

**Cedar Springs Wind Energy Project
Wyoming Industrial Siting Council Docket DEQ/ISC 18-05
State Agency Comment Form**

Response required to Industrial Siting before *March 22, 2019*

Instructions:

- a. Your agency is required by W. S. 35-12-110(c) to provide this information.
- b. Please print or type.
- c. A letter providing all required information may substitute for this form.
- d. Use additional pages as necessary.
- e. Consider only the aspects of the project which are in your *agency's* area of expertise.

Name of Agency:

This form was prepared by (name, title, and phone number):

Chris Wichmann - Manager Natural Resource and Policy Division – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

From the expertise of the agency, should the Industrial Siting Council *deny* a permit for the construction and operation of the project?

1. The agency has no reason to recommend denial of a permit. Check here XXX
2. The agency recommends denial of the permit. Check here ___ and provide reasons:

From the area of expertise within the agency, the Industrial Siting Council should consider the following as permit conditions on the construction or operation of the project (list):

It is the stance of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) to support Wyoming's private landowners and agricultural industry in sustaining a viable agricultural industry and way of life. We believe the Project being developed on private lands enhances private landowner's ability to maintain their way of life while allowing for the continuation of traditional agricultural practices.

We support the landowner's agreement provided in the document. We recommend the developer work closely with the landowners when identifying potential locations for the turbines and roads. It is important to fully understand the landowners' agricultural operations to help avoid impacting their management and operations.

We encourage emphasizing successful interim reclamation and final reclamation and monitoring to occur on disturbed lands. Monitoring vegetation and reclamation trends is key to ensuring successful management of the resources impacted by the proposed project. The document states that "Disturbed land areas covered in rock or gravel or building/tower footprints would be restored to approximate original grade (which would include adjusting soil compaction that might have resulted from previous uses) and reseeded or replanted with

native vegetation.” We recommend that the developer work with the private landowners to determine an appropriate seed mix for reclamation that suits their operations. It does not have to be native seed if that is not the landowner’s desire.

Describe the regulatory jurisdiction which your agency has over aspects of the project.

1. If no regulatory authority, then check here XXX and do not complete the remaining statements.
2. Regulation is by the following statutes:

3. Attach a statement of your agency’s ability to regulate impacts of the project.