November 17, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Renewable energy is vital to the environmental and economic growth of our community. Wind and solar energy are safe, and eventually inexpensive, power sources that will transform area farms and businesses further into the twenty-first century. But, like all change, it must be implemented reasonably.

The Apex Clean-Energy Corporation proposal to use 34,000 acres in Hillon County is unsatisfactory. I do not agree with those who claim "cosmetic" opposition. Change is always difficult for some people. Similar opposition was made against telephone and electric light poles a hundred years ago.

Rather, opposition should be made about Apex's vague guarantees for consistent, affordable energy. Currently, those who permit wind turbines on their property will benefit most financially. Neighboring properties, although in close proximity, gain nothing. Aside from rental agreements for turbines, what advantage will Apex have over current utility costs?

Don't believe the hype that "wind turbines cause cancer" or "wind turbines will destroy birds." That is propaganda from oil and coal companies making a last gasp for energy dominance.

Rather, focus on guarantees to all residents, not merely a chosen few. The community needs more education and options to make informed decisions. Obious need up front guarantees. We should learn from those who were lied to that "fracking" would help energy woes -- then saw their ground water poisoned. Fortunately, renewable energy has no such side effects; just the sad result of the greedy over the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

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