a few uninformed, rigid, selfish people oppose progress. If these people had prevailed throughout history we would still be living in the dark ages!

Windmills are a proven, safe, clean, and effective source of energy.

Best wishes Tom Miller,

Farm owner, Zion Township, Paynesville, Minnesota

From: [Tom and Judi](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Re: PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 9:43:38 AM

To: Ingrid Bjorklund,

As a land owner in the Paynesville Zion Wind Farm Project I am writing to strongly support this form of energy. Windmills, big and small, have withstood the test of time. (Many farm sites in this area at one time had a windmill.) Windmills are a safe, efficient, nonpolluting & self sustainable (renewable) source of energy.

The United States of America must become energy self sufficient. We need to come to the point where we no longer need to import expensive foreign oil from countries that support terrorists and are not friendly to us. Besides being an excellent source of energy for our great country Windmills will also be an economic boost to this area.

Best wishes Thomas Miller

Land owner Zion Township Paynesville, Minnesota.

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PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: William J Miller
Address: 21168 BR 133
City: Paynesville, MN State: MN ZIP: 5632

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

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Subject: wind mill

First and most important I would like to state that I strongly support the Paynesville wind farm project. It is welcomed by the land owners. I have been to numerous meetings from the mid-90's in Marshall MN to current meetings in this area and have heard the same old record over and over again about wind turbines chopping up birds, making people go nuts from the flicker and the noise (esp. the unheard noise). I would refute all claims made at the April 19, 2010 meeting held at the Sportsman Den in Lake Henry, MN regarding ill effects of wind turbine noise, flicker, birds being chopped up, major land devaluation, and many other claims based on opinion. There is no credible research to back any of their claims. The people in Marshall and the surrounding area are proud of their wind turbines and see them as majestic and attractive additions to the landscape.

Perhaps the Minnesota State Department of Energy or the University of Minnesota along with the Federal Government could come up with a fact sheet to dispelled all the myths and lies and misinformation regarding wind turbines. This would be a great aid in the development of wind energy and not pit neighbor against neighbor.

Signature: William J Miller Date: 4/21/2010

May 10, 2010

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
COMMENT AND SCOPING FORM

16000 50

PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: William A. Miller
Address: 21168 Co Rd 3
City: Paynesville State: MN ZIP: 56362

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

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I support the Paynesville/Zion wind farm project. Wind turbines are an enhancement to the rural landscape and are beautiful to see.

I understand they do not kill birds and will have little or no impact on wild life in the area.

Noise and flicker are regulated and should pose no real danger to anyone.

I understand change is hard for some people to accept. The 70+ land owners who have signed up their families, friends + neighbors in the Paynesville area fully embrace and welcome the wind farm.

Signature: William A. Miller Date: 4/21/10



STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Date: 4/12/2010

Public Comments Received by the Public Utilities
Commission for week ending: 4-9-2010

Docket Number 10-49

10-49



State of Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

RECEIVED
APR 05 2010
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Consumer Complaint/Inquiry

Consumer Record #

Your Name <i>Colleen + John Mueller</i>	Name of Telephone, Gas, or Electric Company <i>Geronimo Wind LLC / Paynesville Wind LLC</i>
Mailing Address <i>22186 State Hwy 4</i>	Person contacted at Telephone, Gas, or Electric Company
City, State, Zip <i>Paynesville, MN 56362</i>	Customer Account Number(s)
Service Address (if different) <i>same</i>	Your E-Mail Address <i>cmueller@wildblue.net</i>
City, State, Zip	Home Phone # <i>320-243-4242</i> Work Phone # Cell/Other Phone # <i>320-250-2151</i>

Have you contacted another agency about this issue? YES NO
If yes, give name of agency: *Minnesota Office ATTORNEY General*

Have you contacted the utility? YES NO If not, please do so before sending this form.
Please attach the utility's response and all documentation, including a copy of the affected bill(s).

The information you provide may be used to help resolve your concern and/or enforce applicable laws. The information may be shared with the utility and law enforcement agencies. You are not legally required to provide this information, but if you do not, we may not be able to help resolve your concern.

Please write details about your concern and the action you would like the utility company to take:
NOT TO ALLOW A LWEC (Large Wind Energy Conversion) "Wind Tower FARM" WITHOUT AT LEAST A 2 year mandate, to further study thru credited official firms the many concerns surrounding this issue.

