



**Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee
Testimony in Opposition to HB 1135
March 17, 2023**

Chairman Patton & Members of the Senate Energy & Natural Resources,

My name is Lisa Feldner and I am here today on behalf of Enel North America. Enel North America is an energy company based in Andover, Massachusetts with an Italian minority interest. The company operates in 14 states and has had a presence in North Dakota since 2017. It has 2 operating wind farms near Tioga and 2 projects under development.

Most of our concerns with this bill were addressed by the engrossed version but we have one more. Enel leases agricultural land to place its wind tower structures on and that was addressed with the amendments. However, they tend to purchase land for their electrical substations. They are not in the practice of buying up large tracts of land for this purpose, typically under 40 acres. Our concern with this bill is on page 4, 9 (b). which limits the purchase of agricultural land to not more than 320 acres. If 320 acres is a cumulative number, that would limit the projects we can bring to North Dakota.

Thank you.

Lisa Feldner

lisa@olsoneffertz.com

701-214-3709