JB Pritzker, Governor Jerry Costello II, Acting Director

Bureau of Land and Water Resources

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-6297 • TDD 866/287-2999 • Fax 217/557-0993

July 17, 2020

Dear Landowner:

As the landowner across which the Panther Grove Wind, LLC, formerly known as Woodford Wind Energy, LLC, is planning to construct a Wind Farm and related electric transmission line (plus switchyard and substation), the Illinois Department of Agriculture would like to inform you of the following matter.

Effective May 8, 2020, Woodford Wind Energy, LLC and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) entered into an Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement (AIMA) establishing standards and policies that Woodford Wind Energy, LLC will follow as it constructs approximately 56-132 wind turbines over agricultural land in Woodford County. The enclosed AIMA will provide a high level of protection to such land, but it may not address specific concerns that you may have. Such concerns must be addressed individually in your own easement contract to accomplish your specific goals. This AIMA was amended on July 16, 2020 to reflect the name change to Panther Grove Wind, LLC.

As you review the AIMA, you may identify procedures that you would like to change. Your right to negotiate changes is preserved by Paragraph B. on page one of the AIMA. It states, "Except for Section 21(B-F), all actions set forth in this AIMA are subject to modification through negotiation by Landowners and a representative of the Facility Owner, provided such changes are negotiated in advance of respective Construction or Deconstruction activities." It is your decision as to whether you discuss the changes you desire with the right-of-way agent that is assigned to you. Of course, you also have the option to seek your own attorney to make sure your interests are protected.

As you consider your personal interests, you may want to include the owner indemnification clause in your individual easement agreement to protect yourself, your family and future heirs against future claims or expenses arising from the electric line's construction, repairs and maintenance. This item is covered in Section 20 of the AIMA. We feel it is best that such issues are left to landowners to address in their individual easement contracts if specific items are of concern.

Please note that although the IDOA has entered into the AIMA with the Panther Grove Wind, LLC, it does not constitute our endorsement of the project. The AIMA's sole purpose is to provide a high level of protection to landowners and agricultural land that will be impacted by the construction of the Wind Farm, its related electric transmission line (plus switchyard and substation).

If you have questions, feel free to contact Jeff Evers of my staff at 217-785-5594, <u>Jeff.Evers@illinois.gov</u> or at the address listed above.

Sincerely

Brian Rennecker, Acting Chief

Bureau of Land and Water Resources

Enclosure BR:JE

cc: Jerry Costello II, IDOA Acting Director John Teefey, IDOA Bill Bodine, Laura Harmon - IL Farm Bureau Woodford Co. Farm Bureau Manager Woodford Co. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)