

From: [Mona Evens](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Bitterroot Wind Project, Canby MN
Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 5:34:38 PM

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

Over the last few months, the Bitterroot Wind Project has been discussed as RES requests their Site Permit and Certificate of Need. As part of these proceedings, economic development and job creation have been a major focus. On behalf of Bitterroot Wind Project Landowners, we would like to help the Commission understand our view of this discussion. There are many intricacies in the proceedings, however, the voice of the community has been lost in a greater policy debate.

Wind projects, like Bitterroot, provide sustainable income and opportunity to communities, jobs, and economic development to a very rural area, in this case, Canby. The Canby community wants this project and the economic drivers it brings. It also wants the jobs associated. However, the current discussion at the Commission does not take the actual community in consideration. Canby, and surrounding areas, do not benefit from a labor requirement or a local hiring requirement. Labor involvement rates are low and unemployment is low. The project impacts the community and the community benefits from the project being constructed and operated for over 20 years. The scrutiny on the power purchase agreement and the construction labor requirement is overshadowing the actual community benefits of the project.

We ask that the issues of labor requirements and how to interpret a legal exemption for power purchase agreements be decided outside of this project permit. The community will benefit from the project for over 20 years, but only if it is actually constructed and operated. Please don't hurt the Canby community to solve policy issues.

Regards, Ramona Evens, 14299 210th Street, Cold Spring MN. 56320. Farmer, Landowner.