*1. unethical & deceitful practices of obtaining leases on land.
2. Human Health EFFECTS - specifically noise, and associated problems w/ WIND TURBINE SYNDROME
That all data is collected FOR THE CORRECT models used, is accurately measured - with various wind speeds; reviewed in its entirety ->*

The information I have given is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and may be used as stated on this form. ****If you do not sign this form, it will be returned to you.****

Your Signature: *Colleen A. Mueller* Date: *4-1-10*

We hope our efforts will help resolve this concern. Look for a response in 30 business days. 06/09

www.puc.state.mn.us

121 Seventh Place East • Suite 350 • St Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147
Phone 651-296-0406 • Toll Free 1-800-657-3782 • Fax 651-297-7073 • consumer.puc@state.mn.us

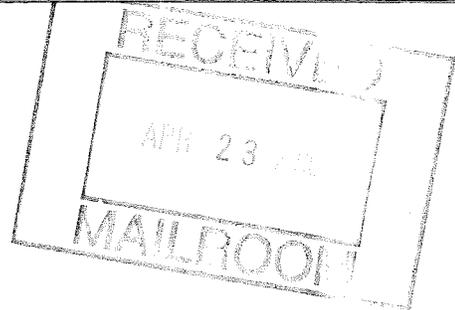
Docket #: *1P-6830/WS-10-49* *1P-6828/WS-09-1197*
1P-6828/1CN-09-1110 *1P-6828/1CN-09-937*

④ Summary of Purchase Power Agreement Reviewal

By a certified acoustical engineer who is unbiased and can give a complete honest reviewal of what all findings are. We demand this is done before project moves forward

③ Environmental studies done of wind turbine placement would have on birds, bats, reproduction would be done when movements are in optimum season - not when there's more - too numerous to mention

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PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: Colleen Mueller
Address: 22186 State Hwy 4
City: Paynesville, MN State: _____ ZIP: 56362

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.**

To whom it may concern:

I do not feel as if of my questions were answered. It also appears to me as if your minds were made up before you even got here.

An environmental report, (not the little one) the kind like chemical companies have to go thru should and cannot be over looked. Animals aren't able to speak, but if they could I believe they would feel as we do. We do not believe that we would be able to stay in the area if turbines are present. My husband is 3rd generation here. We do not want to leave - in fact we don't even know where we'd go. We like our neighbors, we care about them,

Signature: Colleen D. Mueller Date: 4-21-2010

We farm here and last but not least we have family. When we moved here, we thought we would also die here, and not be forced to leave our home and property that we and many others have worked so hard for. If we wanted to look at huge towers we would move to the city. We should not be discriminated against medical emergency care. If we weren't able to have that option somewhere, sometime someone will die as a result of not having that available. We are not an industrial site. We are rural agriculture. We are people who live and work here.

There are many unknowns about about wind energy. However there are known issues too.

The reason animals aren't seen is 37-38% leave. People in several places around the U.S. are being bought out

and leave. Their places bulldozed.
How sad is that?

What a shame to scar our landscape
with turbines (the size of
two jumbo 747 jets) - without
considering other possible
green energy options.

Other viable things could
be more conservation of ~~our~~ our
electrical usage. Grants and
loans could be used to update our
current infrastructure. I am told
there would be none other in the
world. And guess what --- it could
be done without defragmentation
to communities, animals, and
ecosystems.

My husband and I both feel
this is an Enron in the making.
Had this been started as a mail
fraud by Geronimo Wind LLC
they would have been shagged out
of here in a bleep. But under
the disguise of fair and honest -
lies and deceit were used to begin
GAAM, not to mention we were

targeted because of our location to the grid and our status of being statistically under the poverty level. We were specifically targeted because they thought we were too stupid to ask questions.

Why a life changing decision which affects me is controlled by some of the decisions made by OES and PUC in some way depresses me. Those decisions will not affect any of you long term - but they will affect me and my family.

We have all worked hard to have an environmentally safe, secure place we can call our own. There is no amount of money that should be allowed to take it away from you.

I think Robert Kennedy says it best, "We as Americans are bound by a common concern for each other. The gross national product doesn't allow for the

health of our children, the
quality of their education, or
the joy of their play. We
all cherish our children's future."

Help us make sound, educated
choices, explore options, spend
our tax dollars in responsible
manners. Leave a legacy
of sound, moral judgements!

Do not allow Large wind
farms to be built in communities
where people live.

