

North Bend Wind Project, LLC

1360 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 400

Houston, Texas 770056



July 20, 2022

Via E-Mail (Anthony.crutch@engie.com)

Hughes County Board of Adjustment

104 E Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Attn: Kevin Hipple

Dear Kevin Hipple :

I am writing on behalf of North Bend Wind Project, LLC (the "Project") in response to the concerns that have been raised regarding Aerial Crop Spraying around Wind Turbines at the North Bend Wind Project. Our understanding is that documentation was submitted in pre-filed testimony to the South Dakota PUC and to Hughes County.

We want to be very clear -- safety is at the top of our priorities with respect to all aspects of our business, specifically in the design, construction, operations and maintenance of all of our renewable energy generating facilities. In reviewing the concerns about aerial crop spraying in and around the proposed wind turbines, we have solicited advice from the American Clean Power Association (ACP), our affiliates who are operating and maintaining a neighboring wind farm – the Triple H Wind Farm -, and experienced local pilots that spray crops that are located in the fields around wind turbines owned by both ENGIE affiliates and our industry peers across multiple states including South Dakota. Please see below what we have learned from these collaborations:

- There are approximately 70,000 Wind Turbines operating across the U.S.
- Most of these turbines are in rural areas, with many located in active agricultural production areas where aerial spraying occurs without incident.
- Generally, aerial application occurs on low wind days (under 10 miles per hour) when turbines would be spinning slowly or not at all.
- Interviews conducted with local Aerial Crop Sprayers indicated that crop spraying pilots are not concerned with the safety of flying their planes around Wind Turbines and shared the safety precautions they employ in doing so.
- Aerial crop spraying is being currently performed at our Triple H Wind Project with no issues to date - (Appendix A Figure 1a,2b).
- The wind energy industry emphasizes the importance of communication between project operators, landowners, and pilots. Just as the Triple H wind farm site managers are currently doing, all North Bend site managers will emphasize

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communications among all affected parties and will work with pilots flying and spraying around wind turbines to minimize any potential risk presented by spinning turbines, and also to ensure that on-site managers and operations personnel are not exposed to chemicals during the spraying process.

My team and I remain available to answer any questions and provide any additional information that you may need with respect to the concerns addressed by the above information.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Very truly yours,

North Bend Wind Project, LLC

By: 

Anthony Crutch, Project Developer

North Bend Wind Project, LLC

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Appendix A

Figure 1a. Triple H Terma ALDS Radar System (6/22/22-7/2/22)

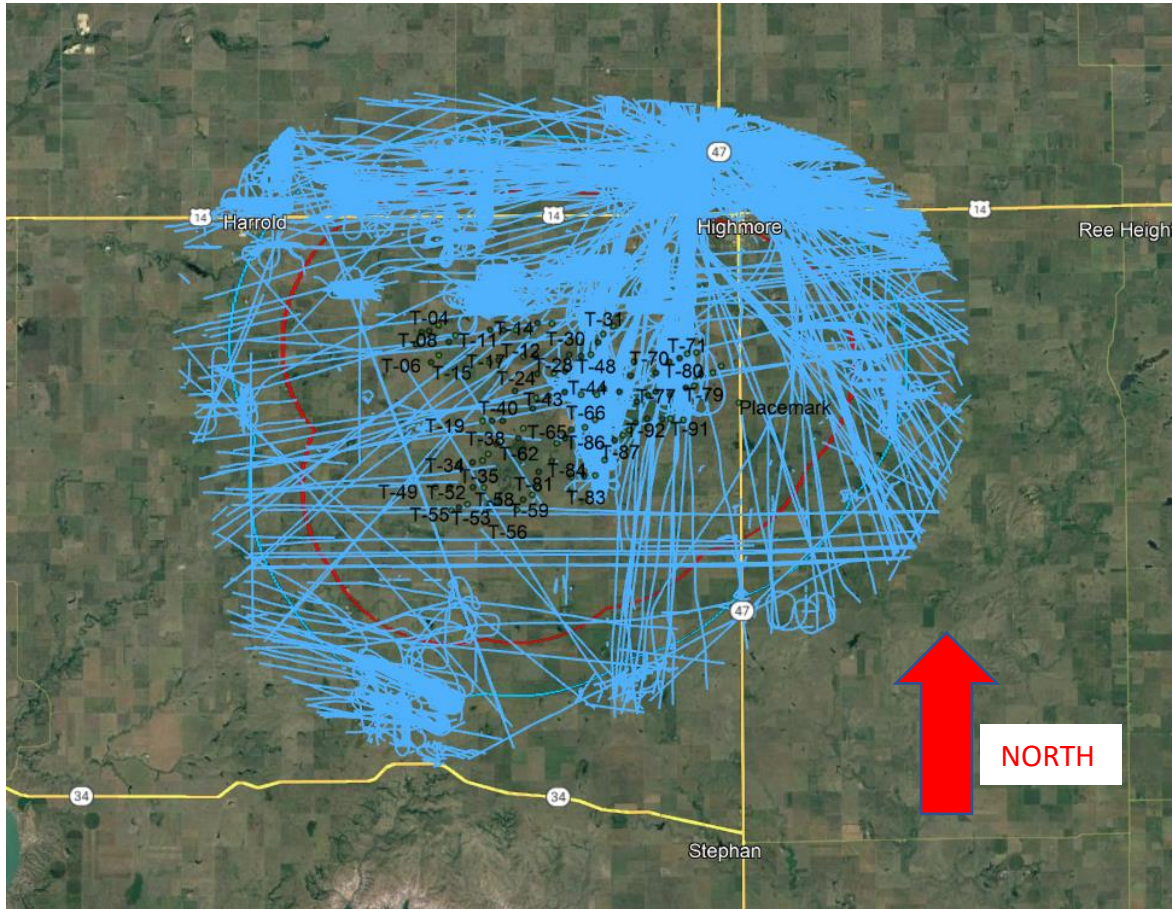


Figure 2b. Triple H Terma ALDS Radar System (6/22/22-7/2/22)

