



# Iowa Great Lakes Association

PRESERVING A BALANCED ENVIRONMENT

P.O. Box 468, Okoboji, IA

[www.iagreatlakes.org](http://www.iagreatlakes.org)

October 18, 2023

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The Iowa Great Lakes Association (IGLA) is a dedicated environmental organization in Dickinson County with over 1,000 members. Our Mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance the Iowa Great Lakes while supporting clean water efforts and local environmental initiatives.

We are deeply concerned about the proposed RedRock wind turbine development in our county. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, wind turbines have been associated with various negative environmental impacts. Key concerns from IGLA include:

1. Negative visual impact on the landscape, degrading the natural beauty of the region and flashing red lights disrupting the nighttime sky.
2. Noise pollution from turbine blades, construction, and maintenance.
3. Habitat disruption for birds and bats due to spinning turbine blades and changes in air pressure.
4. Negative environmental impact from non-recyclable turbine materials.
5. Disruption of farmland, soil erosion, and water quality degradation.
6. Increased impervious surfaces from construction contribute to water pollution.
7. Adverse effects on biodiversity and increased eagle mortality.
8. The potential for noticeable climate changes caused by wind turbine development.
9. Habitat reduction, erosion, and vegetation alteration from construction.
10. Wind Turbine approval will place the County enhanced tourist revenues at risk.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Energy acknowledges the negative impact of wind energy on wildlife, and scientific studies suggest climate change effects. Site clearing and grading, along with construction of access roads, towers, support buildings, utility and transmission corridors, and other ancillary facilities will reduce and alter existing habitat, cause erosion and runoff, and reduce vegetation. This influx of industrial wind turbines could harm the natural character of the Iowa Great Lakes region, which Dickinson County and its communities are dedicated to preserving.

IGLA firmly opposes RedRock's application for conditional use and respectfully asks the Board to deny the request.

Sincerely,

*William Van Orsdel*