Sincerely,

Collen Mueller
22186 Hwy 4
Paynesville, MN 56362

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
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PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM

PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: DAN NOSBUSH
Address: 31302 CR. 16
City: Paynesville Mn State: _____ ZIP: _____

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.**

Hope Sully you will reconsider placing these towers in a populated area. At the meeting in Lake Henry I forgot to mention that growing up, I'd get migraine headaches driving home on the school bus in the afternoon from the sun flicker through the trees along the Minnesota River North + Northwest of New Ulm. So don't tell me it doesn't exist!!! Also if the Reech Dairy gets a good case of Stray voltage I'll have 3 sons out of work, 2 full time, plus his payroll is just as big as this wind farm. A better site would be N. of Belgrade or W. of Brocton, you can see for miles without getting close to a building site. As far as ice coming off of blades I don't want a hole in my Slurry Stone Manure tank at 500,000 Gallons, hole in my barn or house or wonder if well make it in the driveway alive everytime all winter long since it is 400' from the closest tower. At 300 MPH tip speed + 423' hi ice will go farther than a baseball ~~to~~ from the pitcher at 99 MPH to a bat at 4' above ground + 450' into the stands. I don't believe it gets close to 300 MPH!

Signature: Daniel A. Nosbush Date: 5-3-10

From: [Carolyn Reeck](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Paynesville Wind Project
Date: Saturday, April 17, 2010 9:22:39 PM

Everyone is saying the Paynesville Wind project is a "done deal" in spite of the hearing on Monday, April 19th, in Lake Henry, MN. I hope and pray that is not the case. The PUC should not be prejudging this placement of up to 63 wind turbines in Zion Township.

There is every indication of poor science. Also, there is a glaring lack of studies concerning environmental, social, and health issues. I talked to Deb Pile a few months ago about these concerns. At that time Geronimo had not even applied for a CON or a SPA. She promised to get back to me, and to our township attorney, Bob Ruppe, who has been retained because of concern about damage to our roads as soon as the permitting took place. We have not heard from her. All of a sudden, the project is about to be launched forth.

Stearns County in the Establishment of Township Planning and Zoning in its first paragraph states: "Townships are faced with mounting problems in providing means of guiding future development of land use so as to insure a safer, more pleasant environment...to preserve agricultural and other open lands, and to promote public health, safety and general welfare." None of these factors have been satisfactorily assured if these industrial wind turbines are built.

President Obama in a speech to the Dept. of Interior last week emphasized two points:

"First, we're going to build on successful conservation efforts being spearheaded outside Washington by local and state governments...so we can write a new chapter on the protection of rivers, wildlife habitats, historic sites and the great landscapes of our country. Secondly, we are going to help farmers, ranchers, property owners who want to protect their land for their children and grandchildren."

We need to take the long view of this huge industrial wind project. Is it going to protect our natural landscape and our history for generations to come? Is it the right thing for the environment, wildlife, and the health of our people? Is it the right thing for the economy,? The long range cost of this renewable energy has not been determined.

T. Boone Pickens has given up his plan for a huge wind farm in Texas, and Natural Wind plans to purchase 52 turbines for the Goodhue County project at a per-megawatt cost of \$2.3 million, Leon Steinberg, CEO & Chr., said the turbines will return more than \$179 K. How much of that is going to stay in the farming community? Probably not much. With inflation, over a 20-year period it will be an insignificant source of revenue for the local landowners, but the turbine towers, rising more than 400 feet, and with 46 feet of cement planted in a hole in the ground, not to mention the miles and miles of roads leading to these towers that will never again be productive land for a hungry world.

In the rush to develop this renewable energy source, we need to consider a moratorium!

Thank you!

Carolyn Reeck

From: [Carolyn Reeck](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: PUC Docket #'s IP-6830/WS-1049 & IP-6830/CN-09-1110
Date: Monday, May 10, 2010 6:57:39 PM

Ms. Ingrid Bjorklund
MN Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Thank you for conducting the scoping meeting at Lake Henry, MN regarding the Geronimo Wind Project affecting Zion, Lake Henry, Spring Hill and Paynesville Townships. The dominant township is Zion where most of the huge wind turbines will be located on prime farmland. A survey of the township indicates the majority of residents in the footprint and those that live outside the footprint are not in favor of this industrialization of our township. We are not densely populated, but we do have an average of five farms/ residences per section. With this many turbines, serious health issues, wildlife and environmental concerns have NOT been resolved. I am 81 years old. Do I have to live out my life being negatively effected by noise and shadow flicker, (just to name two of many possible risks?)

I am forwarding a "Letter to the Editor" that I wrote which was published in last week's Paynesville Press. I have written letters to President Obama all the way down to our County Commissioners. We MUST take a closer look at "harnessing the wind." It is NOT free by any means, or even prudent, economically, as a good, reliable, renewable source of energy. For the PUC to give permits for the site and for the need here in western Stearns County, is a huge mistake; even though Geronimo has already spent a lot of time, energy and money up to this point. When it comes right down to it, the entire project has been driven by MONEY, our tax dollars!

