



**RECOMMENDATION TO
WIND ENERGY COMPETITIVE ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

OCTOBER 5, 2011,

In the spirit of continuing to grow the entire wind energy industry in South Dakota, Absolutely!Aberdeen and Prairie Vision recommend the following to the Legislature's Wind Energy Competitive Advisory Task Force, convened on October 5, 2011:

"While creating opportunities to transmit wind energy to other markets is a very key component to growing the wind energy industry in South Dakota, as is the playing field for taxation of wind developments, it is also important to be sure South Dakota can grow the wind supply chain.

The wind supply chain includes manufacturers of wind turbine blades, wind turbine engines, wind towers, wind components, and the entire array of wind services. To do so, the State's economic development tools will need to be competitive, available and certain for this industry. The State also recognizes that building the capacity of the wind supply chain may be very capital intensive, especially for communities who chose to expand their own economies by encouraging the development of the wind components.

Knowing that the wind supply chain of manufacturers and service providers can be very capital intensive, with very large building and equipment needs, the Task Force recommends that the State's large project refund or large project development fund be retained for use by the developments, as well as the wind supply chain, over time for use in this industry, and that the industry have certainty as to the availability of this important economic development tool.

For most communities in South Dakota, the construction and equipment for manufacturers of wind supply chain products can exceed the community's ability to finance and construct such facilities. To allow such wind supply chain manufacturers to construct in South Dakota, closer to the wind development, retention of such very important tools for very large capital projects such as the wind supply chain will be key to the industry, but more importantly to communities who wish to grow their economies, as well as the wind energy industry in this fashion. Such construction in states such as South Dakota can greatly assist the industry, as the product will be closer to considerable wind development, thus reducing the exorbitant cost of transportation of the product to development sites."

Accelerating the growth of Aberdeen and the region!

Aberdeen has considerable experience with the wind supply chain industries and can speak with first hand expertise and knowledge about this portion of the industry, and supports the entire spectrum of the industry.

Thank you for your consideration!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie M. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julie" being the most prominent.

Julie M. Johnson

Executive Director