

# Velva Community Development Corporation

615 Highway 52 Velva, North Dakota 58790

September 30, 2008

WAPA/FWS  
Argonne National Laboratory  
9700 S. Cass Ave-EVS/900  
Argonne, IL 60439


RE: Wind Energy Programmatic EIS Scoping

Velva is located in the southwest corner of McHenry County in North Dakota. North of Velva is currently the home of the 12 MW Velva wind farm. South of Velva seven miles is part of the Missouri Escarpment ridge. This ridge has some of the highest recorded average yearly wind speeds in the nation. Along this ridge there currently is three different wind developers leasing wind rights from area farmers.

One of our main goals as a local community development corporation is to encourage the development of these wind farms. Not only will this create much needed jobs and revenue for area farmers, it also uses one of our natural resources and will help end our dependence on foreign oil. Most of this ridge south of Velva is currently in the CRP program. Wind leases with area farmers may slow the loss of these acres back to conventional crops.

We strongly oppose this EIS if it creates overly restrictive regulations delaying or ending these planned wind farms south of Velva. We also believe wind farms that are currently in operation or projects that are already in progress should be exempt from any regulations created by this EIS. During a time with record energy prices and a national goal to end our dependence on foreign oil, we need to develop the best wind resources in the Upper Great Plains instead of creating regulations that will slow or end these wind farm developments.

Sincerely,  
Velva Community Development Corporation



Randy Hauck  
Board Chairman