People tell me "This is a done deal;" and, "that the PUC has said as much." I refuse to believe you will not take a deeper look and come to the same conclusion that so many intelligent, sensible people have: This Paynesville-Zion Wind Project IF approved, will be a huge error, flawed from the beginning. Please, please, please, do NOT let this happen. Thank you for your understanding and willingness to question, question, question!

Sincerely,

Carolyn T. Reeck

From: [reeck](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Fw: docket IP-6830/WS-10-49 Paynesville Wind Site
Date: Saturday, May 08, 2010 4:10:00 PM

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

From: [reeck](#)
To: ghreeck@lakedalelink.net
Sent: Saturday, May 08, 2010 3:52 PM
Subject: docket IP-6830/WS-10-49 Paynesville Wind Site

Ms. Bjorklund,

We are commenting on the Paynesville Wind Site Application. Based on the Mn Dept of Health Study, May, 2009, and on the PUC Staff Briefing Paper by DeBleekere, reviewed at February 1, 2010 PUC meeting, the setbacks are insufficient to protect residences from noise and shadow flicker. The MDH recommends noise estimates should include cumulative impacts (40-50dBA isopleths) of all wind turbines. This study recommends isopleths for dB(C)-dB(A) greater than 10dB should be determined. We believe the more recent recommendations by Iberdola Renewables (an energy company) should not be substituted for recommendations by our own Dept. of Health. In regards to Minn Rule 7030.0040 (acceptable nighttime noise at 50dBA), the PUC Staff Briefing Paper states, "However, these standards do not, by themselves, identify levels of impulsive noise needed for the preservation of public health and welfare." "Turbines are rarely, if ever compliant with the noise standard at 500-feet and more commonly need to be sited at distances of 700 to 1,200 feet from residences to comply with the noise standard" (50dBA). The Nobles Wind Farm Turbine Induced Contours map, from the PUC paper clearly shows nonparticipating residences subjected to 35dBA, and this is just a modeling map. The PUC paper also discusses as a potential for setback is the 763-985' (3 RD) setback because "adjacent property owners...can choose not to sign an easement..." Clearly 3 RD does not satisfy the previous statement from the PUC paper. Also, from the PUC paper, the NRC under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences states "noise produced by wind turbines is generally not a major concern for humans beyond a half mile or so..." The PUC paper also comments that Germany limited flicker to 30 hours per year on a neighbor's property and Denmark recommends not greater than 10 hours per year. Please refer to the MDH paper as it discusses that turbines at 300 meters would cause flicker for 1.5 hours per day and the Wind Energy Handbook (Burton et al., 2001) recommending 1000 meters or .6 mile setback. The PUC paper recommends different setbacks for participating and non-participating landowners. The setbacks should be .6 mile for nonparticipating landowners, which would alleviate noise and flicker issues. Furthermore, nonparticipating landowners should have this setback from all property lines to protect the future use of their property, considering the leases are in effect for 50 years. These setbacks are especially important for nonparticipating landowners who will have turbines on three or more sides. As stated in the PUC paper "...staff's view that minimizing impacts is and has been, a goal of this Commission." Numerous recent studies supporting noise and flicker issues do not need to be cited, as they have been reviewed by MDH and PUC. Also, setback issues should not be based on old studies based on shorter tower height and rotor diameters. Van den Berg, 2008, begins his paper explaining that the increases in blade tip height is cause for the increased annoyance factor. Another safety factor is that everyone inside the boundary will not have medical helicopter service, unless Lifelink adopts a policy different from Mayo One.

The noise and flicker does not even begin to address the issue of aesthetics that the non-participating landowners must bear. 492' blade tip heights do not compare to 90' silos. Non-participating landowners chose not to sign. This is a poor project area with 2174 acres not signed within the project boundaries. That's 15% of the 15000 acres and almost a 20% of the 11,500 acres signed. No map identifies any of these landowners! 25% of the signed acreage has owners not living in the project boundaries. 10% of the signed acreage has owners not living in Stearns County. Do not call non-participating landowners NIMBY's. More than 120 homeowners within one mile of this project received no specific information from Geronimo prior to their attendance at the scoping meeting, which left them with less than 3 weeks to comment to the PUC about this project. Blinking red lights at night will also be an aesthetic impact.

