



The Energy Foundation  
Toward a sustainable energy future

April 11, 2003

Joan Prentice Andrews  
Foundation for the American Indian  
P.O. Box 267  
115 East Putnam Avenue  
Greenwich, CT 06831

Dear Ms. Andrews:

We are writing to you in support of the proposed Wind Energy Demonstration Project on the Ft. Peck Reservation in Montana.

We have seen a growing interest in wind power in rural communities, not always for environmental reasons but for economic development. This bodes well for the future of wind energy, since all "sustainable" development projects must be economically sustainable first.

For tribes trapped in poverty, government support for tribally-owned wind energy can be an especially important investment in their economic future. For the Assiniboine and Sioux at Ft. Peck, the wind may ultimately be their most valuable natural resource, if transmission or other energy shipment solutions can be created. The single-turbine project they propose is a chance to start creating the knowledge base needed to more broadly develop their resource.

The Energy Foundation is a partnership of major foundations working to promote sustainable energy development. Our grants program supports the development of innovative public policy, and research, education, and outreach on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy. We do not fund demonstration projects, so are unable to be a cofunder for this project. However, we fully support the goals of the project and urge you to consider it favorably.

Please call us, should you have any questions.

Very Sincerely,

Eric Heitz  
President

*A Joint Initiative of  
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation,  
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation,  
The McKnight Foundation, The Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation,  
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation,  
and The Pew Charitable Trusts*