

Dear Energy and Climate Finance Committee members,

Thank you for your service to our state. I am writing to you because like you, I care about our beautiful state of MN and want to see future generations enjoy its many natural resources and beauty.

While I understand your intentions are good, I have some questions of supports of this bill related to your zero-carbon emission goal. How exactly will you make this happen? Where to you plan to get raw materials to manufacture the turbines, panels and batteries, cars, airplanes or virtually anything with intermittent energy? How do we as a state plan to function as a modern society with pricey, erratic energy and frequent power distractions, particularly in a state with weather as erratic as ours.

We are not just talking about replacing today's coal and gas power plant megawatts, it is doubling today's electricity generation. It is tripling current megawatt generation, because I believe some or several of you do not like nuclear or hydroelectric power either. It is going to take far more electricity to charge enough batteries to ensure backup power for all the fossil and other power you propose to fade out. This is going to take a lot of wind turbines and solar panels.

Where do you plan to put all of them? Do you plan to impose those facilities on rural Minnesota or tap into regional power grids and use electricity that someone else is generating with coal, gas, nuclear hydro and maybe wind or solar? How will you separate "good" and "bad" electrons?

If you impose this on rural MN, you will have frustrated rural families who do not want ruined scenery, desecrated ridge line, dead birds and bats and a host of other future problems including likely 25-50-100% higher household electricity bills, soaring price tags for products and services that go with soaring electricity costs for every business, farm factory and hospital. As a rural Minnesotan, we do not want more good manufacturing jobs destroyed by skyrocketing energy prices and sent overseas.

Do supporters of this bill have any idea how many turbines, panels, batteries, and miles of transmission lines they will need to replace all fossil fuels? What will you do with the defunct turbine blades and solar panels that cannot be recycled or burned? How many cubic miles of landfills will you need?

Lastly, I have a real concern about the economic impact of this. Coal fired power plants generate 7745 megawatt hours of electricity per mine and power plant worker, natural gas generates 3812 MWh per oil and gas field and utility worker. This high efficiency low-cost electricity sustains thousands of jobs in manufacturing and countless other industries. In stark contrast, wind turbines produce a small 836 Mwh for every employee while solar panels generate a tiny 98 Mwh per worker. This translates into killing good paying jobs with lower wage positions.

Thank you again to your service to our state.

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