

South Dakota Aviation Association

July 22, 2022

Dear Hughes County Planning & Zoning,

The push is on for renewable energy. The North Bend Wind Project has been planned. While we see areas of South Dakota currently using wind energy, we ask that you take a look at the long term effects for others who use the ground and air here in South Dakota.

Aerial Applicators provide a valuable resource to Agriculture here in South Dakota. Our concern for the safety of our pilots is at the top of our priorities. Our pilots workspace, our entire Industry, is based on air space. Wind turbines, even when properly lit, are an obvious safety risk to everyone in our industry, but even greater are the MET towers and transmission lines that come along with these wind farms. MET towers sneak in under the lighting rules and are extremely hard to see. Transmission lines needed to take the power away are very prominent, earth tones in color and an additional threat. We appreciate your assistance on making sure these farms have strict lighting regulations to keep our pilots safe.

Agriculture is the top industry in our state. Those who place wind turbines on their property are limiting the use of spray planes on not only their own farmland, but also their neighbors. The impact on farming operations, especially those who produce crops like sunflowers, could be great. Aerial Applicators need 1 mile or more to turn around safely. A 500 foot setback is not enough for a loaded airplane. If a neighbor's property would be surrounded on one or more sides by wind turbines, the odds of hiring an Aerial Applicator would be extremely difficult. Attached you will find a GPS tracking map of an Air Tractor during an application. Please notice the red lines marking the space for the aircraft to turn around.

Unfortunately, our Association knows first hand what happens when airplanes and wind turbines collide. We ask for your continued support in safety and lighting for these farms on behalf of pilots everywhere. We are also willing to help answer any questions you may have for Aerial Applicators and the Ag Aviation Industry. Please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

The South Dakota Aviation Association Board of Directors

South Dakota Aviation Association

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August 23, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

The South Dakota Aviation Association has permission from the National Agricultural Aviation Association to submit the document titled "AT-802A GPS Track Example 02" as an attachment to the Docket.

Sincerely,

Scott Bretthauer

Director of Education and Safety
National Agricultural Aviation Association
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Alexandria, VA 22314
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From: Andrea Barber Goebel [<mailto:sdaviation@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Eric Booth <Eric.Booth@co.hughes.sd.us>
Subject: Re: Wind meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization.

Dear Hughes County Planning & Zoning Committee,

I would like to request the attached information be attached to the docket in the Matter of the Application by North Bend Wind Project, LLC for a Permit to Construct and Operate the North Bend Wind Project in Hyde County and Hughes County, South Dakota along with the following explanation:

Attached is an image from aerial application. Red is no spray on; green is spray on. Yellow is the Google Earth ruler. The image shows the distance for one of the shorter turns in the field: 2,273 feet (0.43 miles). This is a turn from when the aircraft has some of the weight off of it.

In addition it shows the distance for a longer turn: 9,147 feet (1.73 miles). This would be for when the aircraft is fully loaded

Larger turbines increase the risk for our pilots. While we understand the need for renewable energy, central South Dakota farmland is not the best choice.

I have attached a letter of permission for use of the map from the NAAA.

Sincerely,

Andrea Goebel

Andrea Barber Goebel
Executive Director, South Dakota Aviation Association
Coordinator, Tri-State Aerial Applicators Convention

AT-802A GPS Track

Legend

