



Comment# 00008

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September 30, 2008

WAPA/FWS Wind Programmatic EIS Scoping
Argonne National Laboratory
9700 S. Cass Avenue-EVS/900
Argonne, Illinois 60439

RE: Minot Area Wind Development

To Whom It May Concern:

As the president of Minot Area Development Corporation, I wish to provide support for the Prairie Winds Farm Project. This project represents a significant benefit to the community of Minot as well as the communities in north central North Dakota as a way to meet increasing energy needs, as well as stimulate the regional economy and meet the ever pressing national need for alternative power and renewable energy sources.

Wind is one of the cleanest, most environmentally friendly energy sources available and in North Dakota we have an abundance of this natural resource. Wind energy is pollution free and preserves open spaces, and presents much less of a threat to wildlife than other sources of energy. Wind energy can and should be used to meet some of our increasing energy demands. I believe that the success of this project will transcend to increase good paying jobs, increase local power generation, and increase tax base, all of which result in a positive economic impact to both landowners and communities in the region.

Wind energy is the fastest growing energy source in the world and North Dakota has one of the best wind resources in the country. We as a community oppose overly restrictive regulations that would inhibit us from taking advantage of this opportunity presented to us to develop our economy.

I fully support the Prairie Winds Farm Project and encourage you to move forward, taking an expeditious approach to the Environmental Impact Statement, helping the community take advantage of this great opportunity. I look forward to a favorable outcome and hope we can, in the future, make a community announcement as a result of the development work which has led us to this point.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Chavez".

Jerry Chavez, President/CEO
Minot Area Development Corporation