

Fieldcrest Community Unit School District 6

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Dr. Kari L. Rockwell, Superintendent

August 31, 2020

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

Dear Board Members,

The Fieldcrest Community Unit School District #6 fully approves of and supports the Panther Grove Wind Energy Facility (the Project) that is being developed by Tri Global Energy and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) (together the “Companies”) in portions of Greene, Clayton, Minonk, and Panola townships of Woodford County. We eagerly request that the Woodford County Board approve the permitting for the Project due to the multiple benefits the community will experience.

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 up to \$1.4 million in year 1 and \$27.7 million over 30 years is estimated to be distributed solely to Fieldcrest CUSD#6.

This annual property tax in addition to the landowner payments and associated economic benefits from the Project will aid in addressing the \$26 million Health/Life Safety repairs and renovations required by the Illinois State Board of Education as well as provide additional supports for our budget, beginning to see the effects of COVID-19. The revenues generated by the Project have the great potential to greatly reduce or eliminate the need to raise property taxes in order to address the above mentioned construction work.

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,

Kari L. Rockwell

Dr. Kari L. Rockwell, Superintendent

MyKin Bernardi

MyKin Bernardi, Board of Education President



Fieldcrest Primary
523 N Johnson St.
Minonk, IL 61760
309.432.2838

Fieldcrest Inter.
306 N. Maple St.
Toluca, IL 61369
815.452.2318

Fieldcrest Middle
102 W. Elm St.
Wenona, IL 61377
815.853.4331

Fieldcrest High
1 Dornbush Dr.
Minonk, IL 61760
309.432.2529