This is also a poor project area, concerning the abundance of wildlife and wildlife areas located in and near the project. A 308 acre WPA is within the boundary (application section 5.21 states no public lands within boundary?), 759 wildlife refuge acres are adjacent and 2300 wildlife refuge/natural acres are within 5 miles. The Buffalo Ridge Study is ten years old and based on blade tip heights of 174' and 243'. Despite it being a four year study, Enron's Phase II turbines were only operational for two years and Phase III turbines were only operational for one year of the study. The study acknowledges smaller, shorter turbines have lower mortality and increased distances from wetlands reduce mortalities. Paynesville Wind will have blade tip heights of 396 to 492'. This study and the site application both refer to reduced (32%) avian use. Buffalo Ridge is not similar to Paynesville land composition in terms of wetlands, despite the applications contention that it is. US Fish and Wildlife Services letter of 10/23/2009 recommends 1/2 mile setback from WPA and the areas separating the Bauman WPA, Zion WPA and Lake Henry WPA be taken out of project consideration. Turbines in Zion township sections 16, 17, 18 and 21 disregard this. There are 21 special status species, including 8 rare species within a mile of the project area. There are two, not one as stated in the application, bald eagle nests near the project and the eagles are commonly sited within the project boundary. The application acknowledges that the wind turbine arrays will be the prominent features in the landscape and visible from the WMAs and SNA, but will be mitigated as described in Section 5.4. There is no Section 5.4.

Land values will decrease and property tax values will decrease. The often cited Berkley study showing no devaluation, is based on homes with less than 25 acres, homes as far as 10 miles away, 10% of homes had no view of the turbines, 58% had below average views preconstruction. Appraisal values on agricultural land shows an average of 30% property value reduction. We will be surrounded by turbines, proposed to be as little as 810' from our property and currently have a premium vista. Our property value will be affected. This project will remove as much as 295 of 11,500 acres (3.8 acres per 1.5 MW turbines, Section 5.20, 14 miles of roads, 33' wide) from agricultural production, that is 2.5%. That is not the 29 to 44 acres or .5% stated in the application, Section 5.10.2.1. Cropland acreage is understated and grassland overstated because alfalfa cropland is identified as grassland in Figure 5-7. We are dairy farmers and take concern with the statement in Section 5.10.2.1 that "stray voltage is a particular concern for dairy farms because it can impact operations and milk production". We will hold Paynesville Wind to its commitment to siting turbines and power lines to avoid conflicts with dairy farms in the Project area. Furthermore, we request a full stray voltage assessment prior to construction and done repeatedly on a minimum yearly basis. This should be done for all dairy farms, or at least for those dairy farmers who *chose* not to sign, including those adjacent to the project boundary. That the siting of this project is in an area of such high dairy density is absurd. There are approximately 2300 dairy animals within the boundary and at least 700 within a mile of the boundary.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY. This site application and certificate of need makes no mention of biomass energy as an alternative to this costly wind energy. The numerous dairy animals could produce energy. According to an AgStar report a cow can produce 2.5kWh per day. The city of Paynesville and Lake Henry could also use produce energy with their waste products. These options have been completely ignored. More energy needs can be solved by conservation, than what this wind project provides without the massive project costs, landscape alteration, health issues and wildlife issues. Conserving energy won't be as exciting or as lucrative for the development companies, numerous wind associations and some government agencies that wind energy is.

Sincerely,

Gary and Lu Anne Reeck
29949 230th ST
Paynesville, MN 56362

From: [reeck](#)
To: [Bjorklund, Ingrid \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Docket IP-6830/WS-10-49
Date: Saturday, May 08, 2010 10:16:13 AM
Attachments: [Zion_Shoreland.pdf](#)

Ms. Bjorklund,

I am submitting a comment on the siting of Paynesville Wind. I am forwarding a map of Zion Township Shoreland Overlay District. The site maps submitted by HDR Engineering, contain errors in the identification of shoreland because they are not using current maps. This was designated shoreland in the 1980's. The attached map is current. I wish to have this map submitted as part of my comment. Especially note the discrepancies between HDR engineering information and this map pertaining to sections 17 and 8 in Zion township. The towers sited in these sections are not the proper setback based on the correct shoreland map. Patrick Smith was informed that Geronimo's maps did not properly identify shoreland in this project area on March, 11, 2009. The correct and current maps are readily available at Stearns County Environmental Services.

Gary Reeck
29949 230th St

Paynesville MN 56362

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

From: [Erickson, Lance](#)

