M. Dassow Exhibit #6



ILLINOIS AG AVIATION ASSOCIATION

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January 30, 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is being written at the request of Mr. John Dassow, from Chatsworth, IL. It pertains to testimony recently presented at the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals, on behalf of Invenergy. An email thread between a Ms. Allyson Sand and myself was presented as evidence that the Illinois Agricultural Aviation Association (IAAA) has no concerns or issues with the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project, other than inadequate marking of their Met towers. That is a misrepresentation of the facts.

When Ms. Sand contacted me in early December of 2014, it was a simple request for a written confirmation that we had "spoken about the project" and that I had received a package she sent in the mail with project details and a map. I was never asked to submit any evaluation of the project plans. Simple scrutiny of the email string in question, along with sworn testimony of Invernegy's Ms. Sand, will verify that.

The package of information was sent to me, ostensibly as a courtesy, as Executive Director of the Illinois Agricultural Aviation Association. Ms. Sand and I did speak a few times by telephone regarding the Pleasant Ridge Project and I remember telling her that our industry has reluctantly accepted that wind developments are a reality in Illinois. I also detailed to her that any wind development results in a certain loss of farm ground treatable from the air and that placing their turbines in a linear pattern would minimize the percentage lost. Ms. Sand replied with the "stock" answer for why that is not possible. For the record, there are other wind companies who design their wind developments in that pattern. We also spoke about the marking of Met towers and that conversation resulted in the email thread. These towers are deadly obstacles because they are difficult to see, and can be erected literally overnight. I believe she was receptive to making concessions regarding their current practice, after considering the recent \$6.7 million settlement for wrongful death resulting from an ag pilot hitting a Met tower in California. Most wind companies have taken note of that.

The email I sent to Ms. Sand reflected our communication on the Met towers and an appreciation for open communication, which she initiated. Any testimony or exhibit entered as evidence that this communication demonstrates acceptance of the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy Project is misleading and false.

Our Association has not taken a public stand on the economics, viability, land devaluation, or potential health effects relating to wind developments in Illinois. We have only asked that the facts relating to the adverse effects on aerial application of production agriculture inputs be fairly presented to farmers, landowners, and regulatory bodies. That is our area of expertise and that is the only area that we can address with any professional credibility. Toward that end, the IAAA passed a Resolution in 2005 which addresses our position on wind development in Illinois. It states:

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL AVIATION ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the need for affordable electric power and the efficient distribution of that power to the point of its consumption, and WHEREAS, we acknowledge the environmental benefits of wind generated electrical power, and

WHEREAS, we understand the financial considerations involved when decisions are made to place wind turbines on otherwise productive farm ground, and

WHEREAS, wind turbine generator farms create uniquely hazardous and unacceptable dangers to pilots flying agricultural aircraft in a ground environment,

WE HEREBY RESOLVE that, in the interest of pilot safety, we will refuse to make an aerial application of any product inside a grouping of wind generators, or to farmland immediately adjacent to a grouping of wind generators, should that proximity be considered hazardous by the pilot of the agricultural aircraft.

There are wind developments currently in operation here in Illinois. A percentage of farmground is deemed inaccessible from the air in all of them. There are some agricultural aviation companies who simply refuse to fly within the footprint of these developments. Others will accept work on a case by case basis and charge a premium fee for treating the fields that they accept. That fee is also charged to landowners outside of, but in close proximity to, the turbine development.

One of the main reasons the IAAA felt it necessary to go on record with our position was because we faced the unfortunate reality that some wind developers were routinely misrepresenting the adverse effects to aerial applications caused by turbine projects. Potentially affected landowners and local governing bodies charged with making decisions regarding wind developments need to be fairly presented with the facts. I hope this letter clarifies the position of the Illinois Agricultural Aviation Association.

Respectfully,

Rick Reed

Executive Director