



Roanoke-Benson CUSD 60

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August 20, 2020

Woodford County Zoning Board of Appeals and the Woodford County Board
115 N Main Street
Eureka, IL 61530

Dear Board members,

We the Roanoke-Benson School District are writing this letter to notify you that the School District approves the Panther Grove Wind Energy Facility (the Project) that is being developed by TriGlobal Energy and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) (together the "Companies") in portions of Greene, Clayton, Minonk, and Panola townships of Woodford County. We specifically request that you approve the permitting for the Project. Like most school districts across Illinois, finding funds for our schools is always a concern and a challenge. And of course, none of us want to just "make do" when it comes to our children.

According to the Companies, the Project is estimated to generate up to \$5.0 million in year 1 and \$95.6 million over 30 years in local property tax revenue. Of that amount \$1.2 million in year 1 and \$22.4 million over 30 years is estimated to be distributed solely to our school district.

This annual property tax in addition to the landowner payments and associated economic benefits from the Project will greatly enhance our already-strained budget and will aide to providing a better environment, the teachers, better extracurriculars, the tools and all the creative resources needed to help our children achieve their full potential – and in doing so, we all benefit. The reality is that it takes money – and a project like Panther Grove guarantees additional funds without increasing the tax burden on our citizens.

Wind energy is becoming an important economic driver in our state. Illinois is third in the nation for wind energy employment and sixth in the nation for wind power capacity. Our citizens are recognizing the many benefits of wind energy – tax revenues, landowner and community payments, local jobs and a cleaner environment. Let's be certain that Woodford County, including the schools, benefits from this along with everyone else.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Brad Sauder

President, Roanoke-Benson CUSD 60 Board of Education