To: ghreeck@lkdlink.net

Sent: Friday, April 16, 2010 1:00 PM

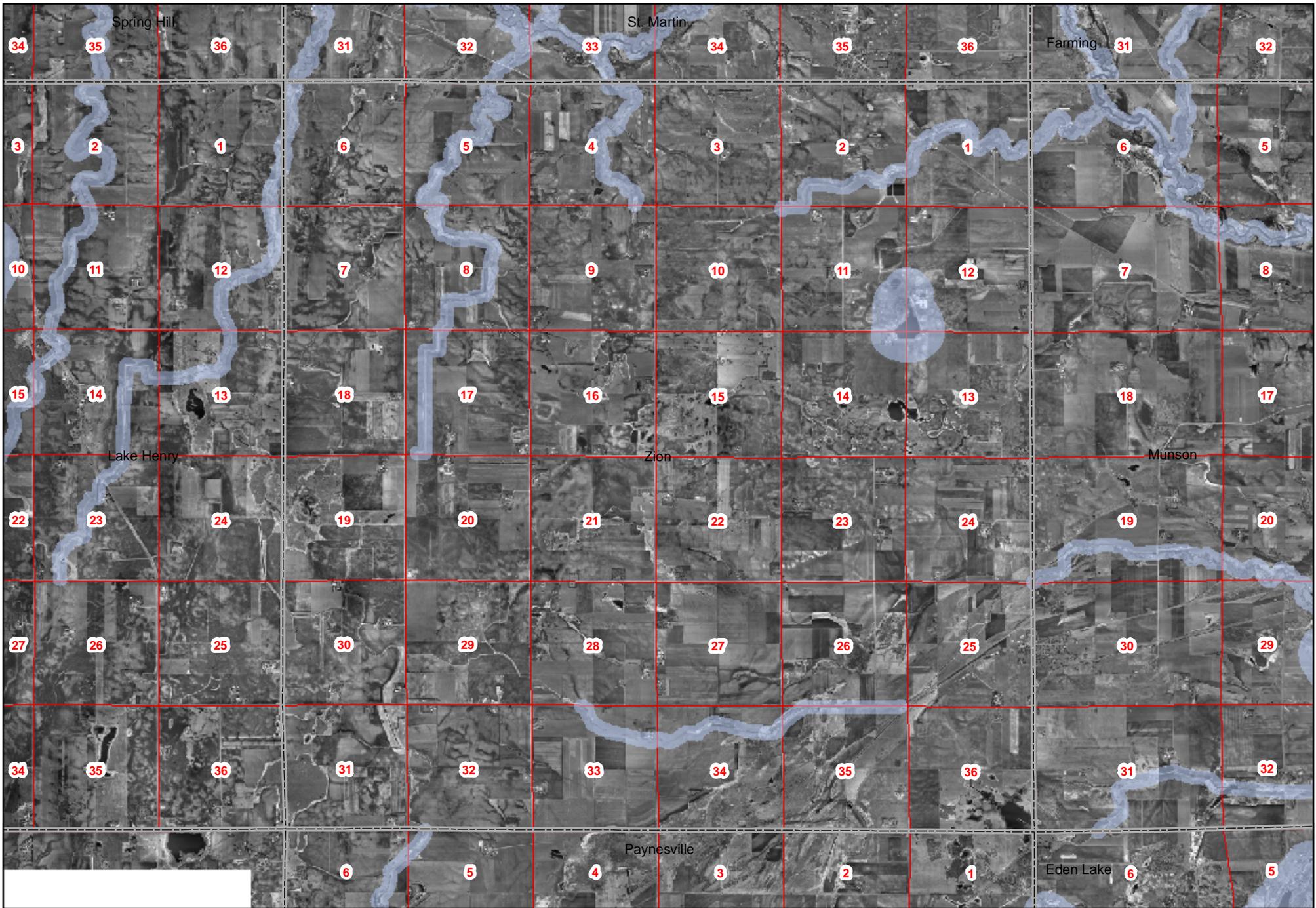
Subject: Zion shoreland

Attached is an basic 8x11 map showing the shoreland overlay district for Zion Township.

If you are needing something different or more detailed that could be provided for fee depending on the work involved.

Thank you,

Lance Erickson
Stearns County Environmental Services



Zion Township

*300' from Protected Rivers & Streams and/or 1000' from Protected Lakes as listed and defined in the Stearns County Zoning Ordinance #209

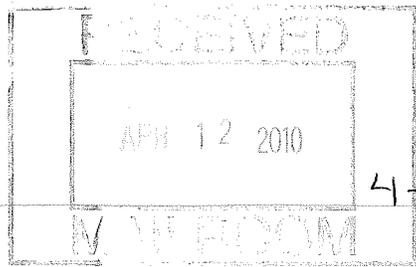
Shoreland Overlay District

1 inch equals 1 miles

Map Created: 4/16/2010

This map is made available on an "as is" basis, without express or implied warranty of any sort including, specifically, any implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose, warranties of merchantability, or warranties relating to the accuracy or completeness of the database.





Ingrid Bjorklund

This letter is pertaining to the Paynesville Wind farms in Lake Henry and Zion townships.

