

Testimony in opposition to SB2208

Dear Senators,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB2208.

This bill sets a troubling precedent for state overreach. By requiring automatic approval of energy projects, this bill gives free rein to corporate developers while silencing the voices of the people most affected. Energy projects carry significant implications for land use, property values, and community health. Forcing local governments to rubber-stamp projects without due process prioritizes corporate profits over responsible development and public input.

Withholding critical funding if townships or counties adopt ordinances or policies that interfere with state-approved energy infrastructure projects is state government overreach and punishes local government for trying to protect their citizens. This bill denies our local communities the critical funding which is so necessary for rural areas to survive.

How will you play a role in shaping the future and survival of rural North Dakota?

I urge a **DO NOT PASS** vote on SB2208.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Joe Mongeon

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