

## South Prairie School District #70

100 - 177th Ave SW

Minot, ND 58701

### School Administration

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### Board of Education

Mark Roen - President

Ann Welch - Vice-President

Marla Gasmann - Director

Scott Hillestad - Director

David Lakefield - Director

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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 REGION WIND DEVELOPMENT

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the planned wind tower farm to be located approximately 18 miles directly south of Minot, North Dakota. I represent the South Prairie School District #70 where some of the proposed wind towers will be located. Our board of directors, staff, and students have applauded the creation of electricity by means of wind energy.

The environment where the proposed wind tower farm is to be located should be impacted very little in terms of wildlife and depletion of natural resources. The towers will be located, I understand, away from any refuges and other aquatic habitats in the area. With the technological advancements of wind turbines, the speed at which the blades turn are favorable to keeping to a minimum the amount of danger to any flying birds. This includes whooping cranes that may chose to fly over this area.

In looking at the impact this wind farm may have on the education of the children of South Prairie in terms of generating dollars for our district it looks to be a resource that the district could very well use. It will help us create an efficient school facility by using energy dollars we will likely receive that ultimately helps the district keep property taxes from increasing.

Because our school supports this wind energy development and sees very little chance of danger to migratory birds, like the whooping crane, we ask that a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement be one that moves forward very quickly.

Basin Electric has met with property owners and has many groups behind their proposed wind tower farm. This is because Basin is a good partner in our area. Every fall we send our fifth and sixth graders to an area habitat for Eco-education activities and this wind energy project in our area parallels what conservationists and wildlife officials teach our students about becoming good stewards of the land.

Sincerely,

  
Delwyn Groninger, administrator of South Prairie School