We demand a 1-2 year moratorium be put in place to get more information on the following:

Noise

Vibration

Flickering

Shadowing

Health Concerns

Wildlife

effects to GPS, cell phones, TV, Radio.

electric and magnetic fields

We want a half-mile setback from property lines. Also a two mile setback around the town of Lake Henry.

There are too many unanswered questions. We are not sure of the effects from the above list.

Bob & Shirley Solrud

Bob & Shirley Solrud

21803 st Hwy 4

Paynesville Mn 56362



STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Date: 4/26/2010

Public Comments Received by the Public Utilities
Commission for week ending: 4-23-2010

Docket Number 10-49



State of Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

PC 09-1110 #
10-49



Consumer Complaint/Inquiry

Consumer Record #

Your Name Bob & Shirley Solsrud	Name of Telephone, Gas, or Electric Company
Mailing Address 21803 st Hwy 4	Person contacted at Telephone, Gas, or Electric Company
City, State, Zip Paynesville Mn 56362	Customer Account Number(s)
Service Address (if different)	Your E-Mail Address
City, State, Zip	Home Phone # 243-4694 Work Phone # Cell/Other Phone #
Have you contacted another agency about this issue? ___ YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, give name of agency:	
Have you contacted the utility? ___ YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO If not, please do so before sending this form. Please attach the utility's response and all documentation, including a copy of the affected bill(s).	
The information you provide may be used to help resolve your concern and/or enforce applicable laws. The information may be shared with the utility and law enforcement agencies. You are not legally required to provide this information, but if you do not, we may not be able to help resolve your concern.	
Please write details about your concern and the action you would like the utility company to take:	
Paynesville Wind Farm LLC shows maps of noise from wind turbines coming part ways into our property lines. As sun rises and sets we will get shadowing and flickering from turbines. We'd like to see a moratorium, to work on set backs of 3168 feet instead of 750 feet from property lines. Wildlife is in the area. There are wetland and conservation grounds around the turbines. Geronimo's book shows turbines between DNR & Conservation areas.	
We also have many Health concerns!	
The information I have given is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and may be used as stated on this form. **If you do not sign this form, it will be returned to you.**	
Your Signature: Shirley Solsrud Bob Solsrud	Date: 4-15-10
We hope our efforts will help resolve this concern. Look for a response in 30 business days. 06/09	

www.puc.state.mn.us

121 Seventh Place East • Suite 350 • St Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

Phone 651-296-0406 • Toll Free 1-800-657-3782 • Fax 651-297-7073 • consumer.puc@state.mn.us

PC Docket # IP 6830/ws 10-49
IP 6830/CN-09-1110

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
COMMENT AND SCOPING FORM

PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: Bob Solrud
Address: 21803 St Hwy 4
City: Paynesville State: Mn ZIP: 56362

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.**

Life Link
Many Health concerns - it affects everyone different!
Stray Voltage - can harm our cattle
They are huge + not very appealing to our landscape
Land value decrease
Electric Magnetic fields
Spraying crops won't work here
GPS subinch planting + fertilizing won't work
Wildlife is here
Flickering + shadowing
Ice build up flies off + kills someone
Township roads get wrecked because of heavy eq.
Government money being spent at this time when the economy is down.
Roads through fields with no concern for the land or next generation.
Worried Geronimo will place turbines in wrong places - we don't have control so we need setbacks, 1/10 mile for flickering 1 mile around the town.
put turbines in less populated areas or 10 towers per cluster + 10 miles apart.

We should not have to adjust or live because of the turbines. 1/10 mile setback gives us the opportunity to sell our dairy farm as a dairy farm which employs a lot more people than the tower maintenance crews. We have talked to a lot of people + no one wants to live or buy a home in a wind farm zone.

Signature: Bob Solrud Date: 4-23-10

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
COMMENT AND SCOPING FORM

PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: Shirley Sobrud
Address: 21803 st Hwy 4
City: Paynesville State: Mn ZIP: 56362

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line.
Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.

- Life Link? A lot of ~~health~~ ^{HEALTH CONCERNS} health concerns. It will affect us each different. Some people cant tolerate the spinning. ^{HEALTHY} ~~quality~~ issues. NOISE, STRAY VOLTAGE, we have cattle and stray voltage can be devastating to cows. SIZE & SIGHT. they are huge, not very appealing for the landscape. LAND VALUE DECREASING, Electric MAGNETIC FIELDS, CROP SPRAYING with planes will not work, GPS sub inch planting corn & fertilizer will not work, WILDLIFE - chasing animals away & birds. FLICKERING & SHADOWING, ICE BUILDUP snowmobiling ice flies off & kills someone. TOWNSHIP ROADS - alot of extra heavy driving on them. worse when wet!
- * All the government money into it & only employing a few full time people, not the right time with the economy.
 - * Roads in fields & no concern for the land or next generation!
 - * worried Geronamo will put turbines in wrong places. We have no control where turbines will be so we need setbacks 6/10 because of flickering and 1 mile ~~away~~ around the town.
 - * We should not have to adjust our life because of turbines. With wider setbacks maybe life link will still land here.
 - * Put turbines in western South Dakota - less population or 10 towers per cluster & 10 miles apart.
 - * 6/10 mile setback gives us the opportunity to sell our dairy farm as a dairy farm which employs alot more people than the tower maintenance crew.
 - * Nobody wants to live or buy a home in a wind farm zone!

