

June 12, 2015

Lancaster County Planning Dept. & Planning Com.
555 So 10 St., Suite 213
Lincoln, NE 68508

Lancaster Co. Bd. Of Commissioners
555 S. 10th St, Room 110
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Department & Commission Members:

This letter speaks for five generations on the same family farm. We have been on this farm land long before Hallam ever existed. My ancestors informed me that they saw where the city of Hallam was to be built, long before there were roads or mail service. They were very progressive through the generations wanting to advance the county and improve the lifestyle including the first wind mills to pump water, first telephone lines, and the first REA electricity. This all came with a high price of freedom to advance and progress and change. If you would drive down the main street of Hallam, you would see the American Legion sign with one of our family members who gave their all for freedom to progress and improve. Over the years several of our family members have served in many branches of the service during different times. Without this, our rights and freedoms as Americans to have differing views would not exist.

I believe in the freedom to be progressive without endangering or breaking any laws; to be able to harvest wind power, solar power, water or grain crops and who knows what else the future will present us. We know that through the meetings that were held, that in Iowa and even in other countries with no political ties, there has been much progress in wind power throughout the world. I am aware there is a group in the area that is in opposition to the wind farm idea. But I feel it is important to let all farmers have the option to participate in the resources of energy that the world is going to.

Hallam was very progressive many years ago with the first Nuclear Public Power plant in this country. This led to economic growth and development meaning jobs for people in the community. I would request less stringent requirements so that all farms of any size, not just large farms, have the opportunity to participate equally to harvest the wind power.

Our taxes in the last two years have increased from 40% to 60% or more. Income from wind farms would immensely help those that need this extra income to cover these additional taxes. Diversification of the land would help farmers' incomes in the event of another drought as in 2012, when wells went dry on farms and in some small towns. The income from these wind farms would help ensure our family farm to continue to go beyond six generations of small family farm operations.

Gage County regulations for Steel Flats Wind Farms are less restrictive than Lancaster County. It is requested that Lancaster County accept the Gage County regulations. This would allow the land owners that are participating with Volkswind equal opportunities in both counties.

From the informational meetings, there was no true proof of any long term devaluation of property, medical issues or harm of wildlife and habitat. I see this as a win wind opportunity for our communities, rather than a "sky is falling" mentality. Our neighboring states have progressed far ahead of us and they are prospering, we are dragging our feet on phobias.

Speaking for our family and other farmers that have been silent but have signed up for these wind contracts, we encourage the construction of this wind farm. The wind farms will help our state, schools and our communities prosper and progress forward for a healthy and better life from this natural God-given clean resource.

Sincerely,

ACDO Inc. Family Farms, and
Larry Oltman
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cc: Volkswind USA
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