



**ELKHORN VALLEY SCHOOL  
DISTRICT NO. 80**

*Home of the  
Falcons!*

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February 8, 2010

Senator Ben Nelson  
Attn: Kate Howard  
7602 Pacific Street  
Suite 205  
Omaha, NE 68114

Dear Senator Nelson,

I am writing this letter in support of the Renewable Energy program expansion at Northeast Community College (NECC). Northeast Community College currently has a one-year Wind Energy Technology program; however, a two-year associate degree is needed to prepare students for a safe and successful career. NECC is dedicated to augmenting other existing programs and developing new programs that will prepare students for employment in industries where we are working to reduce our carbon footprints.

We are proud that our school, Elkhorn Valley Schools, was the first public school in Nebraska selected to install a small wind turbine as a partner school under the Wind for Schools Project. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and United States Department of Energy's Wind Powering America (WPA) program sponsors, supports, and facilitates the Wind for Schools Project. The Wind for Schools Project raises awareness in rural America about the benefits of wind energy while simultaneously developing a wind energy knowledge base in future leaders our communities, states, and nation.

Our school and community are excited about the career possibilities wind energy development provides. We believe that wind power has the potential to create many good-paying jobs in Northeast Nebraska. We strongly support the development of wind power and ask that you support the expansion of renewable energy programs at Northeast Community College.

Sincerely,

Ken Navratil  
Superintendent of Elkhorn Valley Schools