Signature: Shirley Sobrud Date: 4-23-10

OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
COMMENT AND SCOPING FORM

PAYNESVILLE WIND FARM
PUC Docket Nos. IP-6830/WS-10-49 (Site Permit),
IP-6830/CN-09-1110 (Certificate of Need)

Name: Jeanine Stanis
Address: 21168 County Road 33
City: PAYNESVILLE State: MN ZIP: 56362

Please share your comments on the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered in the scoping document and environmental report and/or issues to be considered in developing the draft site permit for the proposed Paynesville Wind Farm.

Turn this form in at the meeting or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Ingrid Bjorklund, Project Manager at: ingrid.bjorklund@state.mn.us with one of the docket numbers (listed above) in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010.**

I attended the PUC meeting in Lake Henry. I SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF WIND FARMS IN STEARNS COUNTY AND ALL OF MINNESOTA.

I did not feel that the concerns expressed were valid. IF you live in the community you would know that there are other motivations other than health, safety and economics.

We need wind power as well as other means of energy production in Minnesota to meet our current and future energy needs.

I feel that ~~that~~ ^{the} siting regulations are adequate to avoid flicker and other siting concerns. The new proposed setbacks are an obvious move to stop wind farms and have no validity for health, and safety.

Thanks

Signature: Jeanine L. Stanis Date: 3-MAY-10

Subject: IP-6830/WS-10-49 Site Permit
IP-6830/CN-09-1110

Allen Voigt
30586 240th Street
Paynesville, MN 56362

My name is Allen Voigt I live in Zion Township, section 7 with my wife and our five children. I milk about 33 cows. To tell you about our farm I would first tell you that we are at the end of the power lines, we have battled with stray voltage or ground current since moving to this section. Last November I paid over \$1,000.00 to get the end of the service moved out of the yard. I finally have healthy cows rather than dealing with sick cows which often ended up dead. I can only imagine how bad this will all get again after all these wind turbines are put up and get working.

I have known very little about these until May 5th of 2010 when a neighbor brought to my attention what is really being decided upon with regard to the turbines. The communication between the company responsible for these turbines and myself has been very limited if there really has been any at all. On the last day of some sort of sign up for getting paid for these turbines being on your property, some guy named Justin Pickar called and spoke with my wife, stating that he had been calling our house for weeks trying to talk to us about this project. We have caller ID and told him that we have never had any phone calls from him, and to top it off, there is always someone here to answer the phone or the answering machine is always on...they never left any messages. If he had wanted to talk to me for weeks, he could have stopped in the yard as he did with the other people in the neighborhood. He stated that he had been driving around for months stopping in and talking to the people on their farms. I know of two neighbors that told him to stop in and see me, however, he has never been in my yard to talk to me. To me this sounds like a case of Discrimination.

I have found out through a neighbor that the plans for these turbines will result in my farm being surrounded by these horrendous and dangerous turbines, with four of them being placed in close proximity of my home, two to the east and two to the west of my home, which will result in flicker in the morning and the evening (shadow flicker usually only occurs at sunrise or sunset). Shadow flicker caused by wind turbines is defined as alternating changes in light intensity caused by the moving blade casting shadows on the ground and stationary objects, such as a window at a dwelling. These turbines will be closer to my home than they will be to the people whose land they will be built on, those people will not have any residual effects from the turbines, however, me and my family will have all the effects. Not only will this placement of the turbines have issues for my family's health but it will also devalue my

property to the point of making it unsalable and livable due to the continuing noise and the flicker, no one will want to live on a place with that eye sore. The extra current will also affect any livestock that is in the area.

The DNR has concerns about how these wind turbines are going to hurt the birds in the area, I understand that the DNR is against the turbines and does not want them by wildlife areas. Our area is full of wildlife in the way of ducks, hawks, owls and other types of birds.

I was asking a person who sells concrete for these projects and he told me that there is between 400-600 yards of concrete poured as a base for each of these turbines. However, if I were to want to bury concrete, I am not able to because it is bad for the environment.