

Dear Sir:

I'm writing this e-mail just to inform you that I'm that 'lone voice in the wilderness' that has a great deal to do with wind towers, because they are in my airspace. I've been in the agricultural aviation business for over 40 years and the Mitchell area is part of my aviation home. The airspace that wind towers sit in is where I work. It introduces an immediate danger to me and it definitely affects my quality of work. One of my good friends was killed in the Lake Benton, MN area last summer, while working in the wind tower environment.

Wind towers are not an agricultural entity! Our airspace is being used by outside interests to produce electricity for people in other parts of the country. So, my argument is, leave this airspace for use in agriculture not for producing electricity for someone else.

I understand your need, as a planning unit, to address the wind tower situation. Why not give the opponents their 1 mile set back and if someone wants towers, give them the option of getting permission to construct towers within the one mile setback. If people are that interested in wind towers, getting permission to construct should not be that big of a problem. Eminent Domain for something that can be placed anywhere, seems to be a bit of a stretch.

It would be easy to go into great lengths as to why I'm not a fan of wind towers, but let me say constructing them in my work environment is a train wreck!

Please pass this e-mail on to the other individuals involved in the decision making process.

Respectfully Submitted,

John O'Connell
MJ Aviation, Inc