From: bruce orluck
To: DOH, Air Quality
Subject: Regional Haze Public Comments
Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 3:40:09 PM

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Dear Director Glatt,

ND skies are clear, we do not need additional controls on air pollution in ND. If you want to do some good, start with forest fires, don't allow them. Next have our neighbor to the north, Canada clean up their coal burning power plants. Then have are neighbors to the south add pollution controls to their volcano. Then cut off coal to China since their air is very dirty also. The reao point here is the problem isn't here in the US. Until these other countries start doing their part we don't need to further burden the US economy.We need reliable, affordable energy. Note that reliable part. Wind mills are part of the solution, but they are not the solution. Do what is right for ND. We already have very clean air

I am writing to you as a supporter of abundant, balanced, reliable, low-cost energy. A diverse set of energy resources is crucial for our region, and coal-based electricity must continue to be part of the equation. I support retaining coal as a regional energy source that will help keep electric rates low, jobs plentiful, and our economy robust. Coal has been and will continue to provide the source for power we can depend on.

More importantly, North Dakota's coal industry is a good neighbor. In accordance with DEQ's visibility plan, the industry has significantly invested in its power plants over the last decade to ensure the state continues boasting the cleanest air in the country. These investments reduced emissions by 66% and put the state well ahead of the path to eliminating visibility impairment in its parks by 2064-the goal set by the United States EPA.

State researchers report that wildfires and international emissions are the primary causes of visibility impairment. In 2020, North Dakota experienced long episodes of visibility impairment throughout summer and fall due these emissions, which the state cannot control. Due to the continued drought in far western regions, state experts believe this trend could continue. Costly new regulations imposed on power plants will not address this concern-instead, resources should be dedicated to reducing the fires that are the source of the haze.

I understand DEQ may be under pressure to impose new controls on power plants, even though power plants are not the primary cause of visibility impairment and new controls would not meaningfully improve visibility. Therefore, I urge support for the implementation plan developed by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that ensures our region continues to benefit from clean and clear air along with reliable, affordable electricity supply, today and in the future.

Sincerely,

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