

LETTER: Davison County panel did the right thing

By Gregg Hubner on Feb 13, 2016 at 10:41 a.m.

To the Editor:

I commend the Davison County Commission on listening to the majority of its citizens and voting down the proposed permitting of a wind farm.

Last October in Bon Homme County, our zoning board had a hearing on setbacks for wind towers. There were more than 40 people there against the setbacks proposed by the wind developers, and just a handful for the short setbacks.

The Avon Clarion reported that about a dozen spoke against and only two county citizens for. But the zoning committee voted against the citizens and for the developer. In addition to that, the letters that were written to the commissioners for their meeting were miscounted in favor of the developers by the county auditor.

A subsequent meeting by the commissioners produced the same result. The investor and developers got their way and the citizens were ignored. Wind farm developers get their foot in the door by persuading county officials to get on their side by promising all this tax money.

The Davison Zoning Board opted for quality of life and preservation of property values rather than promised or projected tax revenue. The people pushing wind farms never have to live by them, but they expect you to. Did you follow SB76, which was going to alter the setbacks of wind towers because Dakota Plains Energy built towers too close to property lines in Campbell County? Rather than give the ranchers any compensation for their illegal activity, the developers tried to persuade our Senate to change the law in their favor. Wind developers are very slick; I don't trust them at all.

If Congress actually keeps its word and phases out the production credit for wind energy (taxpayer money going to wealthy and foreign owners of wind farms), then these developers might have to find a new occupation.

Gregg Hubner

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