

Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 2263 (with amendments)

Chairman Kreun and Members of the Committee,

Wind Industry of North Dakota (WIND) supports SB 2263, which requires applicants of projects to provide notice to affected landowners. WIND is a coalition of wind industry members who believe North Dakota should harness its abundance of wind for the continued benefit of its communities and residents. WIND's members include American Clean Power Association (formerly the American Wind Energy Association), Apex Clean Energy, Capital Power, EDF Renewables, Enel North America, Invenergy, NextEra Energy Resources, and Orsted.

The goal of the bill, as introduced, is for the applicant of a project at the PSC to provide notice of the application to landowners within the site or corridor for the project. Although WIND member companies maintain an open line of communication with landowners within a project footprint, as well as the surrounding community—throughout the development, construction, and operation phases—we believe all parties stand to benefit from a more formal notification process, as outlined in SB 2263.

We have been in communication with the prime sponsor and the NW Landowners Association. We appreciate their collaboration with WIND in offering of the clarifying amendment, and we fully support the amendment. These amendments retain the core function of the bill notice to affected landowners—and clarify a 30-day timeframe for providing the notice, clarify that notice by US Mail is appropriate (as opposed to a project having to "serve" notice), and clarify that owner of record is the person that receives the property tax bill.

WIND appreciates your consideration and respectfully urges a DO PASS recommendation with the amendment.



Wind Industry of North Dakota

Please feel free to contact any of us for continued discussion.

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